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ACIPSS-newsletter

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TOP HEADLINES

0657/2010 -----
IDF Intelligence: Sanctions Against Iran Won't Work

While the international community continues efforts to persuade Russia and China to support crippling economic sanctions against Iran, not everyone is convinced such sanctions will effectively halt Iran's nuclear program.

In a briefing before members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs & Defense Committee on Monday, a senior IDF intelligence officer explained that it appears that even if the "crippling sanctions" are imposed on Iran, they will be ineffective towards halting Iran's nuclear enrichment program.

Also in attendance was Defense Minister Ehud Barak, who stated that at present, Iran does not pose an existential threat to Israel because currently, Iran does not have a nuclear weapon, adding he hopes this will be the case in the future as well. He stressed that Iran does have potential to pose an existential threat but Israel continues efforts to prevent such a reality.

"A nuclear Iran is a world problem, not just Israel but the international community is still focusing on the economic crisis, not Iran".

Minister of Strategic Affairs Moshe Ya'alon is calling on Israel to prepare herself accordingly, to ready itself to defend against the Iranian threat. "A nuclear Iran would pose a serious threat to Israel, the Mideast and the entire world" stated the minister.

<http://www.theyeshivaworld.com/news/General+News/50601/IDF-Intelligence-Sanctions-Against-Iran-Won't-Work.html>

0658/2010 -----

Ahmadinejad Calls 9/11 'A Big Fabrication'

Perhaps concerned that his repeated suggestions that the Holocaust might not have happened have become less shocking over time, Iran's president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, upped the ante on Saturday, telling intelligence officials in Tehran that the destruction of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, was staged.

In remarks reported by IRNA, an official Iranian news agency, and translated by Reuters, Mr. Ahmadinejad said, "The September 11 incident was a big fabrication as a pretext for the campaign against terrorism and a prelude for staging an invasion against Afghanistan." Mr. Ahmadinejad also reportedly described the attacks in New York as a "complicated intelligence scenario and act." Conspiracy theorists in the Middle East have suggested that the attacks were not the work of Al Qaeda, but carried out by Israeli or American intelligence operatives.

<http://thelede.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/03/06/ahmadinejad-calls-911-a-big-fabrication/>

0659/2010 -----

Petraeus: No Intelligence on Bin Laden in Years

More than eight years after the 9/11 attacks, the United States still is unable to pinpoint Osama bin Laden's whereabouts, says Gen. David Petraeus.

Petraeus, the head of U.S. Central Command, said on the "Charlie Rose Show" that "al-Qaida has been diminished over the course of the past year in the central command area of responsibility, but clearly that it's still is a very, very viable enemy even in Iraq, diminished, but still able to carry out horrific attacks on a periodic basis."

When Rose asked if U.S. advances in the Mideast make the apprehension of bin Laden more likely, Petraeus offered this honest assessment:

"Well, what would make that more likely is some hard intelligence. And I think it's very well known that we haven't had hard intelligence on Osama bin Laden not just in months, but in years."

Petraeus told Rose that the lack of intelligence indicates that bin Laden "has extraordinary operational security, that he's gone real deep, if you will, in terms of hiding from the rest of mankind, basically, in very remote locations, presumably. And that's why it takes him four weeks or more just to get a simple message out in the wake of the would-be Detroit attack."

<http://newsmax.com/InsideCover/david-petraeus-charlie-rose/2010/03/06/id/351838>



HOT SPOTS / WARS

0660/2010 -----

Ex-Gitmo prisoner helps lead Taliban in Afghanistan

A man who was freed from Guantánamo more than two years ago, after claiming that he only wanted to go home and help his family, is now a senior commander running Taliban resistance to the U.S.-led offensive in southern Afghanistan, two senior Afghan intelligence officials say.

Abdul Qayyum also is seen as a leading candidate to be the next No. 2 in the Afghan Taliban hierarchy, the officials said.

The story of Abdul Qayyum could add to the complications President Barack Obama is facing in fulfilling his pledge to close the prison at Guantánamo by sending some current prisoners back to their home countries or to other willing nations, while putting others on trial.

U.S. intelligence officials say that 20 percent of inmates released from the Guantánamo Bay prison have returned to the fight and that the number has been steadily increasing.

http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/world/stories/DN-commander_04int.ART.State.Edition2.4b97baf.html

0661/2010 -----

Indian Spy Master among Victims of Kabul Blast

The 26 February suicide attacks, targeting a guest house and a hotel in a swanky neighborhood of Kabul, frequented by foreigners has sent the Indian military - security establishment in Afghanistan reeling with shock. Among seventeen victims of the attack were nine Indian nationals besides a noted film maker and an Italian diplomat, say media reports. A closer scrutiny of the casualties would reveal the rising Indian military profile in Afghanistan; four among those killed belonged to Indian Army and the Indian espionage agency - RAW.

The tally included two majors, a non-commissioned officer of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and an undercover RAW official of the secretary rank - Nitish Chibber - assigned to the Indian Embassy in Kandahar.

A major catastrophe was averted though; besides the four dead, eight army personnel of unspecified ranks were injured during the attack and were quickly evacuated by a IAF sortie to India.

http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=97702&Itemid=2

0662/2010 -----

Iranian spymaster a major player in Iraq

Tehran's master of clandestine operations, Qassem Suleimani, could hold the key to Iraq's future—if he were not so busy back in Iran.

As the head of the infamous Quds Force, he commands all the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) operations outside Iran's borders—whether covert, overt, or outright terrorist. In the fractious politicking almost certain to follow Iraq's parliamentary elections on Sunday, this 53-year-old Iranian general could pull the strings that make or break the new government in Baghdad.

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/234493/output/print>



0663/2010 -----

Obama Nominates Maj. Gen. Harding To TSA Post

President Obama's decision to nominate retired Army Maj. Gen. Robert Harding as TSA (Transportation Security Administration) administrator brings the agency a chief with "national security expertise and extensive experience in the intelligence community," DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano said.

"Effective transportation security involves protecting our citizens from constantly evolving threats while facilitating legal travel and trade around the country and throughout the world," Napolitano said. "Bob's national security expertise and extensive experience in the intelligence community and U.S. Army will be a great asset to the department in our efforts to ensure the safety of the nation's transportation systems."

Harding currently is president and CEO of his own security consulting firm, Harding Security Associates, LLC.

- (a) http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news_ID=177081
- (b) <http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/2010/0308/Robert-A.-Harding-former-Army-intelligence-tapped-to-lead-TSA>

0664/2010 -----

CIA technician arrested on theft charges

A CIA technical-support official has been arrested on charges of selling more than \$60,000 worth of pilfered agency electronic gear.

Todd Brandon Fehrmann, a communications-technology specialist with the agency, was arrested Friday morning at his office in Virginia and charged in a criminal complaint with stealing government equipment and selling it to a Massachusetts-based electronics equipment broker.

The FBI complaint unsealed Friday stated that Mr. Fehrmann worked for an unidentified U.S. government agency. However, U.S. officials and Mr. Fehrmann confirmed he was a CIA employee.

"This agency takes very seriously any allegation of misconduct, period," CIA spokesman Paul Gimigliano said, who added that he was not discussing any particular case. He declined further comment.

<http://washingtontimes.com/news/2010/mar/02/ex-staffer-held-in-theft-sale-of-cia-electronics/>

0665/2010 -----

Terrorism at home: Defining a Tactic

In the evening of March 4, as U.S. Department of Defense workers were wrapping up their day, a man wearing a suit and displaying what guards later referred to as a "nervous intensity" approached the entrance to the Pentagon. As he walked up to the guard booth, he reached into his pocket and took out a semi-automatic 9 mm pistol and began firing at the two security personnel stationed at the entrance. The guards retreated behind ballistic glass and returned fire at the man, who rushed the entrance. Seconds later, a third guard armed with a .40-caliber submachine gun confronted and shot the gunman, delivering a fatal head wound that ended the incident.

The gunman in this case was John Patrick Bedell, a native Californian who had driven from California to Washington to carry out his one-man attack on the Pentagon. Given the available details (e.g., a cross-country trek, business attire), it appears that Bedell had planned his attack well ahead of time. He had a history of mental illness as well as minor criminal offenses, such as growing marijuana and resisting arrest. More notable, though, is a series of recordings and writings he posted on the Internet in November 2006 in which he criticized the federal government and said the 9/11 attacks were a government-led conspiracy.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100310_terrorism_defining_tactic?utm_source=SWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=100311&utm_content=readmore&elq=73a4196ca005497bb39ac173edf8cb27

0666/2010 -----

Fort Worth has quietly become a hub for military intelligence

It is an unremarkable beige-brick building known by its military acronym, the JRIC.

Behind several secure doors requiring top-secret clearance sit analysts who conduct counterterrorism investigations in the Philippines, analyze

military buildups in Venezuela, and dissect confrontations between China and Taiwan in the strait that separates them.

Hard to believe, perhaps, but beyond the rows of tactical aircraft and acres of runway at Naval Air Station Fort Worth is a rather small and publicity-shy unit of intelligence analysts overseen by the Navy Intelligence Reserve Command. "We've tended to like it that way," said Lt. Dan Eckles, who oversees the computers on-site for the Defense Intelligence Agency based at the Pentagon.

In fact, the Navy Reserve's entire world of intelligence is commanded by a one-star admiral, who has maintained the headquarters at NAS Fort Worth since the mid-1990s.

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2010/03/03/2013263/fort-worth-has-quietly-become.html>



0667/2010 -----

The Mystery In The Forest

The army insists that the 200 T-72 and T-80 tanks found in the woods next to a railroad station in the Urals last week, was part of a normal movement of military equipment, and the vehicles were under guard. But a week ago, people living in village of Elanskaya (outside the city of Yekaterinburg) noted the vehicles, unguarded, and unlocked, but without ammo or ignition keys. Local kids began crawling in and out of the tanks. Videos of all this began showing up on local, then national, web news programs. The government controlled national media tried to ignore it at first. Eventually the troops showed up, and then the tanks began disappearing, as trains with flat cars came by at night to pick them up. The situation raised, once more, the issue of the military wasting resources by trying to retain obsolete equipment. This may have made sense at one time, when military technology didn't change as rapidly as it has for the last few decades. Keeping over 20,000 tanks in service, when only 6,000 are needed, is seen as a waste of resources. The army responds that it had 50,000 tanks at the end of the Cold War, and has already sent most of them to the smelters. But as the recent episode demonstrated, the military is still spending a lot of money on tanks it doesn't need. The army would not comment on why those late model tanks were temporarily dumped in the woods next to the Trans-Siberian railroad. But one can surmise that Russia was building up its tank strength out east.

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/russia/articles/20100307.aspx>

0668/2010 -----

Arms sales: Russia Has Left The Basement

Russian arms exports were up only two percent last year, to \$8.5 billion. However, Russia booked \$15 billion worth of orders in 2009, and now has \$40 billion worth of back orders. While sales to China are down, Russia has found new customers in South America (not just Venezuela). Vietnam, seeking an ally against ancient enemy China, has become a big customer for aircraft

and warships. Sales are being made to the Middle East again, especially to North African countries. India, however, remains the major export customer.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htproc/articles/20100311.aspx>



NEAR / MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA

0669/2010 -----

Israeli Combat Collection Corps

Israel is expanding its battlefield intelligence collection and analysis capabilities. The new Combat Collection Corps will take the existing Field Intelligence Corps, beef it up with more personnel, equipment and training, and collect more information on the battlefield, do it faster and analyze it more intensely. The impetus was a review of field intelligence work over the last few years, which revealed that technology, and the experience of the Americans in Iraq, indicated that more could, and should, be done.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htintel/articles/20100309.aspx>

0670/2010 -----

Hezbollah chief issues tough warning to Lebanon 'spies'

Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah warned the Lebanese government on Monday against sharing telecommunications information with the United States, saying any such move would be tantamount to collaborating with the Israeli enemy.

The Shiite militant leader also called for any Lebanese citizens convicted of spying for the Jewish state in a series of trials in recent months to be hanged.

"The US embassy is sending letters to ministries and security forces asking for information," Nasrallah said via video link to his supporters massed in Hezbollah's stronghold in Beirut's southern suburbs.

"This is dangerous as it is a violation of Lebanon's sovereignty, but its real danger lies elsewhere," he said.

"Because of the strategic relationship and unity between the United States and Israel ... any information gathered through such requests, like spy rings, reaches Israelis.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jlldCAXg9geaglamE7K4c5WDeJ3A>

0671/2010 -----

Dubai Police chief asks spies to leave the region

Dubai Police have warned spies operating in the Gulf to leave the region within one week or face consequences.

"Those spies that are currently present in the Gulf must leave the region within one week – if not, then we will cross that bridge when we come to it," Lieutenant General Dahi Khalfan Tamim told Gulf News.

The statement comes following the January 19 assassination of Hamas commander Mahmoud Al Mabhouh, which Dahi has blamed on Israel.

The ultimatum indicates that Dubai Police are aware of the identities of spies operating in the UAE and the Gulf region and appears to be a warning of exposure if they do not comply.

<http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/uae/crime/dubai-police-chief-asks-spies-to-leave-the-region-1.594536>

0672/2010 -----

Sohn von Hamas-Gründer legt Details über Spionage offen

Der Sohn eines Mitbegründers der radikalislamischen Hamas hat Details aus seiner jahrelangen Arbeit für den israelischen Geheimdienst offen gelegt. Er habe dem Inlandsgeheimdienst Schin Bet zehn Jahre lang Informationen über Anschlagpläne der Hamas geliefert, weil die Palästinenserorganisation "extrem grausam" gegen ihre eigenen Mitglieder vorgehe und "Menschen ohne Grund tötet", sagte Mosab Hassan Jussef dem US-Nachrichtensender CNN. Über seine Mitarbeit für Schin Bet schrieb Jussef das Buch "Sohn der Hamas", das vergangene Woche in den USA erschien.

Als Schin Bet ihm eine Mitarbeit angeboten habe, habe er zunächst vorgehabt, als Doppelagent zu arbeiten und "sie von innen anzugreifen", sagte Jussef weiter. Doch nachdem er von israelischen Geheimdienstagenten gefoltert worden sei, sei er in ein Gefängnis gebracht worden, in dem die Hamas ihre eigenen Hamas-Leute gefoltert habe. "Ich wusste nicht mehr, wer wirklich mein Feind war (...) ich willigte ein, Schin Bet zu treffen."

Seine Entscheidung, für Israel zu arbeiten, sei zum Teil moralisch begründet gewesen, führte Jussef aus. Die Hamas ziele auf Zivilisten. "Es ist ein Unterschied, ob man Terroristen ins Visier nimmt oder Zivilisten."

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jMfkkzhhbLWlYVxif9tcnLlFG23aQ>



FAR EAST & ASIA

0673/2010 -----

Pakistanis arrest man, but whom?

U.S. officials cast doubt early Monday on Pakistani intelligence statements that Karachi officials had arrested a Southern California native, a top propagandist for Al Qaeda who is wanted by the U.S. on treason charges.

U.S. intelligence agencies spent Sunday sorting out conflicting reports on the purported arrest of Adam Gadahn of Riverside. By late Sunday night, U.S. officials said the picture remained unclear.

"In terms of who may have been arrested, the Pakistani rumour mill belched out three very different possibilities in about six hours," one U.S. official said. "That should tell you something right there. It's by no means clear who, if anyone, the Pakistanis may have captured."

Another U.S. official, who asked not to be identified, said early Monday, "There's no reason to believe that it's true, and we are highly skeptical."

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-al-qaeda-arrest8-2010mar08,0,2316889.story>

0674/2010 -----

Head of Pakistan's Spy Agency Gets Term Extended

Pakistan's top spy can remain in his position for another year, Pakistan's army announced today, keeping in place a three-star general who United States officials have become convinced is committed to flushing militants out of his country.

Lt. Gen. Ahmad Shuja Pasha, the director-general of Pakistan's powerful Inter-Services Intelligence agency, would have had to take mandatory retirement later this month without the one year extension, which was officially declared today but informally granted weeks ago.

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/head-pakistans-spy-agency-term-extended/story?id=10053413>

0675/2010 -----

China's Challenge

China's National People's Congress (NPC) remains in session. As usual, the meeting has provided Beijing an opportunity to highlight the past year's successes and lay out the problems that lie ahead. On the surface at least, China has shown remarkable resilience in the face of global economic crisis. It has posted enviable gross domestic product (GDP) growth rates while keeping factories running (if at a loss) and workers employed. But the economic crisis has exposed the inefficiencies of China's export-dependent economic model, and the government has had to pump money into a major investment stimulus package to make up for the net drain the export sector currently is exacting on the economy.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100308_chinas_challenge?utm_source=GWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=100309&utm_content=readmore&elq=ccb628f66afd4f0f9a538eba006eb42e



EUROPE (GEOGRAPH.)

0676/2010 -----

Sweden: Uighur Sentenced for Spying

Sweden sentenced a Uighur man to 16 months in prison on Monday for spying on a community of Uighur refugees and passing information to China, a court document said. The man, Babur Maihesuti, 62, was convicted of handing information about the health, travels and political leanings of other Uighurs to a journalist and diplomat who was a Chinese intelligence officer, the document said. Mr. Maihesuti had infiltrated a political body for Uighurs in exile, the World Uighur Congress.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/09/world/europe/09briefs-Sweden.html>

0677/2010 -----

Italy arrests Iran weapons smugglers as nuclear pressure builds

Two Iranians - including a journalist accredited to Rome's foreign press club - and five Italians were arrested in several cities overnight, according to Italian police. Warrants were issued for two other Iranians in operation "sniper."

All four Iranians "are believed to be members of the Iranian secret services," the Italian police said in statement. Since last June, police have tapped into a ring that exported weapons, ordnance, and explosives to Iran from Italy and via third countries.

Italian police said the operation stopped the export of a large quantity of tracer bullets, explosives from Eastern Europe, and material for incendiary bombs, Reuters reported from Milan. Police worked with counterparts in Britain, Switzerland, and Romania also stopped a flow of German-made optical equipment and military jackets

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2010/0303/Italy-arrests-Iran-weapons-smugglers-as-nuclear-pressure-builds>

0678/2010 -----

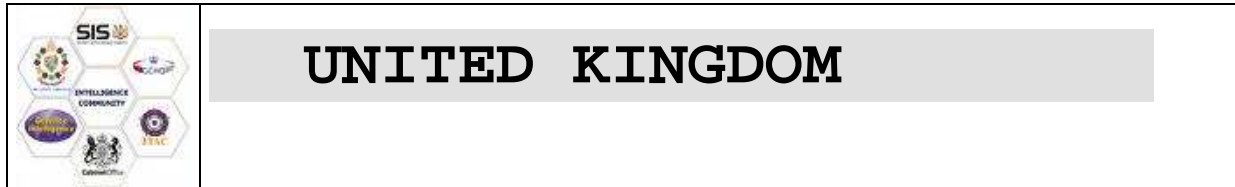
MONACO ITEL 5: Operation SPOOK

Prince Albert authorized his spymaster, Robert Eringer, to investigate a pair of New Zealander brothers resident in Monaco. The deeper Eringer and his deputy, Piers, dug into their activities, the better they understood why the only newspaper article ever written about the brothers depicted them as "intensely private" and "extremely low-profile."

At best, the brothers were running an un-registered commodities business in Monaco, atop an apartment building purchased by their company in January 1998 for 423,000,000 French francs (sixty-five million dollars) in cash. They re-named the building and kept it completely empty, aside from its top two floors, where each brother kept an apartment and from which they ran their investment trading company. At worst, they were laundering money for Russian interests, including Gazprom, of which they were the fourth largest

investor—and fronting for Gazprom’s extensive money laundering and kickback schemes.

<http://sbinvestigator.blogspot.com/2010/03/monaco-intelligence-5-operation-spook.html>



0679/2010 -----

Alleged torture victims facing 'secret and one-sided justice'

British intelligence services must be stopped from using secret evidence against former Guantanamo Bay detainees, the Appeal Court heard today.

Alleged torture victims seeking to sue the Government over Britain's complicity in their unlawful imprisonment are facing 'secret and one-sided' justice, their lawyer claimed.

Six former detainees are hoping to win damages from the Government over allegations that Britain knew about their ill-treatment.

Their lawyers have begun a challenge at the Court of Appeal against a ruling which would allow the security services and the Government to withhold evidence from the men during the civil case.

Legal experts have warned the judgment threatens British principles of justice and have branded it a 'constitutional outrage'.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1256395/Intelligence-services-stopped-using-secret-evidence-alleged-torture-victims.html>

0680/2010 -----

Ex-MI6 agent 'tried to sell top secret files for £2million' (update)

A former MI6 spy is accused of trying to sell top-secret British intelligence files to a foreign power for £2million.

Daniel Houghton, 25, is alleged to have stolen classified files to pass on to a rival intelligence service. He was arrested at a central London hotel in an undercover sting operation by police and security services.

He is alleged to have handed over confidential electronic files, including memory sticks and a laptop computer's hard drive detailing MI5's intelligence-gathering techniques.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1255081/Ex-MI6-agent-appears-court-charged-trying-sell-secret-files.html>



GERMANY

0681/2010 -----

German terror trial convicts four for plotting attacks on US targets

The conviction of four Muslim men here for plotting to bomb German-based American targets is the latest evidence of the strides that Germany's police and intelligence services have made since 9/11.

Before the 2001 attacks on New York and Washington, Germany was not particularly concerned about possible militant Islamist attacks on its soil. But in the aftermath of the attack it was found that a number of the hijackers had helped plan the 9/11 attack while living in Hamburg. The so-called Hamburg Cell was led by Mohammed Atta, one of the attacks key organizers.

In the aftermath of that discovery, German intelligence began to work closely with the US on the issue. German troops have participated in the NATO-led mission in Afghanistan since its inception

The four men convicted on Thursday are known here collectively as the "Sauerland cell," a reference to the area of western Germany where they were captured. German converts to Islam Fritz Gelowicz and Daniel Martin Schneider each received 12 years in prison; Turkish citizen Adem Yilmaz was sentenced to 11 years; and Atilla Selek, a German born to Turkish parents, was sentenced to five years in prison.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2010/0304/German-terror-trial-convicts-four-for-plotting-attacks-on-US-targets>

0682/2010 -----

Spionage in der Staatskanzlei - Ein unverzeihlicher Fehler

Technisch ist es kein Kunststück. Der CSU-Computer war für den externen Zugriff freigeschaltet, Benutzer Vorname.Nachname, das Passwort war kurz und eingängig. Der neugierige Beamte bekam schnell Zugriff auf das Postfach mit den E-Mails. Mehrfach sah sich Markus Zorzi (44) auf seinem Dienst-Computer die fremden Nachrichten an und las interessiert mit - bis der Eindringling entdeckt und das Passwort geändert wurde.

So leicht der Zugriff war, so schwer sind die Folgen. Der Büroleiter des Ministerpräsidenten Seehofer musste für die Online-Spionage beim Geschäftsführer des CSU-Vorsitzenden Seehofer seinen Posten räumen und erwartet ein Disziplinarverfahren.

Warum aber spionierte Seehofers linke Hand die rechte Hand aus? Auf dem Rechner, so heißt es in CSU-Kreisen, sei wenig Dramatisches enthalten gewesen. Ein paar Vermerke zur Parteiarbeit, Organisatorisches, nichts, was der computerkundige Zorzi in seiner langen Zeit bis Dezember in der CSU-Zentrale nicht selbst zu Gesicht bekommen hätte. Zudem hat der ausspionierte Geschäftsführer zwei Dienst-Adressen, von denen eine aufs Sekretariat umgeschaltet ist.

<http://www.merkur-online.de/nachrichten/politik/spionage-staatskanzlei-unverzeihlicher-fehler-666851.html>

0683/2010 -----

BND-Detektive überwachen osteuropäische Maurer

Der Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND) lässt dem Nachrichtenmagazin FOCUS zufolge Arbeiter aus der Ukraine und Weißrussland auf der Baustelle der neuen Geheimdienstzentrale in Berlin penibel überwachen. Damit sollten Versuche abgewehrt werden, Abhörwanzen in dem 720 Millionen Euro teuren Neubau zu platzieren. Die Fachkräfte aus Minsk und Kiew wurden von deutschen Firmen zusätzlich engagiert, um die Fertigstellung der neuen BND-Zentrale bis 2013 gewährleisten zu können. Die Männer werden laut FOCUS bei der Sicherheitsüberprüfung auch auf Kontakte zu weißrussischen und ukrainischen Nachrichtendiensten kontrolliert. Insbesondere der Spionagedienst KGB aus Minsk, der an Sowjet-Zeiten anknüpft, steht in Gegnerschaft zum BND.

http://www.focus.de/magazin/kurzfassungen/focus-09-2010-bnd-detektive-ueberwachen-osteuropaeische-maurer_aid_484907.html

0684/2010 -----

Längst nicht alle Vorratsdaten gelöscht

Mehr als eine Woche nach dem Urteil zur Vorratsdatenspeicherung (Data-Retention) haben die meisten Telekommunikationsanbieter in Deutschland noch längst nicht alle Daten gelöscht. Der Branchenprimus Deutsche Telekom ist bis voraussichtlich Anfang kommender Woche damit beschäftigt, den Datenwust von 19 Terabyte zu vernichten, wie ein Konzernsprecher sagte.

Das deutsche Bundesverfassungsgericht hatte am 2. März die Massenspeicherung von Telefon- und Internet-Verbindungsdaten für unzulässig erklärt und die Unternehmen aufgefordert, die Daten von Millionen Bürgern "unverzögerlich zu löschen".

<http://futurezone.orf.at/stories/1641339/>

0685/2010 -----

Opposition erhebt Spionage- Vorwurf: Aufklärung des BayernLB-Debakels

Eklat bei der Aufarbeitung des Milliarden-Debakels der BayernLB: Die Landesbank und Finanzminister Georg Fahrenschon (CSU) als Verwaltungsratschef müssen sich gegen Spionage-Vorwürfe der Opposition wehren. Auslöser ist ein Brandbrief der von der BayernLB-Kontrollkommission des Landtags eingesetzten Anwaltskanzlei, die mögliche Schadensersatzansprüche gegen frühere Verantwortliche der Bank wegen der Milliardenverluste prüfen soll. Darin beklagt diese eine heimliche Weitergabe eigener Akten, Mails und Protokolle an eine zweite Kanzlei, bei der Fahrenschon und die BayernLB-Generalversammlung ein eigenes Gutachten in Auftrag gegeben hatten. Es stelle sich die Frage, ob der Gutachtenauftrag bei dieser Vorgehensweise überhaupt noch erfüllt werden könne, heißt es in dem Brief der Kanzlei an den Chef der Kontrollkommission, Ernst Weidenbusch (CSU), aus dem am Dienstag bereits mehrere Zeitungen zitierten.

- (a) <http://www.mainpost.de/lokales/bayern/Opposition-erhebt-Vorwurf-der-Spionage;art16683,5496483>
- (b) <http://derstandard.at/1267743612445/Spionagevorwurfe-Eklat-in-Bayern>

0686/2010 -----

Zoff um Spionage gegen Müntefering

Der ehemalige SPD-Vorsitzende Franz Müntefering hat die angebliche Beschattung seiner Person im Auftrag der Zeitschrift «Bunte» kritisiert. Er sei gespannt, wann die Verantwortlichen der «Bunten» sich ihm und anderen Betroffenen gegenüber erklärten oder ob sie «die abgewandten Methoden für normal und gerechtfertigt halten», erklärte der Politiker in einem am Donnerstag in Berlin veröffentlichten Schreiben. Er sei «neugierig, ob es in der Medienwelt unseres Landes einen Ehrenkodex gibt, der zu einer öffentlich nachvollziehbaren Behandlung des Vorgangs und vielleicht sogar zu Konsequenzen für zukünftiges Verhalten führt».

Die »Bunte«-Chefredaktion erwiderte, sich «selbstverständlich an den Ehrenkodex des Deutschen Presserats» zu halten. Spitzenpolitiker wie Müntefering hätten Vorbildfunktion. Ihr Privatleben sei für die Öffentlichkeit von Bedeutung, «weil sie Leitfiguren unseres Wertesystems sind», heißt es in der Antwort der Zeitschrift. Ihr privates Verhalten habe daher Auswirkungen auf die Moral der Gesellschaft und damit unter Umständen auch auf politische Entscheidungsprozesse.

Laut einem «Stern»-Artikel hat das Blatt über eine Recherchefirma das Privatleben von Spitzenpolitikern ausspionieren lassen. Betroffen seien neben Müntefering auch Linksparteichef Oskar Lafontaine und CSU-Chef Horst Seehofer. Bei der Beschattung habe die beauftragte Berliner Firma CMK unlautere Recherchemethoden angewandt.

<http://www.naumburger-tageblatt.de/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=ksta/page&atype=ksArtikel&aid=1267074479530&openMenu=1013083806405&calledPageId=1013083806405&listid=1018881578737>

0687/2010 -----

Der Wirtschaftskrieger

In Israel war er Elitesoldat und Spezialagent. Heute operiert er undercover an der deutschen und internationalen Wirtschaftsfront: Frank H. ist von Beruf Problemlöser. Reporter Jörg Heuer hat ihn getroffen.

http://www.focus.de/panorama/playboy-reportage/tid-17516/playboy-reportage-der-wirtschaftskrieger_aid_488496.html



0688/2010 -----

Calmy-Rey verhandelt mit Libyens Außenminister

Der Druck der EU zeigt Wirkung: Die schweizerische und die libysche Delegation haben am Donnerstag bis am Abend über eine Lösung der bilateralen Krise verhandelt. Am Freitag sollen die Gespräche in Berlin fortgesetzt werden.

Die Zusammenkunft von Bundesrätin Micheline Calmy-Rey mit ihrem libyschen Amtskollegen Mousa Kousa im spanischen Außenministerium war das erste hochrangige Treffen zwischen Vertretern der beiden Länder seit sechs Monaten. Spanien hat derzeit die EU-Rats-Präsidentschaft inne und vermittelt deshalb in dem Streit. Bei den Gesprächen seien Fortschritte erzielt worden, teilte der spanische Außenminister Miguel Angel Moratinos im Anschluss an einer Pressekonferenz mit. Moratinos war zunächst mit Micheline Calmy-Rey zusammengetroffen, danach mit ihrem libyschen Amtskollegen Mousa Kousa, und im Anschluss daran hatte ein Dreiergespräch stattgefunden.

http://www.nzz.ch/nachrichten/schweiz/auge_in_auge_in_madrid_1.5019318.html

0689/2010 -----

Waffen über die Schweiz in den Iran geschmuggelt

Die italienischen Behörden haben sieben Händler festgenommen, die Sprengstoff und Gewehre aus Deutschland in die Islamische Republik geliefert haben. Die Deals flogen auch dank der Schweiz auf. Nach achtmonatigen Ermittlungen wurden ein 51-jähriger Iraner in Rom und ein 47-jähriger Landsmann in Turin festgenommen. Gemeinsam mit den Italienern und zwei weiteren Verdächtigen im Iran sollen sie unter anderem Panzerabwehrmunition, chemischen Sprengstoff und optische Zielgeräte in den Iran geschmuggelt haben. Den beiden Kontaktmännern im Iran unterstellen die italienischen Ermittler Verbindungen zum iranischen Geheimdienst.

- (a) <http://bazonline.ch/ausland/naher-osten-und-afrika/Waffen-ueber-die-Schweiz-in-den-Iran-geschmuggelt/story/19301827>
- (b) http://www.nzz.ch/nachrichten/international/waffenhandel_iran_mailan_d_tessin_genf_1.5150290.html

0690/2010 -----

Bankchef Alexandre Zeller bemüht sich, die Wogen zu glätten

Die französische Steuersünder-CD vom vergangenen Dezember enthält die Daten von insgesamt 24.000 Kunden einer Schweizer Tochter der britischen Großbank HSBC. Bankchef Alexandre Zeller bemüht sich, die Wogen zu glätten und den Schaden in Grenzen zu halten.

Der im Dezember in Frankreich aufgetauchte Datenträger mit vertraulichen Bankdaten kommen von der Genfer Tochter der britischen Großbank HSBC. Bei den von einem ehemaligen IT-Mitarbeiter vor rund drei Jahren entwendeten Daten handle es sich um Informationen über rund 15.000 bestehende Kunden, teilte HSBC Private Bank (Suisse) mit. Andere als Schweizer Konten seien nicht betroffen.

Die Bank entschuldigte sich bei den betroffenen Kunden und kündigte an, alles tun zu wollen um ihre Interessen zu wahren. Nach weiteren Angaben wurden der Bank von der Schweizer Staatsanwaltschaft Anfang März bereits die Kopien einer "signifikanten Menge" der gestohlenen Daten übergeben.

<http://www.n-tv.de/wirtschaft/HSBC-sagt-Entschuldigung-article770387.html>



AUSTRIA

0691/2010 -----

Wien als Dreh- und Angelpunkt eines italienischen Geldwäscheskandals

Im größten Geldwäscheskandal der italienischen Geschichte war Wien finanzieller Dreh- und Angelpunkt. Aus den geheimen Untersuchungsberichten der Staatsanwaltschaft Rom geht hervor: In den Jahren von 2005 bis 2007 sind über Tarngesellschaften und Bankkonten in Österreich zwei Milliarden Euro geflossen, die aus Geschäften der Mafia stammen sollen.

Die Staatsanwaltschaft Rom sieht es als erwiesen an, dass die kalabrische Mafia Gelder in der Höhe von mehr als zwei Milliarden Euro -gewaschen und dabei noch den Fiskus um 365 Millionen betrogen hat. Das komplizierte Karussellspiel des organisierten Verbrechens, an dem sich auch die beiden Telekom-Konzerne Fastweb und Telecom Italia Sparkle (TIS) bereicherten, soll sich vor-wiegend in Wien gedreht haben: Den Ermittlern zufolge wurde der Großteil des Gelds zwischen 2005 und 2007 über insgesamt 14 Konten bei drei österreichischen Banken -geschleust: Bank Austria Creditanstalt (heute: UniCredit Bank Austria), Anglo Irish Bank Austria und Raiffeisen Zentralbank. Die Staatsanwaltschaft Rom hat Anklage -wegen des Verdachts auf Geldwäsche gegen mehr als 60 Personen, darunter Politiker, Anwälte und Fastweb-Gründer Silvio Scaglia, erhoben. Auch die Staatsanwaltschaft Wien hat bereits Ermittlungen wegen des Verdachts auf Geldwäsche aufge-nommen.

Dies erklärt die Wien-Reise von Carlo „das Stinktier“ Focarelli, Manlio Denaro und Ricardo Scoconi im Dezember 2005: Sie hatten für I-Globe ein Konto bei der Raiffeisen Zentralbank (RZB) eröffnet. Auf das Wiener Konto von I-Globe mit der Nummer 154052493 gingen zwischen März und September 2006 insgesamt 287,93 Millionen Euro von Telecom Italia und Fastweb ein. Irgendwann im Laufe des Jahres 2006 muss sich auch der Unternehmer -Dario „die Giraffe“ Panozzo in Wien aufgehalten haben. Ihm ist die Gesellschaft Planetarium Srl zuzuordnen, auf deren RZB-Konto mit der Nummer 154073218 ab September 2006 die stattliche Summe von insgesamt 858,21 Millionen Euro überwiesen wurde.

Die profil vorliegenden Unterlagen der italienischen Behörden zeigen deutlich, dass Wien Dreh- und Angelpunkt der inkriminierten Geschäfte war. Von den 14 Konten, derer sich die Italiener bedienten, befanden sich nur zwei nicht in Österreich. Über 14 Tarngesellschaften und deren 14 Konten wurden also den Behörden zufolge innerhalb von etwa zwei Jahren mehr als zwei Milliarden Euro geschleust - jeder Cent davon war mindestens einmal in Wien.

<http://www.profil.at/articles/1009/560/263726/affaere-wien-dreh-angelpunkt-geldwaescheskandals>

0692/2010 -----

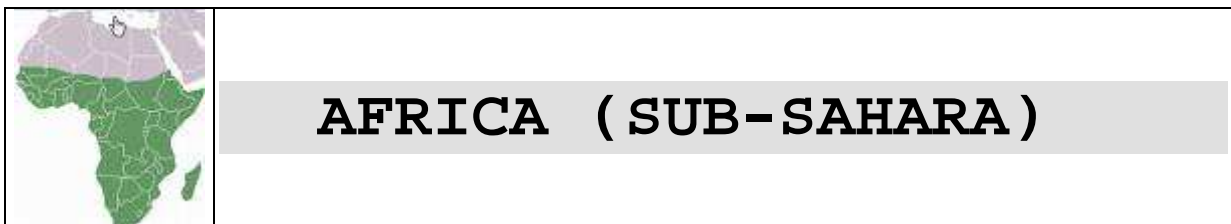
North Korean defector emerges in Austria after 15 years

A defector, who was once a member of North Korean leader Kim Jong Il's political protection team, has suddenly emerged in Austria, 15 years after faking his own death. Kim Jong Ryul is an East German-trained engineer who returned to North Korea in 1970 to work for Kim Il Sung, whose government tasked him with translating nuclear documents and making secret trips to the West. However, on October 18, 1994, while on a government-sponsored

trip to Bratislava, Slovakia, he disappeared without trace. The North Korean government presumed he had been killed. But Kim had actually entered Austria, where he lived for 15 years as a defector. On Thursday, he gave a press conference in Vienna to promote a book about his life, written by journalists Ingrid Steiner-Gashi and Dardan Gashi, who based it on over 80 hours of interviews with Kim.

Titled "Im Dienst des Diktators" (At the Dictator's Service), the book, which is currently available only in German, describes Kim's frequent covert trips to Western Europe, where -posing as a business executive- he routinely procured luxury goods, scientific instruments, and even weapons, for the North Korean government. Interestingly, Kim carried out most of the smuggling with the help of Austrian import-export companies, who refrained from asking questions after being paid "a premium of 30 per cent" of the sales, according to Kim. German observers correctly point out that Kim's emergence and revelations highlight Vienna's importance as a European hub for North Korean intelligence.

- (a) http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/03/10/01-408/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+intelNewsOrg+%28intelNews.org%29
- (b) Defector highlights Vienna's role as North Korean spy post:
<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/312925,defector-highlights-viennas-role-as-north-korean-spy-post--feature.html>
- (c) <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5h4FJQ0uv5nc8lWrJEokYeIGw30dQ>



0693/2010 -----

Piracy : No More Mister Nice Guy

The international anti-piracy patrol has admitted that it is now pursuing a policy of hunting down and destroying pirate mother ships. Several recent incidents, that resulted in the destruction of mother ships, indicated that this was the case. But now this has been confirmed, along with the warning that even if there is not enough evidence to prosecute the pirates, the mother ship will be destroyed, and the crew dumped on a Somali beach. If there is enough evidence to prosecute, arrangements have been made for Kenya or Seychelles to do it. Western nations are providing these two nations with cash and other assistance to make these prosecutions possible.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htseamo/articles/20100311.aspx>



THE CYBER BATTLEFIELD / CIVIL RIGHTS

0694/2010 -----

Security firms help shut down Mariposa botnet

The cybercriminals behind the Mariposa botnet, which attacked 13 million computers worldwide stealing sensitive personal data such as social networking logins and credit card details, have been arrested, says Panda Security and Defence Intelligence.

According to the security vendors, the botnet, which takes its moniker from the Spanish word for Butterfly was shut down in December last year, while the main operators 'Netkairo' and 'hamlet1917', along with 'Ostiator' and 'Johnyloleante' were arrested this month.

According to Christopher Davis, CEO for Defence Intelligence, who first discovered Mariposa, the botnet was one of the largest in the world and not only targeted consumers but also multi-national companies and government agencies.

<http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/030410-security-firms-help-shut-down.html>

0695/2010 -----

Former DNI Calls For "Re-Engineering" The Internet

The latest attack on the free internet comes in the shape of suggestions by former director of national intelligence under George W. Bush, Mike McConnell, who writes in an op-ed that the web should be "re-engineered" in order that it can be completely controlled and managed by U.S. intelligence.

Last week McConnell testified to Congress that the country was in the midst of a cyberwar that it was losing. He believes that a coming cyberattack will cause more economic damage to the U.S. than the 9/11 attacks.

With this in mind McConnell penned a piece carried by the Washington Post, in which he urged that financial transactions, power grids, air and ground transportation, telecommunications, and water-filtration systems were all under imminent threat from cyber terrorist attacks.

<http://www.prisonplanet.com/former-director-of-national-intelligence-calls-for-re-engineering-the-internet.html>

0696/2010 -----

Cyberwar declared as China hunts for the West's intelligence secrets

Urgent warnings have been circulated throughout Nato and the European Union for secret intelligence material to be protected from a recent surge in cyberwar attacks originating in China.

The attacks have also hit government and military institutions in the United States, where analysts said that the West had no effective response

and that EU systems were especially vulnerable because most cyber security efforts were left to member states.

Nato diplomatic sources told The Times: "Everyone has been made aware that the Chinese have become very active with cyber-attacks and we're now getting regular warnings from the office for internal security." The sources said that the number of attacks had increased significantly over the past 12 months, with China among the most active players.

In the US, an official report released on Friday said the number of attacks on Congress and other government agencies had risen exponentially in the past year to an estimated 1.6 billion every month.

http://technology.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/tech_and_web/article7053254.ece

0697/2010 -----

FBI Warns Brewing Cyberwar May Have Same Impact as 'Well-Placed Bomb'

NATO and America's European allies are sounding the alarm over what they say are increased cyber attacks originating from China that are targeting key government and intelligence computers.

The warning comes on the heels of an FBI report last week detailing the "real ... and expanding threat" of cyber terrorism, especially from Al Qaeda.

FBI Director Robert Mueller warned Thursday that cyber-terrorists "will either train their own recruits or hire outsiders... as a means to damage both our economy and our psyche -- and countless extremists have taken this to heart," he said.

Mueller said that a cyber-attack could have the same impact as a "well-placed bomb." He also accused "nation-state hackers" of seeking out U.S. technology, intelligence, intellectual property and even military weapons and strategies.

<http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2010/03/08/cyberwar-brewing-china-hunts-vests-intel-secrets/>

0698/2010 -----

Angriff aus dem Cyberspace

Die Sache mit den Nacktfotos war primitiv, aber erfolgreich. Die Studentin Yin Hong von der Maritime University in Shanghai hatte sich von ihrem Freund ohne Kleider ablichten lassen, angeblich, und später kursierten 30 solcher Bilder im Internet. Sie verbreiteten sich massenhaft. So weit, so normal.

Allerdings hatten Hacker viele dieser Fotos mit kunstvoll programmierten Datenanhängen präpariert. Sie hatten Programme in ihnen versteckt, die in aller Stille die Computer der Spanner unterwanderten, sobald eins der Bilder geöffnet wurde. Eine Hintertür ging dann für die Hacker auf. Sie konnten Dateien lesen oder löschen. Sie konnten Passwörter entwenden oder gar per Webkamera sehen, wer gerade vor dem Rechner saß.

<http://www.zeit.de/2010/08/Der-digitale-Krieg?page=all>

(Hat tip to Stefan AUER !)

0699/2010 -----

Was Microsoft alles der Polizei verrät

All die Daten, die Seiten wie Facebook über Nutzer sammeln, kann auch die Polizei bekommen. Was genau sie kriegt, steht in Handbüchern, die nun veröffentlicht wurden.

Eigentlich war das Dokument geheim, Netzaktivisten haben es jetzt für alle zugänglich im Netz veröffentlicht: In seinem "Global Criminal Compliance" Handbuch beschreibt Microsoft, welche Informationen es über seine Kunden weitergibt, wenn Strafverfolger anklopfen: E-Mails zum Beispiel, die ein Kunde über ein Microsoft-Konto wie Hotmail oder MSN oder Xbox Live verschickt. Das Unternehmen verrät demnach auch die genauen Zeiten, zu denen sich ein Kunde ein- oder ausgeloggt hat, die persönlichen Angaben, die er machte, als er das Konto eingerichtet hat - unter Umständen

<http://www.zeit.de/digital/datenschutz/2010-02/criptome-microsoft-manual-police?page=all>

(Hat tip to Stefan AUER !)

ACIPSS-Newsletter-Kommentar: Das veröffentlichte Handbuch zu Microsofts neuem Betriebssystem Windows 7 offenbart, dass auch die windows-eigene Festplattenverschlüsselung BitLocker „geknackt“ werden kann. ACIPSS verzichtet aus rechtlichen Gründen auf den Link zur Quelle dieser Advanced Computer Forensic Manuals und empfiehlt - einmal mehr - das Freewareprogramm TrueCrypt. (<http://www.truecrypt.org>)

0700/2010 -----

»Passen Sie auf, was Sie tippen!«

Der Geheimdienstexperte James Bamford sagt: Die Amerikaner sind die größten Hacker der Welt!

James Bamford ist einer der besten Kenner der amerikanischen Geheimdienstszene. Seit den achtziger Jahren setzt sich der investigative Journalist kritisch mit dem im Verborgenen operierenden technischen Geheimdienst der USA auseinander, der NSA. Zuletzt erschien von ihm im Sommer 2009 das Buch »The Shadow Factory«

<http://www.zeit.de/2010/08/Der-digitale-Krieg-Interview-Bamford?page=all>

(Hat tip to Stefan AUER !)



SPYCRAFT

0701/2010 -----

Adaptive Imaging camera

A small Israeli startup has developed a potentially game-changing, high-tech solution where a single surveillance camera can monitor a panoramic

field of view and zoom in on any spot in real time with exceptional clarity.

The company, Adaptive Imaging Technologies, calls its invention a "panoramic telescope," and aims to shake up the global security space - from borders to transportation hubs and even to large sporting facilities.

The company won the "Most Promising Startup" award from the Global Security Challenge last year, has received a \$100,000 cash grant from the US Department of Defense, and already has orders, even though its flagship camera is still only in a pre-prototype stage.

<http://israel21c.org/201003087760/technology/big-brother-is-watching>

0702/2010 -----

Surveillance technology that may anticipate terrorist actions

STRATFOR's Agenda looks at new surveillance technology that may anticipate terrorist actions. Fred Burton discusses granular data that intelligence agencies are gleaning from the Dubai investigation into the assassination of a Hamas operative.

https://www.stratfor.com/campaign/videoagenda_signup_18?utm_source=SWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=100311&utm_content=watchvideo&elq=73a4196ca005497bb39ac173edf8cb27

0703/2010 -----

MI5 spying handbook 'ruled out use of false beards and moustaches'

A handbook on spying written for MI5 ruled out the use of false beards and moustaches and complained about the image of the "screen sleuth."

The handbook in 1945, lists three types of inquiry - "very discreet" meaning "subject does not become aware anyone has been inquiring about him," "discreet" meaning "armed with credentials" and "direct approach."

For the "very discreet" approach, the manual said "the writer is against the use of facial disguises," adding: "It may be considered essential in Secret Service films, but in practice it is to be deplored. "A false moustache or beard is easily detected, especially under the high lights of a restaurant, pub or in a tube train."

The approach contrasts with that of Mossad, the Israeli intelligence service, where some of the team suspected of assassinating a key Hamas leader in Dubai last month dressed up as tennis players with wigs and false moustaches.

The manual, released by MI5 to the National Archives, also puts paid to the idea of the tall handsome spy, adding: "From experience it has been found that the ideal watcher should be 5' 7'' or 8'' in height, looking as unlike a policeman as possible.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/7393456/MI5-spying-handbook-ruled-out-use-of-false-beards-and-moustaches.html>

(See also "Declassified MI5 files", next section.)



INTELL HISTORY

0704/2010 -----

Nazi Youth was accused of using cycling tours to gather intelligence

Referring to sporting clashes as warfare is not unheard of, especially amongst writers in an over-dramatic mood, but at times there can be an element of truth in the description. It has emerged that just over 70 years ago, the MI5 suspected that the Nazi Youth were using cycling tours of Britain to gather intelligence prior to the start of World War II two years later.

According to the Telegraph newspaper, a 1937 article in the Daily Herald detailed instructions given to sportsmen who were going overseas. Printed in the German Cyclist, a publication connected to the German National Union for Physical Culture, it urged those going abroad to use that time to take very careful and detailed note of their surroundings.

"Impress on your memory the roads and paths, villages and towns, outstanding church towers and other landmarks so that you will not forget them," the Telegraph quotes. "Make a note of the names of places, rivers, seas and mountains. Perhaps you may be able to utilise these sometime for the benefit of the Fatherland.

<http://www.velonation.com/News/ID/3387/Nazi-Youth-was-accused-of-using-cycling-tours-to-gather-intelligence.aspx>

0705/2010 -----

The Capture and Execution of Colonel Penkovsky, 1963

On the afternoon of October 22, 1962, a nondescript man was suddenly seized off the streets of Moscow by the KGB. He had been under surveillance on suspicion of treason. Thus ended Oleg Penkovsky's career of spying for the United States and Great Britain. Penkovsky is considered one of the most valuable assets in Agency history.

<https://www.cia.gov/news-information/featured-story-archive/2010-featured-story-archive/colonel-penkovsky.html>

0706/2010 -----

Lost Washington: the Old German Embassy

The old German Embassy was located just west of Thomas Circle at 1435-41 Massachusetts Avenue, NW. The Germans first set up diplomatic quarters in the 70-room mansion (including 13 baths) under Kaiser Wilhelm II in 1893.

It was not considered an ideal accommodation for the German legation who soon started looking for a more suitable location, but two world wars interrupted their plans and they didn't leave for good until 1941 when the embassy staff was interned at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

In 1945 the Justice Department Alien Property Office seized the old embassy and sold it in 1951 for \$165,000. When the Federal Republic of Germany sent

over its first postwar diplomatic mission in 1951, they decided not to go back to the old embassy, and with the aid of \$300,000 compensation from the United States bought a new residence for its Ambassador at 1900 Foxhall Road.

In earlier days, mystery and intrigue seemed to hang over the embassy.

<http://greatergreaterwashington.org/post.cgi?id=4797>

0707/2010 -----

Declassified MI5 files offer wealth of new information

Britain's National Archives have authorized the release of nearly 200 files from the vaults of MI5, the country's domestic intelligence service. The release of the documents, which range from 1937 to 1955, has given rise to numerous interesting historical revelations, including an apparent effort by German Hitler Youth groups to establish personal and institutional links with Lord Baden-Powell, founder and leader of the Boy Scouts.

The relevant MI5 file notes that

- Baden-Powell, who was "wined and dined by senior Hitler Youth figures", responded enthusiastically to the Nazi charm offensive. Other revelations include
- the Soviet sympathies of Sidney Bernstein, later Baron Bernstein, who founded Britain's Granada Theatres (later Granada Television) in 1926.
- There are also new reports on Sophie Kukralova, a WWII-era Nazi spy who seduced a number of British intelligence agents in Cairo, Egypt;
- the use by MI5 of a failed Australian actor to impersonate General Bernard Montgomery Monty (the trick duped at least one Nazi spy);
- and MI5's concern that Zionist Jews were planning terrorist attacks inside Britain.
- Finally, the released files include portions of a 1945 MI5 spy craft handbook, which expresses dissatisfaction with "false moustache[s] or beard[s]", as they are "easily detected, especially under the high lights of a restaurant, pub or in a tube train". (a)

(Had tip to intellnews.org!)

ACIPSS-newsletter-commentary: *Many of the files are available online. Downloads are free for a period of one month.* (b)

- (a) http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/03/11/03-154/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+intelNewsOrg+%28intelNews.org%29
- (b) <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/440.htm>

0708/2010 -----

Stasi-Akte gereicht Günter Grass zur Ehre

Der Nobelpreisträger und die DDR-Diktatur: Zunächst sah Günter Grass seine Stasi-Akte als reine Privatsache und wollte sie nicht freigeben. Jahre später erlaubte er Forschern den Einblick. Jetzt erzählt der Schriftsteller in einem Interview erstmals, wie er vom SED-Regime bespitzelt wurde.



0709/2010 -----

Pentagon study critiques 2003 transition in Iraq

The transition of U.S. military forces in Iraq to post-major combat operations in 2003 was marred by failures in leadership and planning, according to an internal report (pdf) prepared for the Pentagon that was partially declassified and released this month under the Freedom of Information Act.

"The transition that occurred was not the one that was planned," the 2006 report delicately stated. "Insufficient and untimely availability of resources impeded effectiveness of post-combat operations and contributed to a difficult transition." Intelligence support, joint command and control, and communications infrastructure all "fell short of expectations or needs."

The newly disclosed report was cited in a 2008 book by Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, the former commander of U.S. forces in Iraq. According to Gen. Sanchez's account, the report had been suppressed at the direction of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, who did not welcome its critical findings.

<http://www.fas.org/man/eprint/transitions.pdf>

(Hat tip to [FAS.org](http://www.fas.org))

0710/2010 -----

Sunni - Shi`a relations and the implications for Belgium and Europe

During the last five years, and more specifically since the US invasion of Irak, different Sunni policy makers and religious actors have ventilated their concern for what they see as the rise of Shiite Islam. Although the condemnation of Shiism by more rigorous currents such as Wahhabism is hardly new, recently different governments in the Middle East have taken concrete measures against Shiite actors. The same 'Cold War scenario' the region witnessed immediately after the Iranian Revolution seems to appear again, making Arab Sunni voices reverberate up to Western policy makers, who start to worry themselves about the role of Iran and its allies. In this paper we will try to give an evaluation of this alleged shift in the Sunni-Shi`a power balance, and point out the possible consequences for Belgium and the EU emanating from this controversy.

<http://www.irri-kiib.be/paperegm/ep35.pdf>

0711/2010 -----

Terrorist Dropouts: Learning from those who have Left

In December 2001, Sajid Badat and Richard Reid, two young Muslims from England, were scheduled to blow up two U.S.-bound planes by using explosive-laden footwear, Jacobson writes. Reid -- like Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, al-Qaeda's most recent alleged plane bomber -- made the attempt and failed. Badat, however, abandoned the plan, later telling prosecutors he wanted to "introduce some calm" into his life. What led Badat to choose an alternative path? What can we learn from his case and from the many other terrorist "dropouts" who have left al-Qaeda? In a newly released Washington Institute study, I explore these difficult but important questions.

<http://www.washingtoninstitute.org/pubPDFs/PolicyFocus101.pdf>



LITERATURE

0712/2010 -----

Call for Papers : Counterterrorism: From the Cold War to the WOT

Title: Counterterrorism: From the Cold War to the War on Terror, Volumes I and II

Date: 2010-08-15

Description: We are looking for contributors (subject experts, professors, graduate students) for the 2-volume, illustrated, Counterterrorism: >From the Cold War to the War on Terror, Volumes I and II to be published by ABC-CLIO in 2011. Comprehensive in scope and written by top scholars in the field

Contact: cobra141@prodigy.net

Announcement ID: 174531

<http://www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=174531>

(Special thanks to Martin MOLL for this info!)



CONFERENCES / LECTURES

0713/2010 -----

Tagung "Intelligence and Society" der IIHA (Call for Papers)

Im Rahmen der Tagung "Intelligence and Society" der International Intelligence History Association findet am 23.April 2010 das extra an Nachwuchswissenschaftler und Studenten gerichtete Seminar "Die internationalen Geheimdienste - 1945 bis zur Gegenwart" in Tutzing statt. Dieses Seminar wird von Herrn Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Krieger der Universität Marburg, Herrn Sebastian Gorenflo und Sinan Müller-Karpe veranstaltet.

<http://www.intelligence-research.org/>

oder

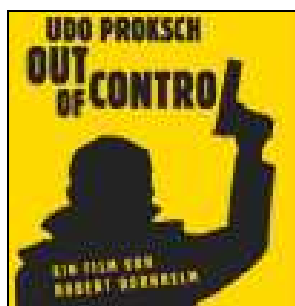
<http://www.nachrichtendienst-forschung.org/>

(Special thanks to Sinan Müller-Karpe for this info!)



0714/2010 -----

Udo Proksch. Out of Control



Eine Doku von Robert Dornhelm zeigt Udo Proksch als Darling der Schickeria - Was fehlt, sind die Hintergründe der größten politischen Vertuschung eines Verbrechens in der Zweiten Republik. Am 27. 6. 2001 starb bei einer versuchten Herztransplantation in Graz der damals erst 67-jährige Udo Proksch. Er saß lebenslang wegen sechsfachen Mordes, 1992 verurteilt. Um seinen Fall, um seinen relativ frühen Tod, um sein ganzes wüstes Leben spinnen sich Legenden, die für einen Schlüsselroman und ein paar Filme ausreichen würden.

Neu ist jetzt eine Filmdoku von Robert Dornhelm. Udos Freunde, Frauen und Fürsprecher kommen zu Wort, sparsamer seine Gegnern. Für kritische Kenner des Falls und des Mannes ist Dornhelms Out of Control eine halbe Themenverfehlung.

Die eigentliche "Sittengeschichte" ist nicht die des Künstlers, Frauenverbrauchers, gefährlichen Hofnarren und Mega-Netzwerkers Udo, sondern der politische Aspekt: Wie über ein Jahrzehnt lang ein Verbrecher geschützt wurde, mit glatten Rechtsbrüchen, mit Desinformationskampagnen bis tief in seinen dann endlich doch stattfindenden Prozess hinein.

Nach endlosen Blockaden, Verhaftungen, Enthaltungen, einer Flucht von Proksch nach Manila (mit Gesichtsoperation), nach neuerlicher Verhaftung dann endlich der Prozess. Selbst der Richter Hans Christian Leinigen-Westerburg, hielt alles zunächst nur für eine Fehde zwischen "Freimaurern und CV" - Österreich liebt Verschwörungstheorien. (a)

(a) Rezension des Standard:

<http://derstandard.at/1267743725195/Beispielloser-Politskandal-Das-kriminelle-Gesamtkunstwerk-Udo>

(b) <http://www.udoproksch-derfilm.at/>

0715/2010 -----

The Heart Locker - 6 Oscars

"The great ignored question raised by events depicted in The Hurt Locker is simple: who makes the IEDs, and why? The bombs materialize and must be disarmed. A "hadji" with a cell phone may lurk among onlookers, ready to detonate the device, but we are given nothing but a sea of Iraqi faces to confront."

The Hurt Locker is marketed as 2009's Best Picture. Limited release and a blockbuster media campaign are creating an atmosphere of inevitability:

This is the movie we must all see. Reviewers love a serious (i.e., responsible and "non-partisan") war movie they can bloviate about, patting themselves and the movie's producers on the back for tackling the Big Issues. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will take its own turn at the job in March 2010.

Producer-Director Kathryn Bigelow's movie tells the story of a squad of U.S. Army specialists who disarm improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in Baghdad. When the movie begins and Staff Sergeant James (Jeremy Renner) joins the squad, they have 38 days to serve before the end of their one year rotation. Sergeant Sanborn (Anthony Mackie) and Specialist Eldridge (Brian Geraghty) are the other members of the squad.

- (a) <http://www.brightlightsfilm.com/blog/2010/03/oscars-ii-on-the-hurt-locker.html>
- (b) <http://www.myheimat.de/diedorf/freizeit/the-hurt-locker-toedliches-kommando-der-oscargewinner-d378166.html>

0716/2010 -----

Media alerts

Am Fr, 12.03. um 17:45 3sat

ZDF-History: Mythos Atlantikschlacht - Die Wahrheit über Hitlers Seekrieg
Geschichtsmagazin

Dauer: 45 min (a)

Beschreibung: Für die NS-Propaganda war der Atlantik einer der wertvollsten Kriegsschauplätze. Nirgends sonst ließ sich vermeintliches Heldentum effektiver in Szene setzen als im Kampf der U-Boote, Zerstörer und Schlachtschiffe. Keine andere Teilstreitkraft schien den fatalen Traum überlegener deutscher Waffentechnik besser zu symbolisieren als die Marine. Der Krieg auf dem Ozean nährte die Illusion vom ritterlichen, sauberen Kampf: Während die "Wochenschau"-Bilder vom Landkrieg verwüstete Landschaften und Leichen zeigten, blieben auf dem Atlantik nur die Sieger zurück. Verlierer schluckte die See.

am Sa, 13.03. um 05:15 PHOENIX

Reise in die Hölle - Straflager Workuta
Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (b)

Beschreibung: Workuta war Teil des Archipel Gulag. Dorthin wurden Hunderttausende von Stalins Gegnern deportiert: Rita Knobel-Ulrich hat sich mit drei deutschen ehemaligen Häftlingen auf den gleichen Weg gemacht, den sie damals im Viehwaggon zurücklegen mussten, von Berlin über Moskau nach Workuta...

am Sa, 13.03. um 12:20 WDR

Quarks & Co. - Thema: Das Geschäft mit der Sicherheit
Wissenschaftsmagazin

Dauer: 45 min (c)

Beschreibung: Die Angst, die sie verbreiten, ist die eigentliche Waffe der Terroristen - und dagegen hilft auch keine noch so modere Sicherheitstechnik. Aber wie können wir lernen, mit dem Risiko eines Anschlags rational umzugehen? Ranga Yogeshwar begrüßt im Studio den Psychologen Thomas Kliche. Gemeinsam versuchen sie zu klären, warum wir uns zwar furchtlos ins Auto setzen, gleichzeitig aber am Flughafen aus Angst vor Terrorangriffen freiwillig jede Sicherheitskontrolle über uns ergehen

lassen. Quarks & Co geht der Frage nach, ob HighTech-Geräte wie Nackt-Scanner wirklich mehr Sicherheit bringen und zeigt zudem, wie groß die Sicherheitslücken an Flughäfen tatsächlich sind. Außerdem erklärt Quarks & Co, wie schmal die Grenze zwischen einem engagierten Bürger und einem Terrorverdächtigen ist. Ranga Yogeshwar begrüßt den Sozialwissenschaftler Dr. Andrej Holm, der 2007 wegen des Verdachts der Mitgliedschaft in einer terroristischen Vereinigung verhaftet wurde und drei Monate in U-Haft saß, bevor der Bundesgerichtshof den Haftbefehl aufhob.

am Sa, 13.03. um 13:15 PHOENIX

Krieg in den Wolken - Luftspione über der DDR

Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (d)

Beschreibung: Luftspionage ist in den 50er Jahren das wichtigste Mittel, so viel wie möglich über den technischen Stand des Gegners zu erfahren. Die Großmächte rüsten auf, ideologisch und militärisch. Der Himmel über der DDR ist im Kalten Krieg heiß umkämpft, erst Mitte der 60er Jahre gehen mit fortschreitender Satellitentechnik die Luftraumverletzungen zurück.

am Sa, 13.03. um 20:15 BR

Der Spion, der aus der Kälte kam

Agententhriller

Dauer: 110 min (e)

Beschreibung: Alec Leamas, in Westberlin Leiter des britischen Geheimdienstes, soll Hans-Dieter Mundt, den Ostberliner "Kollegen", außer Gefecht setzen. Erst zu spät erkennt er, dass er nur eine Marionette in einem üblen Ränkespiel war. Er bezahlt seinen Versuch, mit seiner Geliebten aus dem skrupellosen Agentengeschäft auszusteigen, mit dem Leben.

am Sa, 13.03. um 22:10 BR

Liebesgrüße nach Moskau - Der große Radiokrieg

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 90 min (f)

Beschreibung: Dass es nie zu einem atomaren Krieg zwischen den USA und der UdSSR kam, ist auch ein Verdienst des Senders "Radio Freies Europa", ohne den der Kalte Krieg vielleicht anders verlaufen wäre. Filmautor Christian Bauer erzählt in seinem Film, was der Sender alles verhindern konnte. Er verwendet dafür zum Teil unbekanntes Archivmaterial, das Erfolge und Fehlschläge des Senders zeigt.

am Sa, 13.03. um 22:15 ZDF infokanal

Mielkes Menschenjäger - Kidnapper im Auftrag der Stasi

Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (g)

Beschreibung: Mehr als 400 Menschen lässt die Stasi in die DDR entführen: Regime-Kritiker, Journalisten, geflüchtete Angehörige der "bewaffneten Organe". Und geflohene ehemalige Funktionäre wie Robert Bialek. Er wird 1956 betäubt und nach Ost-Berlin verfrachtet. Seitdem ist er verschwunden. Neu aufgetauchte Dokumente legen den Schluss nahe, dass Robert Bialek noch in der Nacht seiner Entführung starb. Bis zum Ende der DDR im Herbst 1989 operieren Kidnapper der Stasi im westlichen Ausland.

am Sa, 13.03. um 23:40 BR

Gorky Park

Politthriller

Dauer: 120 min (h)

Beschreibung: Im winterlichen Gorky Park in Moskau werden drei bis zur Unkenntlichkeit verstümmelte Leichen entdeckt. Chefinspektor Arkady Renko von der Mordkommission der Miliz übernimmt die Ermittlungen. Diese erweisen sich schon bald als sehr gefährlich, denn der rätselhafte Fall zieht ungeahnte Kreise bis in die Spitzen des sowjetischen Geheimdienstes und über die Landesgrenzen hinaus.

am So, 14.03. um 01:10 Das Erste

36 Stunden

Spionagethriller

Dauer: 110 min (i)

Beschreibung: Im Frühjahr 1944 gerät der amerikanische Major Pike in eine Falle und wird bewusstlos von Lissabon nach Bayern entführt. Um ihm Angaben über Ort und Zeitpunkt der bevorstehenden alliierten Invasion zu entlocken, inszeniert die deutsche Abwehr ein raffiniertes Täuschungsmanöver. Man macht Pike vor, er befinde sich in einem US-Militärhospital, der Krieg sei seit sechs Jahren vorbei, nur wisse er das nicht mehr, weil er an schweren Gedächtnisstörungen leide. Als Pike das zunächst glaubt, scheint der deutsche Geheimdienst gewonnenen zu haben.

am So, 14.03. um 21:45 PHOENIX

ZDF-History: Das Schiff der Verdammten - Die Irrfahrt der St. Louis

Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (j)

Beschreibung: Sie hofften, der Verfolgung und den Todeslagern der Nazis zu entkommen. 930 jüdische Männer, Frauen und Kinder gingen am 13. Mai 1939 in Hamburg an Bord des deutschen Passagierdampfers St. Louis, um in die Freiheit zu fahren. Sie irrten. In diesem Film schildern Zeitzeugen das dramatische Geschehen an Bord sowie ihren Kampf ums Überleben nach der erzwungenen Rückkehr nach Europa.

am Mo, 15.03. um 14:15 ARD Eins festival

Rendezvous mit dem Tod - Warum Kennedy sterben musste

Dokumentation

Dauer: 90 min (k)

Beschreibung: Wenige Wochen bevor John F. Kennedy in Dallas stirbt, reist Lee Harvey Oswald nach Mexiko. Dort bekommt er den Auftrag, John F. Kennedy zu ermorden. Der Autor Wilfried Huismann macht sich auf die Spurensuche. Eine politisch brisante Recherche, die den Mord des Jahrhunderts aufklärt.

am Mo, 15.03. um 20:15 PHOENIX

Rommels Krieg - Die Legende vom unbesiegbaren deutschen General

Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (l)

Beschreibung: Schon zu Lebzeiten war Erwin Rommel bei Verbündeten und Alliierten legendär. Seine überraschenden Strategien waren das Markenzeichen des populärsten Generals im "Dritten Reich". Kein anderer Militär hatte einen so hohen Stellenwert in der NS-Propaganda. Der Film zeigt, welche Personen mit welchen Methoden Rommel zum Star machten und wie Rommel einen Krieg an mehreren Fronten führte - nicht nur auf den Schlachtfeldern in Nordafrika, sondern auch gegen Neider und Rivalen im Oberkommando des Heeres.

am Di, 16.03. um 22:05 mdr

Drüben - Vom Roten Osten und Goldenen Westen

Dokumentation, Folge 3

Dauer: 43 min (m)

Beschreibung: Für DDR-Bürger, die zum ersten Mal in den Westen reisten, war es zumeist ein Schock, dieses so völlig andere Deutschland mit eigenen Augen zu sehen. Für viele Bundesbürger war es nicht anders, wenn sie in die DDR einreisten. Warum das so war, damit setzt sich auch die neue Folge "Drüben" auseinander. Im Mittelpunkt stehen die 80er-Jahre. Wiederum geht es vor allem um die Protagonisten aus Ost und West mit ihren ganz konkreten Geschichten.

am Mi, 17.03. um 21:00 PHOENIX

Geheimnisvolle Orte: Die Glienicker Brücke - Letzte Hoffnung der Spione
Doku-Reihe

Dauer: 45 min (n)

Beschreibung: Als am 10. Februar 1962 der erste Agentenaustausch, Powers gegen Abel, auf der Glienicker Brücke stattfand, wurde sie mit einem Schlag weltberühmt - als Umschlagplatz für Spione, als Nadelöhr im Eisernen Vorhang. Seit dem Fall der Mauer herrscht wieder reger Verkehr auf dem einst geheimnisumwitterten Ort zwischen Potsdam und Berlin. Tausend Mal mehr Menschen überqueren heute die Brücke an einem Tag als in den 40 Jahren der deutschen Teilung.

- (a) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24265766&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (b) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24243381&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (c) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24360003&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (d) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24323393&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (e) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24332532&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (f) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24332534&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (g) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24452038&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (h) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24332535&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (i) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24362719&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (j) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24323406&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (k) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24387077&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (l) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24323463&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (m) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24376434&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>
- (n) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24323522&tvid=96b15953b2c60c59ce801fb8c02300c1>

Deadline for application: 2 February 2010

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