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TOP HEADLINES

2053/2010 -----

Spy swap puts halt to fact finding

(Washington Times) Public trial of 10 Russian agents could have led to revelations: The Obama administration's rapid release of 10 Russian intelligence officers removed the prospect of a public trial revealing embarrassing facts about Russian influence operations, like the targeting of a key Democratic Party financier close to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Current and former national security officials critical of the speedy exchange with Moscow also said trading the 10 spies for four Russians less than two weeks after their arrest also limited U.S. counterspies from learning important details of Russian espionage and influence operations. Questions about the handling of the case were raised Tuesday during a closed-door briefing of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Rep. Peter Hoekstra of Michigan, the ranking Republican on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, questioned the unprecedented speed used by the administration in moving the spies out of the country. "We gave up the opportunity," he said. "Now that these people are out of the country, it's game off, not game on. We will get no additional insights or information from them."

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/jul/13/spy-swap-puts-halt-to-fact-finding/>

2054/2010 -----

Qaeda magazine 'unfortunately well done': senior US lawmaker

(AFP) Al-Qaeda's new English-language magazine is an "unfortunately well done" publication aimed at convincing Americans to carry out terrorist attacks at home, a top US lawmaker said Monday.



Representative Pete Hoekstra, the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, said "Inspire" magazine showed the group "has shifted its focus" from radicalizing recruits in training camps. "This is an unfortunately well done magazine that is proof positive that al-Qaeda and its affiliates have launched a direct appeal for Americans to launch small-scale attacks here at home," Hoekstra said in a statement.

"It provides al-Qaeda's warped rationale to carry out the attacks and a how-to guide to get the job done. Now they're just hoping someone picks up a copy and is 'inspired' to do it," he said. The first edition of Yemen-based Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula's (AQAP) Inspire magazine was released on Sunday, according to SITE Intelligence, a US service that monitors Islamist websites.

Inspire -- a 67-page publication provided by SITE from jihadist forums that are sometimes password-protected or otherwise difficult to access -- appears to have been designed with care

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jXl0eo5fL_Ny8kGu7Mk94syhpBOQ

2055/2010 -----

Non-military options over Iraq neglected says diplomat

(BBC) Dealing with Saddam Hussein through sanctions and other methods was a "very available" alternative to military action, a former UK diplomat has said.

Carne Ross, who resigned over the war, told the Iraq inquiry that the UK did not work hard enough to make its pre-2003 policy of containment work. Officials trying to argue for this approach felt "very beleaguered". There was no "significant intelligence" to back up beliefs Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, he added. The Iraq inquiry is continuing to examine the background to the UK's participation in the 2003 invasion, the build-up to the war and its aftermath.

Mr Ross was first secretary at the UK's mission to the UN between 1997 and 2002. In this role, he played an important role in liaising with UN weapons inspectors in Iraq and Security Council members as they sought to get Saddam Hussein to comply with his disarmament obligations.

Mr Ross resigned from the Diplomatic Service in 2004 in protest over Iraq policy and told the Butler inquiry into the use of intelligence by the British government in 2004 that he believed serious policy mistakes had been made.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10602807>

2056/2010 -----

Intrigue, But Few Facts, Surround Iranian Scientist



(VOA) Depending on which version you read - and there are multiple ones - Amiri was kidnapped by U.S. intelligence agents a year ago while on pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia, defected to the United States of his own free will, or simply decided to disappear for a while. The confusion was heightened when three different videos surfaced, all featuring a man who appeared to be Amiri, making different claim: that he had been kidnapped, that he was living freely in Arizona, and that he had escaped from U.S. custody.

The mystery deepened Tuesday when he suddenly appeared at the Iranian Interests Section of the Pakistan Embassy, saying that he wanted to go home. Iranian media say he was "handed over" to the Interests Section by U.S. officials.

For its part, U.S. officials say he was not kidnapped, not held against his will, not tortured, was living here freely, and has freely chosen to return to Iran,

So how did he get here? What was he doing here? Good questions, but ones U.S. officials are not answering.

- (a) <http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/middle-east/Intrigue-But-Few-Facts-surround-Iranian-Scientist-Shahram-Amiri-98333964.html>

- (b) http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/15/world/middleeast/15iran.html?_r=5&src=me
- (c) <http://derstandard.at/1277338224008/Kopf-des-Tages-Eine-Story-zwischen-Flucht-und-Heimweh>
- (d) Comment: Defector's Wish to Return to Iran Not Unusual:
http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/07/14/01-520/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+intelNewsOrg+%28intelNews.org%29

2057/2010 -----

Nahost: Hilfsschiff drehte ab - Martin Schlaff als Vermittler?

(Die Presse) Ein von Libyen gechartertes Schiff mit Hilfsgütern für Gaza will keine Konfrontation mit der israelischen Marine. Sechs Wochen nach den blutigen Kämpfen auf dem türkischen Schiff „Mavi Marmara“ und dem Tod von neun pro-palästinensischen Aktivisten ließ sich am Mittwoch die „Al Amal“ (Hoffnung) friedlich von ihrem Kurs abbringen.

Das Schiff war am Samstag mit zwei Dutzend Aktivisten und Besatzungsmitgliedern in See gestochen, um 2000 Tonnen Medikamente, Nahrungsmittel und Fertighausbauteile nach Gaza zu bringen. Laut der „Stimme Israels“ agierte der österreichische Unternehmer Martin Schlaff als Vermittler in der Affäre. Während des Tauziehens zwischen Israel, den libyschen Organisatoren und dem Kapitän des Schiffes befand sich die Marine in höchster Bereitschaft. Mehrere Kriegsschiffe erwarteten die „Hoffnung“ auf hoher See. Israels Regierung hatte wiederholt angekündigt, sie werde nicht zulassen, dass die Seeblockade durchbrochen werde.

Das Schiff war von der „Gadhafi-Stiftung“ von Saif al-Islam Gadhafi, dem Sohn des libyschen Machthabers, gechartert worden, zu der Schlaff offenbar gute Kontakte unterhält, ebenso wie zu Israels Außenminister Liberman.

- (a) http://diepresse.com/home/politik/aussenpolitik/581275/index.do?direct=581335&vl_backlink=/home/politik/aussenpolitik/index.do&selChannel=
- (b) <http://www.wienerzeitung.at/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=4601&Alias=wzo&cob=507627>
- (c) Austro-Milliardär Schlaff droht Anklage:
<http://money.oe24.at/money/Topbusiness/Austro-Milliardaer-Schlaff-droht-Anklage-0728279.ece>



HOT SPOTS / WARS

2058/2010 -----

Al-Qaida militants raid Yemen intelligence HQ

(xinhuanet) More than 20 al-Qaida militants on Wednesday raided two highly-guarded security intelligence buildings in the south province of Abyan, killing at least one intelligence agent and wounding five others, said a statement posted on Yemeni Defense Ministry's website 26sep.net.

The ministry said security forces had repelled attacks on the intelligence headquarters' building and the general security camp in Zinjubar town of

Abyan. "Al-Qaida militants took advantage of the summer vacation, using a neighbouring school to carry out its attacks, in which they used heavy machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades. However, their attempts were foiled by our security forces," said the statement.

The security forces "killed two al-Qaida militants and captured seven others in the fierce clashes," added the statement. However, a provincial intelligence officer told Xinhua that none of the al-Qaida militants had been killed, wounded or captured because there were not enough security forces at that time.

Earlier Wednesday, a local security official confirmed to Xinhua that at least 10 intelligence personnel were killed in the two coordinated gun attacks.

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-07/14/c_111952134.htm

2059/2010 -----

Erfolgreicher Kampf gegen die Piraterie

(20min) Die Piraterie auf den Weltmeeren hat im ersten Halbjahr gegenüber dem gleichen Zeitraum 2009 um 18 Prozent abgenommen.

Der Einsatz der internationalen Flottille gegen die Piraten zeigt Wirkung. Zwischen Januar und Juni dieses Jahres seien 196 Überfälle auf Schiffe erfolgt, teilte das Internationale Meeresbüro (IMB) in der malaysischen Hauptstadt Kuala Lumpur am Donnerstag mit. Demnach waren es vor einem Jahr noch 240. Die Zahl der Überfälle im besonders gefährlichen Golf von Aden vor der somalischen Küste sei von 86 im ersten Halbjahr 2009 auf 33 in diesem Jahr gesunken.

- (a) <http://www.20min.ch/news/ausland/story/Erfolgreicher-Kampf-gegen-Piraterie-16591153>
- (b) Seepiraten misslingt Kaperung eines iranischen Öltankers:
<http://german.trib.ir/nachrichten/politik/item/112949-misserfolg-der-seepiraten-bei-der-kaperung-eines-iranischen-oeltankers>

2060/2010 -----

Civilian casualties: A Terrifying Relationship

(StrategyPage) Civilian casualties, mostly from Taliban activity, are up a third so far this year, compared to 2009. The greater use of roadside bombs plays a major role in this. There have been nearly three times as many deaths from roadside bombs and mines, compared to last year, and most of these victims are civilians. Foreign troops are protected from these bombs in their MRAPs, while nearby civilians in trucks, cars and busses, are not. Sometimes, inept Taliban trigger teams set the bomb off next to a civilian vehicle, rather than a nearby military one. Anti-vehicle mines on dirt roads explode whenever a heavy enough vehicle hits the pressure plate. Often, that vehicle is full of civilians, not troops. The Taliban have also been using the output of their bomb workshops to set off explosions in village and markets, to terrorize the locals into supporting them, or not cooperating with the foreign or government troops. The Taliban don't want to be loved, they just want to be feared.

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/afghan/articles/20100706.aspx>



UNITED STATES

2061/2010 -----

Senate panel sets hearing for intelligence chief

(AP) The Senate Intelligence Committee on Tuesday scheduled a confirmation hearing for President Barack Obama's nominee for national intelligence director, a sign of a shift in a standoff between congressional Democrats and the White House.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., the committee's chairwoman, set a hearing for July 20 for James T. Clapper. The session would come more than six weeks after Obama said he hoped for a speedy confirmation.

Feinstein had refused to hold the hearing until House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., allowed last year's intelligence bill to move ahead. The measure has already passed the Senate, but Pelosi is in talks with the Obama administration to make it stronger in its oversight authority.

An aide to the senator said Feinstein decided she could not risk delaying Clapper's nomination any longer because the acting national intelligence director, David Gompert, is nearing retirement. The aide wasn't authorized to speak publicly and requested anonymity.

Obama said June 5 that he wanted Clapper, the head of intelligence for the Defense Department, to succeed retired Adm. Dennis Blair as director of national intelligence. Blair resigned after clashing frequently with the White House and other intelligence officials.

- (a) http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5it2_M2LUSeV_8JSjfZX5iBLM-P6AD9GUFV300
- (b) <http://www.newsweek.com/blogs/declassified/2010/07/14/feinstein-cries-uncle-schedules-spy-czar-confirmation-hearing.html>

2062/2010 -----

Attorney general: Russian spies posed threat to US

(AP) While they passed along no U.S. secrets, the 10 Russian sleeper agents involved in the spy swap posed a potential threat to the U.S. and received "hundreds of thousands of dollars" from Russia, Attorney General Eric Holder said.

"Russia considered these people as very important to their intelligence-gathering activities," he told CBS' "Face the Nation" in an interview broadcast Sunday.

He defended the decision to allow the 10 to return to Russia in exchange for the release of four Russian prisoners accused of spying for the West because the swap presented "an opportunity to get back ... four people in whom we have a great deal of interest."

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs, sidestepping the question of whether Russia's espionage poses a threat to the U.S., said the swap came amid improved relations between the two countries.

"The economic discussions that President (Dmitry) Medvedev and President Obama had just recently and the progress that we've made in reducing nuclear weapons – and hopefully we'll get a treaty through Senate this summer that will further reduce nuclear weapons – means our security is stronger and safer and our relationship is stronger," Gibbs said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Asked about the timing of the arrests in the U.S., Holder said one of the Russian agents was preparing to leave the country and there was concern that "we would not be able to get him back." Holder also mentioned "other operational considerations" that he declined to reveal.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iT-08DZI2lTjDg3QGM2o4rnzlkewD9GT770G1>

2063/2010 -----

Lost In Translation

(StrategyPage) The U.S. military has had some success in finding troops who speak foreign languages well enough to operate as battlefield translators. This was a major boost for intelligence gathering, since a lot of what you want to know can be found in what the locals are saying. But after five years of effort, there are still problems in identifying troops who can speak specific dialects. The problem is agreeing on how to test for these kinds of skills. It's complicated, mainly because there are so many dialects in the Arab world, and places like Afghanistan. The Department of Defense is also trying to find troops who have sufficient cultural knowledge of a foreign area to be certified as expert enough to be militarily useful. Again, the problem has been one of deciding on criteria, and then applying it effectively. This is all a work in progress, although a solution is promised soon. It always is.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htintel/articles/20100710.aspx>



2064/2010 -----

Russian Spies and Strategic Intelligence

(StratFor) The United States has captured a group of Russian spies and exchanged them for four individuals held by the Russians on espionage charges. The ways the media have reported on the issue fall into three groups:

That the Cold War is back, That, given that the Cold War is over, the point of such outmoded intelligence operations is questionable, And that the Russian spy ring was spending its time aimlessly nosing around in think tanks and open meetings in an archaic and incompetent effort.

It is said that the world is global and interdependent. This makes it vital for a given nation to know three things about all of the nations with which it interacts.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100712_russian_spies_and_strategic_intelligence?utm_source=GWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=1007013&utm_content=readmore&elq=84a18a3e47cb4a7caledc898c912807d

2065/2010 -----

Russland verabschiedet Stasi-Gesetz

(n-tv) Seit Wochen schon protestieren russische Bürgerrechtler und Regierungskritiker gegen ein neues Stasi-Gesetz, das Moskaus Geheimdienst deutlich stärken soll. Sie appellieren an Kremlchef Dmitri Medwedew, er möge verhindern, dass der Inlandsgeheimdienst FSB wieder Vollmachten erhält wie der KGB zu Sowjetzeiten. Doch bei einem Treffen mit Bundeskanzlerin Angela Merkel betonte der Präsident am Donnerstag in Jekaterinburg, dass das Gesetz eine "innere Angelegenheit" sei. Die Staatsduma will das umstrittene Dekret an diesem Freitag endgültig beschließen.

<http://www.n-tv.de/politik/dossier/Russland-verabschiedet-Stasi-Gesetz-article1067606.html>

2066/2010 -----

Am Ende des postsowjetischen Pragmatismus?

(NZZ) Wer gedacht hätte, dass die Übernahme der ukrainischen Präsidentschaft durch Wiktor Janukowitsch Ende Februar die Rückkehr zu altem postsowjetischem Pragmatismus bedeuten würde, sieht sich eines Besseren belehrt. Mykola Rjabtschuk, der Autor dieses Beitrags, fürchtet um die innere Freiheit der Ukraine.

In den vergangenen zwei Jahrzehnten hat das Wort «Pragmatismus» in den Ländern der ehemaligen Sowjetunion eine erstaunliche Karriere gemacht. Heute steht es in der Ukraine mit Sicherheit nicht für eine «philosophische Bewegung, welche diejenigen umfasst, die an die Wahrheit einer Ideologie oder einer Theorie nur insofern glauben, als diese sich praktisch bewährt». Pragmatismus bedeutet generell die Zurückweisung von Ideologie zugunsten einer Praxis, die vornehmlich auf der Basis des Common Sense vonstattengeht.

http://www.nzz.ch/nachrichten/kultur/aktuell/am_ende_des_postsowjetischen_pragmatismus_1.6630342.html

2067/2010 -----

Anna Chapman's father may have had 'serious Kremlin connections'

(Telegraph) Anna Chapman's father worked as a diplomat in Kenya alongside Mr Ivanov, Russia's first deputy prime minister, a career spy and a friend of Vladimir Putin's, it was claimed on Saturday.

The claim suggests that her family may also enjoy serious political connections inside the Kremlin. If confirmed, it will strengthen suspicions voiced by Alex Chapman, Anna's British ex-husband, that she was groomed to be an intelligence agent by her father, who currently works for the Russian

Foreign Ministry. Alex Chapman, a 30-year-old trainee psychiatrist in Bournemouth, was married to Anna Chapman from 2002-2006.

He said he met her father, Vasily Kushchenko, in Zimbabwe in 2002 and found him "scary." Anna had told him that Mr Kushchenko was a former KGB spy who had worked for "old Russia," he recalled. In an article citing Russian intelligence sources, Russian daily newspaper Moskovsky Komsomolets reported on Saturday that Mr Kushchenko worked in Nairobi as a Russian diplomat at the same time as Sergei Ivanov, Russia's first deputy prime minister. It did not give dates.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/7883290/Anna-Chapmans-father-may-have-had-serious-Kremlin-connections.html>

2068/2010 -----

Russian spying lamented after sleeper 'farce'

(mysinchew) Once the pride of the Soviet Union with multi-lingual agents who could live undetected abroad, Russian's foreign intelligence has suffered a serious blow to its image with the US spy scandal, observers said.

Seasoned ex-KGB spooks have queued up to denounce the apparent amateurism of the 10 Kremlin spies arrested and then deported by the United States, who naively used social networking sites and could not conceal accents.

"I'm appalled by what has been happening. It's a farce. If this is espionage then I do not understand their methods," scoffed Mikhail Lyubimov, a former Soviet spy who was a longtime KGB resident in Britain.

"I see no sleeper here. In fact I see nothing in this whole story resembling espionage," he told the Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper.

The glamorous Anna Chapman, who along with nine others pleaded guilty to being Kremlin agents, stupefied Russian espionage veterans by remaining active on Facebook and Russian social networking site odnoklassniki.ru.

<http://www.mysinchew.com/node/41589>

2069/2010 -----

Past Russian spies have found post-swap life gets a bit sticky

(Washington Post) Russia's accused spies could be posing soon for stamp designers in Moscow instead of prison intake photographers here, if a swap deal comes through and the Kremlin follows its tradition of honouring its secret agents.

Ever since the depths of the Cold War, the Kremlin has used postage stamps to showcase operatives who managed to steal some of the West's most guarded secrets, from atomic bomb designs to diplomatic cables to sensitive technical information, before they were arrested.

Their stories are as well known in Russia as the legend of Revolutionary War spy Nathan Hale is here. And while life in Moscow may be duller than New York, Boston, New Jersey, Seattle and Washington, D.C., where the 11 Russians charged last week allegedly lived as long-term, deep-penetration agents, it won't be too bad, either, if their predecessors' experience is any guide.

Their main worry will be keeping their minds.

- (a) http://blog.washingtonpost.com/spy-talk/2010/07/past_russian_spies_have_found.html
- (b) 'Life will be a nightmare for the spies returning to Russia':
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/russia/7883149/Life-will-be-a-nightmare-for-the-spies-returning-to-Russia.html>

2070/2010 -----

Out With The Old, In With The New

(StrategyPage) Over the next five years, Russia is planning to spend \$12 billion on Western weapons and weapons manufacturing technology. The most visible deals are those with France to obtain four Mistral class amphibious ships (that look like small aircraft carriers), another one for Israeli UAVs and yet another for Italian wheeled armoured vehicles. In particular, Russia wants to obtain the manufacturing technology. Russian companies have shown that they can adapt to Western manufacturing methods, and produce comparable goods in Russia, with Russian staff. But Russia has long resisted doing this, legally, with military equipment.

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/russia/articles/20100705.aspx>



NEAR / MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA

2071/2010 -----

Israel blames poor planning and intel mistakes for flotilla disaster

(Guardian) Serious mistakes in intelligence and planning led to Israel's disastrous assault on a flotilla of ships attempting to break the blockade of Gaza in which nine activists were killed, the first official investigation concluded today.

A report of the investigation delivered to the Israeli military's chief of staff, Lt Gen Gabi Ashkenazi, said that although the military had underestimated the potential for violence in the operation, interception of the flotilla was the only option open to prevent it reaching Gaza.

The report, which was not published in full, did not name individuals responsible for the failures. "On the one hand, there were no wrongdoings and no negligences in any fundamental areas during a complicated and complex operation," said Giora Eiland, the retired Israeli general who headed the military inquiry.

"But on the other hand, there were mistakes that were made in decisions, including some taken at relatively high levels, which meant that the result was not as had been initially anticipated."

Tonight the Palestine Solidarity Campaign said the report attempted "to whitewash the Israeli military's crimes on the Mavi Marmara", the main ship in the flotilla, on which all nine deaths occurred.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/jul/12/gaza-flotilla-report-israel-mistakes>

2072/2010 -----

Hezbollah chief's speeches sway Israeli opinion

(Haaretz) A high-ranking Israeli intelligence officer says that Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah was the first Arab leader in 30 years who, through his speeches, had the potential to affect the Israeli public. The officer, whose last name cannot be disclosed, studied Nasrallah's speeches during the Second Lebanon War, which began four years ago today, in the course of graduate studies at the University of Haifa.

Colonel Ronen, the chief intelligence officer for the Central Command of the Israel Defense Forces, previously held senior positions in the research division of Military Intelligence. The study analyzed 10 speeches by Nasrallah that were broadcast during the 34 days of warfare. Nasrallah's only public press conference during the war was on the first day of war, immediately following the abduction of IDF reservists Eldad Regev and Ehud Goldwasser. After that he remained in bunkers, fearing an Israeli assassination attempt, and recorded speeches that were later broadcast by Arab television networks.

<http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/news/hezbollah-chief-s-speeches-sway-israeli-opinion-more-than-any-arab-leader-1.301347>

2073/2010 -----

Beirut: Spion zum Tod verurteilt

(Sueddeutsche) Wegen Spionage für Israel ist ein Libanese von einem Militärgericht zum Tod verurteilt worden. Der im April vergangenen Jahres festgenommene Mann habe Israel während des Krieges im Jahr 2006 militärische und zivile Ziele verraten, bei deren Bombardement es Tote gegeben habe, hieß es aus Justizkreisen am Dienstag. Bereits im Februar wurde gegen einen ehemaligen Polizisten im Libanon die Todesstrafe verhängt, weil er im Zusammenhang mit einem Bombenanschlag mit zwei Toten im Jahr 2006 mit dem israelischen Geheimdienst zusammengearbeitet haben soll.

<http://www.sueddeutsche.de/x5y389/3451561/Spion-zum-Tod-verurteilt.html>

2074/2010 -----

Hamas vows to punish collaborators with Israel

(xinhuanet) Gaza Strip ruling Islamic Hamas movement vowed to harshly punish Palestinians accused for being collaborators with Israel after the two-month ultimatum period Hamas authorities had given for collaborators to remorse was over on Saturday.

The interior ministry of deposed Hamas government announced on May 8 that it gave a last chance for the Palestinians collaborating with the Israeli security intelligence to give themselves up to the Hamas security forces and remorse until July 10. The ministry called the campaign "the national campaign to fight collaboration with Israel."

Over the past two months, Hamas has carried out a campaign of public awareness and explained the dangers of collaborating with Israel via local radio, television stations and internet.

Security sources in the Hamas interior ministry said that the campaign "has achieved a great success in the fields of public awareness and fighting the phenomena of collaborating with Israel. "

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-07/11/c_13393780.htm

2075/2010 -----

Ex-CIA chief: Secrecy after attack on Syrian nuke plant unjustified

(Haaretz) Hayden's comments, published in a journal on intelligence published by the CIA, reflect a view different from that of Israel, which has not commented on the attack, widely attributed to its air force.

The secrecy surrounding the attack on the nuclear plant in eastern Syria in September 2007 was justified only for the period immediately after the operation, according to the CIA head at the time, Gen. Michael Hayden. That secrecy had been meant to save President Bashar Assad from embarrassment that could have provoked him to retaliate.

Hayden's comments, published in a journal on intelligence published by the CIA, reflect a view different from that of Israel, which has not commented on the attack, widely attributed to its air force.

<http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/news/ex-cia-chief-secrecy-after-attack-on-syrian-nuclear-plant-unjustified-1.300844>

2076/2010 -----

Hezbollah Buys Their Way Into Israel

(StrategyPage) Israeli police arrested an army NCO and charged him with treason for supplying information on border security, along the Lebanese frontier, to a local drug smuggling gang. The NCO, who worked on vehicle maintenance in a northern Israel army base, also provided the names of seven local civilians who were also working for the drug gang. Five of these have been arrested. What was most troublesome about this was that the drug gang was known to work with Islamic terror group Hezbollah, which controls most of southern Lebanon.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htm/htintel/articles/20100706.aspx>

2077/2010 -----

Yemen arrests journalist over links with Al-Qaeda

(Global Times) Qaeda's attack on a Yemeni intelligence agency, a top intelligence official said.

"An arrest warrant was issued late today by the Director of the Political Security Agency (the intelligence) to capture Abdulelah Haidar Shaiee, a Yemeni analyst and journalist on the security affairs and Al-Qaeda group," the official told Xinhua. "The arrest came following a statement that released on the same day by the Yemeni-based Al-Qaeda militants, in which they claimed responsibility for the June 19 attack on the intelligence headquarters in the southern port city of Aden," he said on condition of anonymity.

The intelligence official said that Shaiee is facing charges of having links with al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). "He is accused of having close relations with the al-Qaida attackers who targeted the building of the intelligence service in Aden that left nearly 20 intelligence officers dead," he added.

Shaiee was taken by four gunmen from his friends' car in Hadda street, near the main intelligence headquarters in Sanaa late Sunday, said lawyer Abdulrahman Barman, a director of a non-governmental human right organization based in Sanaa.

<http://world.globaltimes.cn/mid-east/2010-07/550541.html>

2078/2010 -----

Al Qaeda threatens to kill French hostage in 15 days

(Reuters) Al Qaeda's North African wing said on Sunday it would kill a French hostage in 15 days if the French government failed to meet its demands, the U.S.-based SITE Intelligence Group said.

Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) said in May it was holding 78-year-old Michel Germaneau, who was seized in northern Niger in April. It demanded a prisoner exchange and said French President Nicolas Sarkozy would be responsible for Germaneau's life. On Sunday it gave France 15 days starting from July 12 to respond to its demands, according to an Internet statement monitored by SITE.

"The mujahideen decided to grant a final extension to France that will not be repeated and will not exceed 15 days, starting on Monday, 12/07/2010," the statement read, according to SITE's translation. "At the end of this period and the non-response to our legitimate demands, then France will have sentenced its citizen to death ..." It said if Sarkozy did not respond, he would have committed the same "folly" as former British prime minister Gordon Brown.

French Foreign Ministry spokesman Bernard Valero said France was "mobilised in Paris as well as on the ground" in connection with the case.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/nigerNews/idAFLDE66A0HR20100712?sp=true>



FAR EAST & ASIA

2079/2010 -----

Russia And China Wait For Someone To Blink

(StrategyPage) Russia is increasingly upset at how blatantly China has been copying Russian military equipment, and selling the copies in competition with the Russian originals. Particularly annoying is China's building copies of the Su-27 (as the J-11 and the carrier version as the J-15.) Now Russia is threatening to play hardball, by refusing to sell China the high-performance engines needed for Chinese built fighters. A Chinese order for several hundred Russian RD93 jet engines from Russia is on hold. This order is believed to be for an ungraded RD93, with additional thrust. India, currently the major customer for Russian weapons, was not happy about this

engine sale, which will be used for Chinese-made fighters sold to Pakistan. As of last year, India and Russia had worked out an unpublicized compromise to allow the sale, but now Russia is threatening to halt shipments if China does not back off on building illegal copies of Russian aircraft.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htwin/articles/20100708.aspx>



EUROPE (GEOGRAPH.)

2080/2010 -----

Norwegens Polizei fand angeblich Bomben-Werkstatt

(Kleine Zeitung) Norwegens Sicherheitspolizei hat nach Medienangaben in einem Osloer Keller Bestandteile zum Bau von Bomben gefunden. Wie die Zeitung "Dagbladet" am Donnerstag berichtete, soll der Kellerverschlag einem diese Woche von Deutschland an Norwegen ausgelieferten irakischen Kurden gehören. Der 37-Jährige war in der Vorwoche während eines Deutschland-Besuches festgenommen worden.

Ebenfalls in der Vorwoche kamen in Oslo ein 39 Jahre alter Norweger uigurischer Abstammung und ein 31-jähriger Usbeke in Haft. Der norwegische Polizei-Geheimdienstes PST glaubt, dass die Männer einen oder mehrere Bombenanschläge in Norwegen für das Terrornetzwerk Al-Kaida vorbereitet hatten. Die Verdächtigen bestreiten alle Vorwürfe. Der Usbeke wandte sich voriges Jahr zudem selbst an die Polizei, um vor geplanten Anschlägen zu warnen. Er hatte seither für den PST als Informant gedient.

Nach den Angaben in "Dagbladet" fand die Polizei in dem Keller unter anderem eine Flasche hochkonzentriertes Hydrogenperoxid sowie Aceton. Beide Stoffe werden zur Herstellung des Sprengstoffes TATP verwendet. Dieser kam unter anderem bei den Anschlägen auf die Londoner Metro 2005 zum Einsatz und wird einschlägig auch als "Satans Mutter" bezeichnet.

<http://www.kleinezeitung.at/nachrichten/politik/2404638/norwegens-polizei-fand-angeblich-bomben-werkstatt.story>

2081/2010 -----

Prager Geheimdienst enttarnt russische Agenten

(Prager Zeitung) Russische Agenten sind in Tschechien aktiver als je zuvor. Das geht aus einem Bericht des tschechischen Geheimdienstes (BIS) hervor. Zudem sollen die Spione ihre Taktik geändert haben und konzentrieren sich nun vermehrt auf die Elite des Landes. Dem Dokument zufolge bemühen sich die Agenten aus Moskau vor allem darum, Kontakte zu Studenten und Wissenschaftlern zu knüpfen.

Außerdem gebe es verstärkt Versuche, in strategische Industriezweige vorzudringen, wie etwa in die Atom- und Verteidigungsindustrie. „Der russische Geheimdienst versucht sehr stark, bei uns eine konstant hohe Zahl seiner Leute aktiv zu halten. Ihre Tätigkeiten sind umfangreich und intensiv,“ sagt BIS-Sprecher Jan Šubert.

„Dem tschechischen Geheimdienst ist es im vergangenen Jahr gelungen, einige russische Agenten zu enttarnen, die in Tschechien langfristig tätig waren“, bestätigt Šubert. Genauere Informationen wollte er allerdings nicht geben. Auch die Sprecherin des Verteidigungsministeriums, Lucie Kubovičová, hält sich bedeckt: „Über die Tätigkeiten des russischen Geheimdienstes werden wir keinerlei Auskunft geben.“

http://www.pragerzeitung.cz/?c_id=16423

2082/2010 -----

Poland to extradite Israeli spy to Germany on lesser charges

(IntelNews) A judge in Poland has ruled in favor of the extradition to Germany of an Israeli alleged spy, wanted by Interpol in connection with the assassination of a Hamas official last January. The court ruling stipulates that Israeli citizen Uri Brodsky, who was arrested upon arriving in Poland on June 4, is to be extradited to Germany, where he will face charges of forgery. Authorities in Berlin accuse Brodsky of having helped an assassination team working for Israeli intelligence agency Mossad to acquire a forged German passport, used by an assassination team member to travel in and out of Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

While there, the Israeli assassins are thought to have killed Mahmoud al-Mabhouh, a weapons procurer for Palestinian group Hamas, who was in Dubai on a business trip. Shortly after Brodsky's arrest in Warsaw, Poland and Berlin came under intense pressure from Israel to ignore the Interpol arrest warrant for the alleged Israeli spy, drop all charges, and allow him to flee to Israel. Polish authorities almost gave in to the Israeli request, but eventually decided to facilitate the German extradition request.

http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/07/15/01-517/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+intelNewsOrg+%28intelNews.org%29

2083/2010 -----

EU Datenschützer: Data-Retention gescheitert

(ORF) Die Artikel-29-Gruppe der Datenschutzbehörden in der Europäischen Union hat einen Bericht zur Vorratsdatenspeicherung (Data-Retention) vorgelegt. Das Ergebnis: Die EU-Staaten erfassen mehr Kommunikationsdaten ihrer Bürger als sie eigentlich sammeln dürften. Die Richtlinie sei als Instrument der Harmonisierung des EU-Binnenmarktes gescheitert.

Die Data-Retention-Richtlinie aus dem Jahr 2006 verpflichtet alle Telefonie- und Internet-Provider dazu, die Verbindungsdaten aller ihrer Kunden verdachtsunabhängig für mindestens sechs Monate zu speichern und für den Zugriff durch die Exekutive bereitzuhalten.

Aus Sicht der Datenschützer ist die Richtlinie, die als Instrument zur Regulierung des Binnenmarkts eingeführt worden war, als solches gescheitert. Die Umsetzungen der Richtlinie in den Mitgliedsstaaten seien derart unterschiedlich ausgefallen, dass allein schon bei der Speicherdauer der Daten eine Spanne von sechs Monaten bis zu zehn Jahren existiere. "Die derzeitige Umsetzung der Data-Retention-Richtlinie ist nicht gesetzeskonform", so die Datenschützer.

<http://futurezone.orf.at/stories/1653988/>



UNITED KINGDOM

Hat tip to Oliver PLAUDER, editor of this section!

2084/2010 -----

Intel experts: Secret files taken by spy could fall into enemy hands

(Telegraph) Many documents containing details of secret information gathering software he devised have yet to be traced.

The former MI6 worker, who pleaded guilty to two charges following accusations that he stole top secret material, boasted he made copies of the electronic files as he attempted to sell them for £2 million to Dutch intelligence agents. As he negotiated for cash, Houghton, 25, revealed he had a second memory card containing further information hidden at his mother's home in Devon.

When he handed over the information to supposed Dutch spies he claimed he had given them 'everything'. But officers from Scotland Yard's specialist operations unit found hard copies of classified paperwork, some marked top secret or secret, while searching his shared rented flat in Hoxton, east London. They also discovered a Sony memory card containing about 7,000 files, some of them deleted, thought to be copies a list of MI6 agents and the files that he tried to sell.

The police search also uncovered a portable hard drive which held secret and top secret documents. Security officials said unauthorised disclosure of the material could have a significant impact on operations to protect Britain.

- (a) <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/7889438/Intelligence-experts-fear-secret-files-taken-by-spy-could-fall-into-enemy-hands.html>
- (b) Ex-MI6 man admits revealing secrets:
<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/breaking-news/uk-ireland/exmi6-man-admits-revealing-secrets-14875916.html#>

2085/2010 -----

Spy centre criticised for failing to recruit enough ethnic minorities

(dailymail) The fight against terrorism is being undermined by a failure to recruit intelligence experts from ethnic minorities, according to an official leaked report.

Black and Asian intelligence officers at GCHQ, the secret eavesdropping centre, have also complained of a culture of racism. The report into the Government Communications Headquarters near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, is stinging in its criticism of recruitment there. Much of GCHQ's work involves monitoring calls and e-mails from terror suspects.

The report, authorised by the head of the civil service, Sir Gus O'Donnell, says a lack of officers with specialist knowledge of languages such as Urdu and Arabic is hampering efforts to assess intercepted conversations. It says: 'It is critical to have a diverse staff group who are able to profile and recognise certain behaviour patterns and communications.'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1293946/Spy-centre-criticised-failing-recruit-ethnic-minorities.html>

2086/2010 -----

Britische Regierung will beim Kampf gegen Terror sparen

(Standard) Mavis Hyman wird ihrer Tochter erst um 14 Uhr gedenken. Zwei Stunden nachdem David Cameron und Prince Charles im Hyde Park Kränze niedergelegt haben werden, trifft sich die Hyman Familie im Golder's Hill Park zum Picknick. Dort, wo ihre Tochter Miriam so gerne auf Bäume geklettert ist, bevor Terroristen sie in der U-Bahn in die Luft sprengten.

Am 7. Juli 2002 töteten vier Selbstmordattentäter in drei U-Bahnen und einem Bus in London 52 Menschen, mehr als 700 wurden verletzt. Die damalige Regierung unter Tony Blair reagierte prompt und erließ strikte Antiterrorgesetze, die die Befugnisse der Polizei massiv erweiterten. Die neue Regierung unter David Cameron will sie nun wieder einschränken - und stößt dabei auf Widerstand.

182 Millionen Euro weniger möchte die Regierung Cameron künftig für die Terrorbekämpfung ausgeben; die Behörden sollen Terrorverdächtige nicht mehr 28 Tage ohne Anklage festhalten dürfen; einige der 4,5 Millionen Überwachungskameras der Insel sollen verschwinden; und das Stop-and-search-Gesetz soll nach einer Verurteilung durch den europäischen Gerichtshof überarbeitet werden. Derzeit erlaubt es Terrorbekämpfern, Menschen ohne konkreten Verdacht aufzuhalten und zu durchsuchen.

<http://derstandard.at/1277337538793/Britische-Regierung-will-beim-Kampf-gegen-Terror-sparen>

2087/2010 -----

Spy chiefs give secret evidence at Iraq probe

(Belfast Telegraph) Eight members of MI6 – including two former heads of the agency – have given secret evidence to the Iraq Inquiry, it has been announced.

Ex-spy chiefs Sir Richard Dearlove and Sir John Scarlett are among 35 witnesses who have appeared before the inquiry. Another six unnamed members of the Secret Intelligence Service, as MI6 is officially called, also provided testimony. Several senior British officials have now given evidence in public and private, including former UN ambassador Sir Jeremy Greenstock and Tony Blair's foreign policy adviser Sir David Manning.

Former ambassadors to Iraq Dominic Asquith, Edward Chaplin and Christopher Prentice have also appeared. Witnesses were allowed to give evidence in private if it related to matters that could damage national security or because of their personal circumstances.

Iraq Inquiry chairman Sir John Chilcot, said: "These hearings have given the inquiry valuable evidence which could have not be heard in public session without damaging national security or international relations.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/spy-chiefs-give-secret-evidence-at-iraq-probe-14870962.html#>

2088/2010 -----

Three officers shot during riots in Belfast

(BBC) Three police officers have been shot during violence in north Belfast on the eve of the annual Twelfth parades.

The officers, one a woman, were injured by a masked man firing a shotgun at North Queen Street. One male officer remains in hospital with an arm wound. A total of 27 officers were injured during disturbances - 14 in the New Lodge area of north Belfast and 13 at Broadway in west Belfast.

About 200 people threw petrol bombs, stones and bottles at Broadway. The trouble began at about 2345 BST on Sunday. Police used water canon and fired baton rounds at the nationalist rioters. The police ombudsman is investigating the incident which is routine procedure when police fire baton rounds.

During the rioting, at least one car was hijacked and set alight. It happened as police formed lines to separate those in the nationalist Broadway area from people attending traditional loyalist eleventh night bonfires on the nearby Donegall Road.

- (a) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10594614>
- (b) 'Significant arrests' promised after Belfast riots:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10624559>

2089/2010 -----

Unionists warn of danger in liberalising terror laws

(Belfast Telegraph) The Government must not cave in to pressure to liberalise terror laws if there is a chance it puts innocent citizens at risk, unionists warned last night.

Home Secretary Theresa May announced a review of counter-terrorism measures put in place by Labour that she claims "ride roughshod" over civil liberties. That includes looking at reducing the 28-day limit on detention of suspects before charge and reviewing stop and search powers, as well as measures dealing with organisations that promote hatred or violence.

Lord Ken Macdonald, former Director of Public Prosecutions, who defended IRA suspects in his early career and is renowned for his liberal views, has been put in charge of the review.

The use of intercepted evidence in court cases will be dealt with in a separate study. DUP MPs were plunged into a row two years ago over plans to increase the detention length to 42-days. Their block support was key in helping to push through the extension in the early stages, though the plans were later dropped.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/unionists-warn-of-danger-in-liberalising-terror-laws-14875672.html#>

2090/2010 -----

Blair ready to cut troops to spur IRA, says Mandelson

(irishtimes) FORMER BRITISH prime minister Tony Blair was prepared to rush cutting British troop numbers in Northern Ireland and reduce electronic Border surveillance in 2000 to spur IRA decommissioning, Lord Mandelson has claimed.

In his memoir, *The Third Man: Life at the Heart of New Labour*, the former Northern Ireland secretary of state said Mr Blair and his chief-of-staff, Jonathan Powell, wanted to offer concessions to keep Sinn Féin "on board and to encourage them to speed up decommissioning".

"We differed on whether it was right or responsible, to play the 'normalisation card' without clear evidence that it was merited by the behaviour of the IRA, or the threat posed by its splinter groups," he writes, adding that security chiefs shared his fears.

Mr Blair, he said, "understood" his concerns about security: "He was anxious to find some way - at times, it appeared, any way - to avoid another collapse in the talks and another interruption of devolved rule."

Lord Mandelson, who served as secretary of state from October 1999 until January 2001, said the Irish government had "clearly shared" Sinn Féin's view that he would not "make good on his threat" to restore direct rule unless there was progress on IRA decommissioning.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2010/0715/1224274739377.html>

2091/2010 -----

IRA lorry-bomb on its way to Britain

(thesun) RENEGADE IRA terrorists are planning a devastating lorry bomb attack on mainland Britain, it emerged last night.

Security chiefs fear Republican dissidents are on the brink of pulling off a deadly atrocity. Sources have revealed the terrorists are plotting to smuggle in a lorry bomb. There are concerns they may try to hit a high-profile target such as Canary Wharf or the Tory party conference.

Details emerged amid warnings from Northern Ireland that members of the Continuity IRA are close to perfecting their bomb-making technology. Senior Ministers have been warned there is a very high risk of attack. Police in the Irish Republic foiled a plan to smuggle a massive car bomb into Northern Ireland last weekend.

Riots have also rocked the Province this week despite pleas for calm by Sinn Fein MP and Old Bailey bomber Gerry Kelly. One source said: "There is a significant threat of an attack this year. It is only a matter of time before they are successful."

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/3054966/IRA-lorry-bomb-is-on-way-to-Britain.html>



GERMANY

2092/2010 -----

German intel: Right-wingers, Muslim extremists share anti-Semitism

(AP/CP) A top security official says he sees anti-Semitism in both right-wing and Muslim extremists in Germany.

Heinz Fromm, president of the domestic intelligence agency, is quoted in Der Spiegel Sunday as saying both have "a similar picture of the enemy: Israel and the Jews overall." Fromm said that while neo-Nazis adhere to a racist anti-Semitism, Muslim extremists "are oriented toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict." He said both groups have the idea "that Israel and the Jews have undue power that needs to be fought."

Last month a group of Arab youths attacked and shouted anti-Semitic slogans at a Jewish dance group during a street festival in Hannover.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5ip9gnSxqOjJH6EoSToOvawChDFZg>

2093/2010 -----

Mehrjährige Haftstrafen gegen türkische Linksextremisten

(Reuters) Das Oberlandesgericht Stuttgart hat am Donnerstag zwei führende Funktionäre der linksextremen türkischen DHKP-C wegen Mitgliedschaft in einer terroristischen Vereinigung im Ausland zu mehrjährigen Freiheitsstrafen verurteilt.

Die beiden türkischen Staatsbürger im Alter von 48 und 36 Jahren hätten rund 64.000 Euro Spenden für die Revolutionäre Volksbefreiungspartei (DHKP-C) in Deutschland gesammelt, sagte der Vorsitzende Richter Hermann Wieland zum Abschluss des 29 Monate dauernden Prozesses.

Der 48-Jährige muss fünf Jahre und vier Monate in Haft, der 36-Jährige vier Jahre und zehn Monate. Mit dem Urteil blieb das Gericht unter den Anträgen die Bundesanwaltschaft, die Freiheitsstrafen von sechseinhalb sowie fünf Jahre und drei Monate beantragt hatten. Die Verteidiger hatten unter anderem die Einstellung des Verfahrens gefordert. Sie kündigten umgehend Revision vor dem Bundesgerichtshof an. Das Urteil habe erheblich über einem Verständigungsangebot des Strafsenats im Februar gelegen. Danach hätten die beiden Angeklagten Urteile von drei Jahren und elf Monaten sowie vier Jahren erwarten können, sagten die Anwälte.

Wieland sagte, die beiden Linksextremisten hätten gewusst, dass die Gelder dem bewaffneten Guerillakrieg in der Türkei dienten. Die DHKP-C sei eine hoch gefährliche Organisation, die das politische System in der Türkei stürzen und durch einen marxistisch-leninistischen Staat ersetzen wolle. Dafür schrecke die DHKP-C nicht vor Attentaten auf Politiker, Sprengstoffanschläge und Selbstmordattentaten zurück.

<http://de.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idDEBEE66E0ER20100715>

2094/2010 -----

Irrfahrt eines deutschen Dschihadisten

(taz) Wollte der Deutschsyrer Rami M. die deutsche Botschaft in Pakistan in die Luft jagen? Oder wollte er zu Frau und Kind nach VON WOLF SCHMIDT Hamburg zurück? Die deutschen Behörden sind uneins.

Wollte er sich am Montag, den 21. Juni in der deutschen Botschaft in Islamabad den Behörden stellen und aus dem Dschihad aussteigen? Oder wollte er an jenem Tag die Botschaft in die Luft sprengen? Der Fall des in Frankfurt geborenen 25-jährigen Rami M. steckt voller Fragezeichen.

Fest steht nur: Der Mann mit der deutschen und der syrischen Staatsbürgerschaft hat die pakistanische Hauptstadt an jenem Tag nie erreicht. Das pakistanische Militär hat ihn, verkleidet in eine Burka, bei Bannu an der Grenze zu Nordwaziristan festgenommen. Seitdem soll er in einer Zelle des berühmten Geheimdienstes ISI einsitzen.

<http://www.taz.de/1/politik/asien/artikel/1/irrfahrt-eines-dschihadisten/>



2095/2010 -----

Schweizer Nationalrätin: Geheimdienst soll Freikirchen überwachen

Die Schweizerische Laizistische Gesellschaft SLG fordert von Bund und Kantonen, dass sie fundamentalistische Freikirchen wie ICF und ihre Prediger nachrichtendienstlich überwachen und regelmäßig überprüfen. «Die wortwörtliche Auslegung der Bibel, die solche Freikirchen betreiben, gefährdet unser demokratisch-liberales Staatssystem», ist SLG-Präsidentin Andrea Arezina überzeugt. Auch SP-Nationalrätin Jacqueline Fehr ruft den Bund dazu auf, nicht nur muslimische, sondern auch christliche Fundamentalisten ins Visier zu nehmen. «Der Bund sollte untersuchen, was für Gefahren von diesen Kreisen ausgehen und ob das Gewaltmonopol des Staates respektiert wird», sagt Fehr, die in der Herbstsession eine entsprechende Interpellation einreichen wird.

ICF-Sprecher Daniel Linder ist bestürzt über «das erschreckend tiefe Niveau» der neusten Forderungen: «Wir sind keine christlichen Taliban. Wer glaubt, wir seien eine gefährliche Organisation, hat nicht verstanden, was Christsein bedeutet.» Wilf Gasser, der Präsident der Schweizerischen Evangelischen Allianz, bezeichnet den Kampf gegen die Freikirchen als «Kreuzzug der Aufklärer», nimmt es aber sportlich: «Wenigstens wird der Glaube so wieder zum Thema.»

Die Wahrscheinlichkeit, dass die Forderung der SLG tatsächlich durchkommt, ist minimal: «Das Gesetz sagt klar, dass nur gewaltbereite Organisationen dem Staatschutz unterliegen», sagt Karin Keller-Sutter, Vizepräsidentin der Polizeidirektorenkonferenz. Man könne schließlich nicht alle, die eine andere Meinung hätten, überwachen.

<http://www.20min.ch/news/schweiz/story/21446784>



AUSTRIA

2096/2010 -----

Cold-War era secrecy clouds Vienna swap

(Washington Times) A U.S., front, and a Russian plane, rear, believed to be carrying candidates for a 14-person spy swap as part of the largest spy swap since the Cold War have parked on the tarmac at Vienna's Schwechat airport on Friday, July 9, 2010.

- (a) Slide-show:
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/multimedia/collection/vienna-spy-swap/>
- (b) Vienna Still a Spot for Cloak-and-Dagger Work:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/10/world/europe/10vienna.html>

2097/2010 -----

Behörden wussten "offiziell" nichts

(Kleine Zeitung) Die heimischen Behörden wussten von den Vorgängen nach offiziellen Angaben nichts. "Das ist nicht unsere Geschichte. Daher kann ich weder bestätigen noch dementieren", sagte der Sprecher des Innenministeriums, Rudolf Gollia, der Austria Presse Agentur am Freitag in der Früh auf Anfrage. Schon in Sachen Sutjagin hatte es am Donnerstag geheißt: "Wir können das weder bestätigen noch dementieren, weil wir es nicht wissen." Gollias Pendant vom Außenamt, Peter Launsky-Tieffenthal, stimmte darin ein - ohne den letzten Teil der Aussage, wie er sagte. Der Leiter des Österreichischen Zentrums für Geheimdienst, Propaganda und Sicherheitsstudien, Siegfried Beer, geht sehr wohl davon aus, dass die österreichischen Behörden "informiert oder sogar beteiligt" waren, wie der dem "Kurier" (Freitag-Ausgabe) sagte.

Kleine Zeitung v. 10. Juli 2010, 2f.

2098/2010 -----

BKA-Telefonüberwachung: Buwog-Ermittlungsakt per Geheimdienstkontakt?

(format) Im Fall Buwog ermittelt der Korruptionsstaatsanwalt nun im Polizeiumfeld. Es besteht der Verdacht, dass sich Grasser & Freunde Buwog-Ermittlungsakten über Geheimdienstkontakte besorgen wollten.

Dem Vernehmen nach sollen Agenten des Bundesamts für Verfassungsschutz und Terrorismusbekämpfung sowie des Heeresnachrichtendienstes ihre Dienste angeboten haben, vertrauliche Buwog-Ermittlungsakten zu besorgen. Als Verbindungsmann zu den FPÖ-nahen Kontaktpersonen in den zwei Geheimdiensten soll sich ein gewisser Franz Koloini zur Verfügung gestellt haben. Er sollte die brisanten Infos an KHG und Co weiterleiten. Koloini war früher Privatsekretär des Kärntner Landeshauptmanns Jörg Haider.

- (a) <http://www.format.at/articles/1027/524/272852/grassers-spitzel-ffaere-wollte-freunde-buwog-ermittlungsakten>
- (b) News 28 / 2010, S. 18
- (c) <http://www.gruene.at/skandale/artikel/lesen/63662/>

- (d) Parlamentarische Anfrage: <http://www.gruene.at/uploads/media/buwog-parla-inneres.pdf>

2099/2010 -----

Proksch, Minister und Spione

Die Wiener Gratis-Zeitung "heute" thematisiert die geheimdienstlichen Verbindungen des „Netzwerkers“ Udo Proksch (Lucona-Fall).

- (a) Heute, 15. Juli 2010, 6f.
- (b) <http://www.heute.at/news/oesterreich/wien/Proksch-Minister-und-Spione;art931,368866>
- (c) Stasi hatte Proksch in der Kartei:
<http://www.heute.at/news/oesterreich/wien/Stasi-hatte-Proksch-in-der-Kartei;art931,367942>
- (d) Trailer zum Proksch-Film „Out of Control“: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kzq4smVqtEw>
- (e) <http://www.heute.at/news/oesterreich/wien/richard+schmitt./Parallelen-;art931,367929>

2100/2010 -----

Heeresnachrichtenamt: Ein Geheimdienst errötet

(Die Presse) Verteidigungsminister Norbert Darabos ist mit seiner Personalpolitik abermals beim Koalitionspartner ÖVP auf Kritik gestoßen. Konkret geht es um die Nachbesetzung bei den beiden militärischen Nachrichtendiensten. Edwin Potocnik, bisher provisorischer Leiter des Abwehramtes (Inlandsgeheimdienst), wurde zum Chef des Heeresnachrichtenamtes (HNA, Auslandsgeheimdienst) bestellt. Anton Oschep ist der neue Leiter des Heeresabwehramtes.

Damit sind in beiden Fällen SPÖ-Kandidaten zum Zug gekommen, heißt es aus der ÖVP. Die lange geübte Tradition, wonach ein SPÖ- und ein ÖVP-Mann an der Spitze jeweils eines militärischen Geheimdienstes stehen, sei somit aufgebrochen worden. Darabos habe auch bei Besetzungen in der Vergangenheit SPÖ-nahe Offiziere klar bevorzugt.

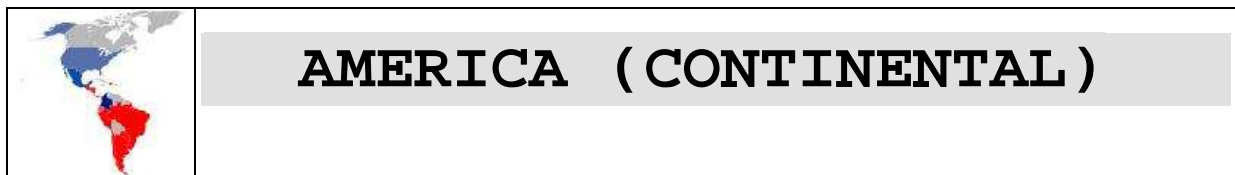
Darabos wies dies umgehend zurück. Diese „unsachliche und offenkundig parteipolitisch motivierte Kritik an der Ernennung“ sei jedenfalls nicht nachzuvollziehen und eine Herabwürdigung hoch qualifizierter Persönlichkeiten. Potocnik und Oschep seien hoch angesehene, erfahrene und qualifizierte Führungskräfte des Bundesheers.

Kenner des Heeresnachrichtendienstes geben beiden Positionen eine gewisse Berechtigung. Potocnik und Oschep werden als durchaus qualifiziert und geeignet bezeichnet - beide gelten aber auch als SPÖ-nahe. Und vor allem im HNA habe es einen logischen Nachfolger für den nun pensionierten Fritz Weber gegeben: Franz Berndorfer, einst Webers Stellvertreter. Auch im Abwehramt kam ein hoch qualifizierter ÖVP-naher Kandidat nicht zum Zug: Ewald Iby, derzeit stellvertretender Leiter, der aber schon dreimal bei der Besetzung der Führungsposition übergangen wurde.

Für Aufregung sorgen aber nicht nur die Personalbesetzungen, sondern auch die von Darabos angekündigten Sparpläne bei den Geheimdiensten. Der Minister hat durchblicken lassen, dass er bis zu 300 Geheimdienstmitarbeiter abbauen könnte. Im Außenministerium fürchtet man nun, dass das HNA - dieses erstellt Informationen über

sicherheitspolitische Entwicklungen im Ausland - Bedrohungsbilder nicht mehr in ausreichender Qualität wird liefern können.

- (a) http://diepresse.com/home/politik/innenpolitik/580975/index.do?from=gl.home_politik
- (b) Kritik an Sparkurs bei Geheimdiensten:
<http://oe1.orf.at/artikel/249181>
- (c) http://www.ots.at/presseaussendung/OTS_20100712_OTS0193/besetzung-von-kommandantenfunktionen-beim-bundesheer
- (d) http://www.ots.at/presseaussendung/OTS_20100713_OTS0129/darabos-neue-fuehrungsspitze-von-heeresnachrichtenamt-und-abwehramt-kompetent-und-fachlich-unbestritten



2101/2010 -----

Chavez opponent detained in Venezuela

(AP) Venezuelan intelligence agents have detained a government opponent on suspicion of links to a Salvadoran man accused of bombings in Cuba.

Alejandro Pena Esclusa was detained at his apartment Monday night by agents acting on a court order, and they found what appear to be explosives and more than 100 detonators, said David Colmenares, counterintelligence director of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service.

Agents raided Pena's home based on information provided by the Salvadoran, Francisco Chavez Abarca, who was captured and handed over to Cuba last week to face trial for a series of bombings in 1997, Colmenares said in comments broadcast by TV channel Globovision.

Pena's wife, Indira de Pena, called her husband's detention a sham.

"These people dared to plant those explosives in a very crude way because they put some explosives in the drawer of our 8-year-old girl's desk," she said in an interview with the Colombian radio program "La Hora de la Verdad." She accused authorities of planting the explosives while her husband was handcuffed and she was in another part of the apartment.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5il6w4bMCJYXZRPfANIAyw2cdwWYgD9GUEP9G0>

2102/2010 -----

Ecuador: No proof yet of Colombian spying

(colombiareports) Ecuadorean Security Minister Miguel Carvajal said Thursday that allegations that Colombian security agency DAS spied on Ecuadorean President Rafael Correa and other officials is "so far just a newspaper story."

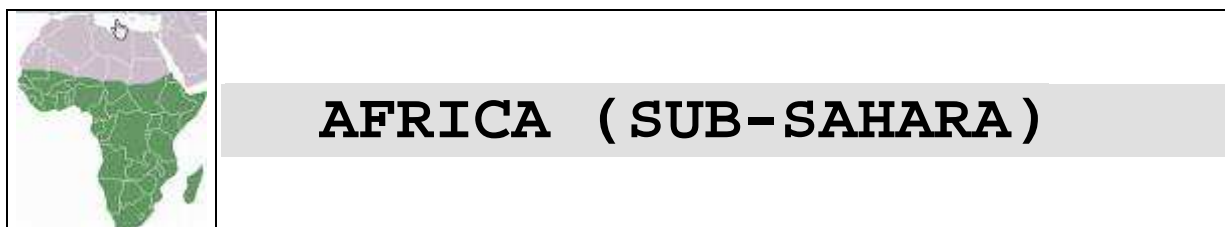
"We can not say for a fact that it has happened," Carvajal said, referring to the story broken by El Universo newspaper, in which a former (unnamed) DAS employee alleged that the security agency wiretapped Correa's phone from an operation run out of Quito.

Carvajal said although it was common practice for journalists to protect their sources, in such cases involving national security it was important "to deliver all the information needed to know exactly the source is for the prosecutor to do research and determine whether or not there was espionage."

Ecuador's prosecutor general asked the newspaper to reveal the source last week, and Carvajal is also insisting that El Universo provides the information required for investigations.

El Universo refuted claims that the DAS official at the centre of the story was a disgruntled employee, who had been fired, as stated by Colombian president Alvaro Uribe and DAS director Felipe Muñoz.

<http://colombiareports.com/colombia-news/news/10703-carvajal-das-wiretapping-just-a-newspaper-story.html>



2103/2010 -----

Nigeria sect leader lauds al-Qaida, threatens US

(AP) A leader of a radical Nigerian Muslim sect that sparked violence that killed 700 people last year has issued a statement mourning the deaths of al-Qaida in Iraq commanders and threatening the U.S.

Imam Abubakar Shekau, a deputy for the Boko Haram sect whom police claimed to have killed during the July 2009 violence, issued the statement on a jihadist Internet forum. The message, translated Tuesday by the SITE Intelligence Group, shows Shekau also praises Osama bin Laden and says: "Do not think jihad is over. Rather jihad has just begun. O America, die with your fury."

The message comes as the one-year anniversary of the violence approaches. Shekau made a videotaped statement in April claiming the group would launch new attacks.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iNCU46VYMF0VzhqkKJUus45PrDAD9GU9T180>

2104/2010 -----

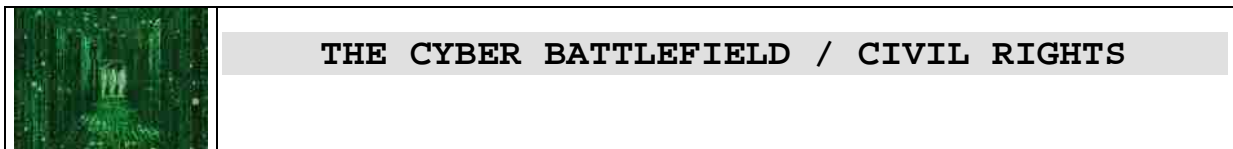
Cocaine, Al Qaeda And Tropical Gangsters

(StrategyPage) The U.S. recently cut all military aid to of the African nation of Guinea-Bissau, which was in response to Guinea-Bissau refusing to remove military officers known to be involved with cocaine smugglers. The

U.S. believes that the military has not only been bought off by drug gangs, but that the newly appointed head of the army, general Antonio Indjai, is heavily involved in the drug business.

Because of the South American drug gangs using Guinea-Bissau as part of their new smuggling route to Europe and the Middle East, West Africa is becoming a new source of income for al Qaeda. At first, the U.S. attacked the problem by putting sanctions, last April, on two senior military commanders in Guinea-Bissau. Air force chief of staff Ibraima Papa Camara and former navy chief of staff Jose Americo Bubo Na Tchuto were accused of being "drug kingpins" and key members of a drug smuggling operation that moves cocaine from South America to Europe and the Persian Gulf, via Guinea-Bissau. The sanctions freeze any assets the two men have in the United States, and prohibit Americans from doing business with the two. This did not stop the pro-drug commanders, who then staged a coup to remove the anti-drug army commander. To further make their point, pro-drug gang troops also briefly arrested the prime minister. Subsequent negotiations convinced the government to let the pro-drug gang officers have their way.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htterr/articles/20100704.aspx>



2105/2010 -----

Hacking the Electric Grid? You and What Army?

(Wired) Grid-hacking is back in the news, with the unveiling of "Perfect Citizen," the National Security Agency's creepily named effort to protect the networks of electrical companies and nuclear power plants.

People have claimed in the past to be able to turn off the internet, there are reports of foreign penetrations into government systems, "proof" of foreign interest in attacking U.S. critical infrastructure based on studies, and concerns about adversary capabilities based on allegations of successful critical infrastructure attacks. Which begs the question: If it's so easy to turn off the lights using your laptop, how come it doesn't happen more often?

The fact of the matter is that it isn't easy to do any of these things. Your average power grid or drinking-water system isn't analogous to a PC or even to a corporate network. The complexity of such systems, and the use of proprietary operating systems and applications that are not readily available for study by your average hacker, make the development of exploits for any uncovered vulnerabilities much more difficult than using Metasploit.

To start, these systems are rarely connected directly to the public internet. And that makes gaining access to grid-controlling networks a challenge for all but the most dedicated, motivated and skilled – nation-states, in other words.

<http://www.wired.com/dangerroom/2010/07/hacking-the-electric-grid-you-and-what-army/>

2106/2010 -----

Russischer Spion soll bei Microsoft gearbeitet haben

(macnews) Einer der russischen Spione, die die amerikanische Regierung im eigenen Territorium entdeckt hat, soll bei Microsoft gearbeitet haben. Nach Informationen des Wall Street Journals war der 23-jährige Alexey Karetnikov seit Oktober bei dem Software-Hersteller in Redmond angestellt.

<http://www.macnews.de/news/29435/russischer-spion-soll-bei-microsoft-gearbeitet-haben/>

2107/2010 -----

Lawyers Who Won NSA Spy Case Demand \$2.63 Million

(Wired) How much does it cost to convince a federal judge your clients were victims of President Bush's once-secret warrantless spy program? \$2.63 million.

That's the combined payment a team of eight lawyers is demanding from the government after proving their clients were illegally wiretapped under a once-secret National Security Agency spy program adopted in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks. The hourly rates range from \$506 an hour to \$296, and are based on generally accepted billing schedules.

The legal fee request (.pdf) Wednesday came three months after U.S. District Judge Vaughn Walker of San Francisco ruled the former administration wiretapped phone calls between a Saudi charity and its U.S. lawyers without a warrant, in violation of federal law.

It was the first ruling addressing how Bush's spy program was carried out against American citizens. Other lawsuits considered the program's overall constitutionality – absent any evidence of specific eavesdropping – and were dismissed.

The government remains mum on whether it would appeal Walker's ruling that the Bush administration in 2004 was unlawfully intercepting the telephone communications of attorneys Wendell Belew and Asim Ghafoor. They were American-based counsel to the Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation, which the government has declared a terror organization.

The lawyers representing Belew and Ghafoor said they worked a combined 5,400-plus hours on the case, which during its 4-year-life had a tortured procedural history of being bounced from Oregon federal court to San Francisco federal court, to an appeals court and back to Judge Walker.

<http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2010/07/lawyers-demand-millions/>

2108/2010 -----

Microsoft Security Updates, and a Farewell to Windows XP SP 2

(Krebs) Microsoft today released software updates to fix at least five security vulnerabilities in computers running its Windows operating system and Office applications. Today also marks the planned end-of-life deadline for Windows XP Service Pack 2, a bundle of security updates and features that Microsoft first released in 2004.

Anyone still using Windows 2000 should take note of this important change: After today, Microsoft will no longer be shipping security updates or any other updates for Windows 2000 machines.

http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/07/microsoft-security-updates-and-a-farewell-to-windows-xp-service-pack-2/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KrebsOnSecurity+%28Krebs+on+Security%29

2109/2010 -----

Experts Warn of New Windows Shortcut Flaw

(Krebs) Researchers have discovered a sophisticated new strain of malicious software that piggybacks on USB storage devices and leverages what appears to be a previously unknown security vulnerability in the way Microsoft Windows processes shortcut files.

VirusBlokAda, an anti-virus company based in Belarus, said that on June 17 its specialists found two new malware samples that were capable of infecting a fully-patched Windows 7 system if a user were to view the contents of an infected USB drive with a common file manager such as Windows Explorer.

USB-borne malware is extremely common, and most malware that propagates via USB and other removable drives traditionally has taken advantage of the Windows Autorun or Autoplay feature. But according to VirusBlokAda, this strain of malware leverages a vulnerability in the method Windows uses for handling shortcut files.

Shortcut files – or those ending in the “.lnk” extension – are Windows files that link (hence the “lnk” extension) easy-to-recognize icons to specific executable programs, and are typically placed on the user’s Desktop or Start Menu. Ideally, a shortcut doesn’t do anything until a user clicks on its icon. But VirusBlokAda found that these malicious shortcut files are capable of executing automatically if they are written to a USB drive that is later accessed by Windows Explorer.

http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/07/experts-warn-of-new-windows-shortcut-flaw/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KrebsOnSecurity+%28Krebs+on+Security%29

2110/2010 -----

The Grudge Factor

(StrategyPage) Last July, there were several days of Internet based attacks on government and military web sites in South Korea and the United States. This year, there were another series of similar attacks. Unlike the 2009 attacks, this year there was little damage or disruption. That's because the attacks last year were transmitted by 260,000 hijacked PCs. Most of those have since been identified and cleaned up. The hacker code was programmed to attack U.S. and South Korean web sites every year, between July 4th and 7th. But some PCs (under 500) did not have the hacker code removed, and, on schedule, went at it again, it was a much weaker attack.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htiw/articles/20100715.aspx>

2111/2010 -----

China Tries To Plug The Big Leak

(StrategyPage) Alarmed at the amount of military information being innocently leaked by their soldiers on the Internet, China has banned all uniformed personnel from operating blogs, personal web sites or using social networking sites. They are also barred from Internet Cafes. Troops are not completely banned from using the Internet off duty, they are simply forbidden to communicate with anyone they don't know. The new regulations don't specify punishments for those who disobey the new rules. It's assumed that anyone who does so will simply be punished for disobeying orders, or disclosing state secrets.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htm/htintel/articles/20100702.aspx>



SPYCRAFT

2112/2010 -----

'Best spies are people, not machines'

(CFR via MSNBC) The arrest and speedy deportation of ten suspected Russian spies in U.S. suburbs has raised concerns about relations between Moscow and Washington, and prompted speculation about methods associated with 21st century spy craft.

Five former members of the U.S. intelligence community offer insight into lessons learned from one of the largest cases of espionage to surface on U.S. soil with the Council on Foreign Relations Greg Bruno.

Eric M. O'Neill, a former undercover operative for the FBI who helped bring down Russian spy Robert Hanssen in 2001, believes that in this most recent case, "Russia took a large risk of political embarrassment" by embedding illegal agents, but thought it would pay off.

Burton L. Gerber, a former CIA chief of station during the Cold War, notes this is because human intelligence sources are still absolutely vital for a country like Russia seeking "to understand the full scope of a competing nation's goals/intentions/capabilities."

Jack Devine, a former CIA deputy director of operations, adds that the details of the case - as cloaked in mystery as they are - suggest a major Russian operation.

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/38206094/ns/us_news-security/

2113/2010 -----

The Shifting Landscape of Passport Fraud

(StratFor) The recent case involving the arrest and deportation of the Russian intelligence network in the United States has once again raised the subject of document fraud in general and passport fraud in particular. The FBI's investigation into the group of Russian operatives discovered that

several of the suspects had assumed fraudulent identities and had obtained genuine passports (and other identity documents) in their assumed names. One of the suspects assumed the identity of a Canadian by the name of Christopher Robert Mestos, who died in childhood. The suspect was arrested in Cyprus but fled after posting bail; his true identity remains unknown. Three other members of the group also assumed Canadian identities, with Andrey Bezrukov posing as Donald Heathfield, Elena Vavilova as Tracey Foley and Natalia Pereverzeva as Patricia Mills.

Passport fraud is a topic that surfaces with some frequency in relation to espionage cases. (The Israelis used passport fraud during the January 2010 operation to assassinate Mahmoud al-Mabhouh, a senior Hamas militant commander.) Passport fraud is also frequently committed by individuals involved in crimes such as narcotics smuggling and arms trafficking, as well as by militants involved in terrorist plots. Because of the frequency with which passport fraud is used in these types of activities – and due to the importance that curtailing passport fraud can have in combating espionage, terrorism and crime – we thought it a topic worth discussing this week in greater detail.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100714_shifting_landscape_passport_fraud?utm_source=SWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=100715&utm_content=readmore&elq=f437cd111a1744ba885f18a44d8b8041

2114/2010 -----

eMails mit Briefgeheimnis

(format) Der elektronische Brief soll die Lücke zwischen Briefsendung und eMail schließen: eine digitale Nachricht mit Briefgeheimnis – auch für Einschreiben – und unabhängig von Öffnungszeiten und Briefmarke.

- (a) Format 27 / 2010, S. 52
- (b) <http://futurezone.orf.at/stories/1653216/>

2115/2010 -----

Canada's unmanned spyplanes give commanders good military intel

(The Canadian Press) It may not be 'death from above' but Canada's high-tech eyes over Afghan skies are paying huge dividends in terms of surveillance and military intelligence for Canadian and NATO troops on the ground.

The prop-driven CU-170 Herons, which operate out of Kandahar Airfield, are currently used only for surveillance and were acquired as a result of the Manley commission into the Afghan mission. The flights began in January and crews who operate the unmanned spyplanes recently celebrated their 500th mission. From the view screens in the command centre, a mud compound on the outskirts of Kandahar city can clearly be seen on three different monitors. An Afghan man walks across a bridge, a car is parked outside the bright blue door and everything appears to be normal activity in everyday Afghan life.

"It's all about picture of living, right? So you start with the area and all the people there what's normal and what's not normal," explained Capt. Mario Charron, a former Sea King test pilot, who is flying the Heron on this day. "Once you get that knowledge you can look at somebody say he has a cellphone right? You can see with someone just talking to his friend ... he's going be relaxed ...he's going to kick rocks. Somebody with a purpose

you have to assume they are going to be looking around," he added. "It's body language a lot so you're looking at all those things."

In another mission, two men on a motorcycle can be seen fleeing an attack on a coalition outpost _ either a rocket launcher or recoilless rifle clearly visible as they carry it on the seat between them. The drone tracks them to where they hide the gun in a mosque.

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/breakingnews/canadas-unmanned-spyplanes-give-commanders-good-military-intelligence--98194449.html>

2116/2010 -----

Smart Phones Go To War

(StrategyPage) Three years ago, the iPhone, a very popular smart phone design, went on sale. Since then, over 300 million iPhones, and similar "smart phones" have been sold. Some of the most eager buyers of this technology have been American soldiers. This should come as no surprise, as U.S. soldiers and marines who have fought in Iraq and Afghanistan have become tech-heads, courtesy of all the electronic gear combat troops now carry. Officers often have laptops with them in combat, to display maps, overhead UAV video, satellite photos and all manner of data needed for them to fight smarter and more effectively. The troops use night-vision gear, electronic rifle sights and much more. Some get to handle portable radars that can see through walls and binoculars that have laser range finders and electronic links to artillery units.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htiw/articles/20100713.aspx>

2117/2010 -----

Voice recognition: I Can Do That, Dave

(StrategyPage) American computer firm IBM recently announced that it had developed a system (called Watson) that could be programmed to play the TV quiz game Jeopardy, and consistently win against the best human players. Watson uses the IBM Blue Gene supercomputer system to accomplish this. This has enormous military implications.

For intelligence professionals, this development is huge. For one thing, it means there is now a voice recognition system that can take a question, spoken by a human, understand it, and then have access to a data analysis system capable of quickly producing a spoken answer. This is important because, in the last decade, tools for capturing, storing and analyzing military intelligence data have grown more powerful and portable, as well as a lot cheaper. But to get at that data quickly and accurately, you have to be an SQL (structured query language) ace. Actually, nearly everyone has been exposed to some SQL via using search engines like Google. But SQL itself is a much more powerful, and difficult to learn, beast. A system that allows intel officers, or commanders, to ask a series of spoken questions, and quickly get answers, provides a powerful tool for effectively using the mountains of data collected. Yet, for the military, systems like Watson are seen as part of a trend.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htintel/articles/20100705.aspx>



INTELL HISTORY

2118/2010 -----

Historische Fälle von Agentenaustausch

(profil) Das profil dieser Woche bringt eine graphische Übersicht historischer Agenten-swaps, die meist in Berlin stattgefunden hatten.

Profil 28/2010, S. 48

2119/2010 -----

Mielkes Stellvertreter verteidigen MfS

(n-tv) Ein "informatives Kompendium" für junge Menschen will das Buch "Fragen an das MfS" sein. Es stammt von zwei früheren Stellvertretern des Stasi-Chefs Mielke und verteidigt die Methoden des DDR-Geheimdienstes.

Knapp 20 Jahre nach der deutschen Einheit haben zwei frühere hochrangige Stasi-Offiziere ein neues Buch über den DDR-Spitzelapparat veröffentlicht und damit für Unmut gesorgt. Es heißt "Fragen an das MfS" und stammt von Werner Großmann und Wolfgang Schwanitz. Beide waren in der DDR zuletzt Stellvertreter von Stasi-Minister Erich Mielke.

Das Frage-Antwort-Buch wird als "informatives Kompendium" für junge Menschen angepriesen. "Das ist der letzte Aufschrei der Obristen", sagte der Direktor der Stasiopfer-Gedenkstätte Berlin-Hohenschönhausen, Hubertus Knabe. "Sie halten an ihren Lebenslügen fest", so Knabe.

Auf knapp 400 Seiten verteidigen die Ex-Funktionäre die Arbeit des Ministeriums für Staatssicherheit (MfS). Zu lesen ist unter anderem: In der DDR hat es keine flächendeckende Überwachung durch die Stasi gegeben. Auf Häftlinge der Staatssicherheit wurde kein psychischer Druck ausgeübt. Für Stasi-Mitarbeiter gab es keine Extra-Läden mit Westwaren. Das MfS hat heimlich Briefe geöffnet - doch das gehöre weltweit zum hoheitlichen Handeln von Staaten. Das MfS habe aber keine Killerkommandos losgeschickt, heißt es in den Antworten auf knapp 200 Fragen. Diese seien ihnen in Schulen, auf Foren und Hörsälen in den letzten Jahren gestellt worden, wird im Klappentext des im Verlag edition ost erschienenen Buches betont.

<http://www.n-tv.de/politik/Kritik-an-Stasi-Buch-article762795.html>

2120/2010 -----

Stasi-Akten über NS-Kriegsverbrecher

(DCRS) Nach dem Ende des 2. Weltkriegs hat mancher Kriegsverbrecher seinen Weg wieder in den bundesdeutschen Sicherheits- und Beamtenapparat gefunden. Und glaubten sich in ihrer neuen Position sicher.

Wie Stasi-Akten aus der BIRTHLER-Behörde jetzt beweisen, hatten die DDR und deren Geheimdienst scheinbar ein großes Interesse an der Vergangenheit von Mitarbeitern westlicher Geheim- und Sicherheitsdienste. Die Akten

offenbaren, dass die Stasi Informationen über einzelne Mitarbeiter aus BND, MAD und der Polizei zusammengetragen hat.

Laut der „Berliner Zeitung“ sollen in den Unterlagen der Birthler-Behörde mehrere Mitarbeiter des Bundesnachrichtendienstes auftauchen, die im Zusammenhang mit Kriegsverbrechen stehen. Wie der mutmaßlich für den BND tätige Josef Anetzberger, in dessen Vita auch das SS-Totenkopf-Wachbataillon Sachsenhausen auftaucht.

- (a) <http://www.dcrs.de/geheimdienst-stasi-akten-ueber-ns-kriegsverbrecher,372319>
- (b) Brisanz sachlich nicht gerechtfertigt: <http://www.welt.de/die-welt/politik/article8439012/Verwirrung-um-NS-Verstrickung-von-BND-Agenten.html>
- (c) Alle Google-news-links:
http://news.google.at/news/story?pz=1&cf=all&ned=de_at&cf=all&ncl=dt1lrlB6KjM1PTMPPJbnY1XLzrFgM

2121/2010 -----

Sergei Tretyakov, Spy Who Fled to U.S., Dies at 53

(NY Times) Sergei Tretyakov, a high-ranking Russian spy who defected to the United States after the end of the cold war, died on June 13 at his home in Florida. He was 53. His wife, Helen, announced his death on Friday on the Washington radio station WTOP.

Pete Earley, the author of a book about Mr. Tretyakov, "Comrade J.: The Untold Secrets of Russia's Master Spy in America After the End of the Cold War" (2008), wrote on his Web site, www.peteeearley.com, that Ms. Tretyakov gave the cause of death as coronary arrest, and that she had asked her husband's friends not to reveal the fact of his death until an autopsy could be performed under the supervision of the F.B.I.

David Winterhalter, the director of investigations for the medical examiner's office in Sarasota County, Florida, said that an autopsy had been completed and that his office was waiting for standard histology and toxicology tests to be completed before stating the cause of death. The F.B.I., he said, "is aware of everything that is going on."

- (a) http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/10/world/europe/10treyakov.html?_r=1
- (b) Dead defector not connected to Russian spies, insists friend:
http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/07/12/01-514/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+intelNewsOrg+%28intelNews.org%29

2122/2010 -----

Ex-KGB general: Soviet spy stood ready to poison D.C.'s water

(Washington Post) A Soviet "sleeper agent" had orders in the mid-1960s to poison the District's water and to sabotage its power supply if war with the United States became imminent, a former chief of KGB operations in North America said Friday night.

The deep-cover spy was inside the United States around 1963 to 1965, "during the Kennedy-Johnson era," said Oleg Kalugin, a former KGB major general who is now a U.S. citizen. Kalugin said he learned about the operation in the 1970s, when he was moving up the intelligence service's ranks. He would eventually become the KGB's youngest-ever major general.

Kalugin made the revelation during a question-and-answer session Friday at the International Spy Museum. It followed a screening of "Salt," a new spy thriller starring Angelina Jolie. Afterward, Kalugin told SpyTalk that he had not previously mentioned the sabotage operation in any of his books.

No intelligence official from the period could be immediately located to verify Kalugin's claim.

<http://blog.washingtonpost.com/spy-talk/2010/07/ex-kgb-general-soviet-spy-stoo.html>

2123/2010 -----

GCHQ intercepts: SU problems with gulags, folk songs, vodka, tyres

(Telegraph) Soviet communications intercepted by GCHQ revealed arguments within the KGB, problems with the supply of vodka, and a ban on folk songs.

A series of newly released telegrams and telephone conversations paint a picture of Joseph Stalin's regime in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War. They reveal a country struggling with economic depression, and a shortage of key supplies as the Soviet leader continued his rule of terror.

The fear instilled by Stalin is evident in an intercepted radio-telephone conversation of May 10 1949 between Ivan Petrenko, the head of Dalstroi, a network of gulag camps and gold mines set up by the KGB in the Soviet Far East, and "Shelkov," deputy head of the Chief Directorate of Camps of the Mining and Metallurgy industry in Moscow.

Their topic of conversation was Colonel Inozemtsev, the former deputy head of the Dalstroi who was the subject of a court inquiry. Shelkov told Petrenko: "Inozemtsev's affair has gone before the special department. It was a stormy meeting. The boss has ordered an enquiry to be held. Of the Moscow representatives, nothing remains but a wet spot." The British noted that it probably meant the "Moscow representatives have been completely overcome by the severity of the reprimand given to them."

The communications, released to the National Archives, also reflect the increasing effects of Stalinism on the cultural life of the Soviet Union with a cable from March 25 1948, headed "Psuedo and inartistic folksongs banned in Dal'Stroj."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/russia/7852154/GCHQ-intercepts-Soviet-problems-with-gulags-folk-songs-vodka-and-tyres.html>

2124/2010 -----

New inquest into death of Derry man shot dead by SAS

(Derry Journal) Northern Ireland Attorney General , John F. Larkin QC, has directed that a new inquest be held into the death of a Derry man shot dead by the SAS in 1984.

Creggan man Danny Doherty, 23, was shot dead by members of the SAS in the grounds of Gransha Hospital in Derry on 6 December 1984, along with Waterside man, William Fleming.

The father of one, who was a member of the IRA, was riding a motorcycle which was rammed by undercover soldiers. A total of 59 shots were fired at the two men and Danny Doherty was struck 19 times. Forensic evidence

suggests that six shots were fired into his body as he lay wounded on the ground. Both men also received gunshot wounds to the head, despite the fact they were wearing crash helmets.

<http://www.derryjournal.com/journal/New-inquest-into-death-of.6413969.jp>

(Hat tip to Oliver PLAUDER for this info!)

2125/2010 -----

Truth was the first casualty of the Army's mind games

(Belfast Telegraph) The Army's 'psychological operations' were a law unto themselves in the early 1970's writes Alan Murray

We say "You couldn't make it up" to emphasise the ridiculousness, or grotesqueness, of an event or set of circumstances. In the era that saw atrocities such as the McGurk's bar bombing, quite a bit of "it" was made up - by the spooks and the Army's psychological operations practitioners. Tales of Russian submarines surfacing off Donegal to assist the IRA and the concealed deaths from cancer of IRA bomb-makers were among the more colourful of stories floated and gleefully gobbled up by journalists anxious to impress London editors and secure huge fees - which they repeatedly did.

Within the media clique that transmitted fantastic terrorist stories, generating the spin that the McGurk's bar bombing was an IRA 'own goal' was relatively easy. A year later, in May 1972, eight people lost their lives in the Short Strand area of east Belfast when an IRA bomb detonated prematurely during construction.

It was the Army Press desk staff who coined the phrase an 'own goal'. Lieutenants or captains would say "Don't quote me, but it looks like an own goal to me."

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/opinion/truth-was-the-first-casualty-of-the-armys-mind-games-14875179.html#>

(Hat tip to Oliver PLAUDER for this info!)



2126/2010 -----

1968 Senate Sessions on Foreign Relations Declassified

(FAS) Newly declassified transcripts of closed hearings and executive sessions of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee from 1968 were published by the Committee yesterday. The transcripts include an extended inquiry into the official version of 1964 Gulf of Tonkin Incident, which led to the escalation of U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, and which became the object of increasing scepticism, inside and outside of government.

"If this country has been misled, if this committee, this Congress, has been misled by pretext into a war in which thousands of young men have died, and many more thousands have been crippled for life, and out of which

their country has lost prestige, moral position in the world, the consequences are very great," said then-Senator Albert Gore, Sr. (D-TN).

Senator Wayne Morse (D-OR) urged the Committee to take a more assertive and public role in questioning the (Johnson) Administration.

http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2010/07/sfrc_1968.html



2127/2010 -----

Naked Intelligence 2010, Washington, DC -- October 12-13, 2010

SS World and Naked Intelligence have partnered to create the world's most unique Intelligence Support Systems and Intelligence Gathering conference. This event combines hands-on access to intelligence support systems solution providers with valuable insight and know-how presented by experienced practitioners of intelligence.

The ISS World Americas and Naked Intelligence conferences will share an exposition hall that will showcase both tools and services for the Intelligence and Law Enforcement Communities. Registrants will be able to attend both conferences with a single registration and choose among several tracks focused on both Intelligence Support Systems and Open Source Intelligence methods and techniques.

The Naked Intelligence agenda is below. Please click here to see the ISS World Program tracks.

We hope you can join us in Washington this fall.

http://www.telestrategies.com/ni_10/index.htm



2128/2010 -----

Media alerts

am Fr, 16.07. um 10:30 SFinfo
"Kulturplatz extra" - Medienwelten: Disco and Atomic War
Dokumentarfilm-Reihe, Folge 2
Dauer: 55 min (a)
Beschreibung: Disco and Atomic War - Wie Sue Ellen und JR zu CIA-Agenten wurden: Dallas und das Discofieber erreichten den Ostblock im Kalten Krieg über die Sendemasten des finnischen Fernsehens. Auf der anderen Seite des Baltischen Meeres wurden die Verheißungen des westlichen Lebensstils von estnischen Familien in der Küstenregion 1000-fach illegal empfangen und begierig konsumiert. Die Neuigkeiten über einen Tanz namens Disco und

Familiendramen in Dallas verbreiteten sich zunächst als Mund-zu-Mund-Propaganda und später per Videokassette in der ganzen Sowjetunion. Kein Eiserner Vorhang konnte sie aufhalten. Für die CIA war die sogenannte Soft Power der finnischen Fernsehsignale der direkteste Weg ins Bewusstsein der Sowjetbürger.

am 16.07. um 12:30 phoenix

Die Besten im Westen: Heinrich Böll

Porträt-Reihe

Dauer: 45 min (b)

Beschreibung: Zu Recht gilt Heinrich Böll als einer der bedeutendsten deutschen Schriftsteller der Nachkriegszeit. Neben vielen anderen Auszeichnungen wurde das literarische Schaffen des gebürtigen Kölners 1972 in Stockholm mit dem Nobelpreis gewürdigt. Heinrich Böll machte aber nicht nur als Schriftsteller von sich reden, auch sein politisches Engagement sorgte für viele Schlagzeilen und spaltete Zeit seines Lebens die Nation.

am Sa, 17.07. um 01:15 phoenix

Wettlauf zum Mond: Der Sputnik-Schock

BBC-Doku-Reihe, Folge 2

Dauer: 45 min (c)

Beschreibung: Der zweite Teil der Dokumentationsreihe erzählt, wie es den Russen 1957 gelang, den ersten Satelliten ins All zu befördern. Ein Schock für die Amerikaner und die westliche Welt.

am So, 18.07. um 06:25 mdr

Eine Dame verschwindet

Spionagekomödie

Dauer: 90 min (d)

Beschreibung: Während einer Fahrt mit dem Interkontinentalexpress lernt die junge Engländerin Iris die liebenswürdige, ältere Dame Miss Froy kennen. Als Miss Froy spurlos verschwindet und Iris nach ihr sucht, will keiner der Mitreisenden und des Zugpersonals sie je gesehen haben. Nur Gilbert, ein junger Mann, glaubt ihr. Nach und nach entdecken sie, dass der Zug voller feindlicher Spione ist.

am So, 18.07. um 20:15 phoenix

Stauffenberg - Die wahre Geschichte: Der Attentäter

20. Juli 1944 - Gedenken an das missglückte Attentat auf Hitler

Dokumentation, Folge 1

Dauer: 45 min (e)

Beschreibung: Er war ein mutiger und einsamer Verschwörer gegen Hitler, angetrieben von der rastlosen Stimme seines Gewissens: Am 20. Juli 1944 platzierte Claus Schenk Graf von Stauffenberg eine Bombe in der Besprechungsbaracke des Führerhauptquartiers. Der versuchte Tyrannenmord war Endpunkt und Konsequenz einer persönlichen Entwicklung. Der Weg Stauffenbergs vom loyalen Offizier Hitlers zum Attentäter steht im Zentrum des Dokudramas "Stauffenberg - Die wahre Geschichte". Der Zweiteiler zeichnet ein facettenreiches und authentisches Bild jenes Mannes, der als Schlüsselfigur des deutschen Widerstands gegen das Hitler-Regime gilt.

am So, 18.07. 21:40 3sat

Der Hamburger Feuersturm 1943

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 85 min (f)

Beschreibung: Der Hamburger Feuersturm 1943 war für viele Kinder und junge Erwachsene ein traumatisches Erlebnis. Psychische Probleme der Überlebenden

waren die Folge. - In dem Dokumentarfilm berichten Zeitzeugen über ihre Erlebnisse vor und während der Bombenangriffe der Alliierten.

am Mo, 19.07. um 00:15 ZDF

nachtstudio - Thema: Im Kreuzfeuer der Kritik: die Islamdebatte - ein neuer Kalter Krieg?

Diskussion

Dauer: 60 min (g)

Beschreibung: Über den richtigen Umgang mit dem Islam ist in Deutschlands Feuilletons ein erbitterter Streit entbrannt. Islamkritiker wie die Autoren Necla Kelek, Henryk M. Broder und Seyran Ate werden in der Presse als "Hassprediger", "Heilige Krieger" oder "Liberale Rassisten" tituliert, deren einziges Ansinnen es sei, den Islam zum Feindbild abzustempeln. Im Gegenzug werfen diese ihren Gegnern, darunter die Feuilleton-Redakteure Thomas Steinfeld und Claudius Seidl vor, sie würden angesichts einer gewalttätigen und kriegerischen Religion bei Themen wie "Zwangsehe", "Ehrenmord" und "Fatwa" feige wegschauen und vor dem Unrecht kapitulieren. Es scheint, als sei Samuel Huntingtons These vom Kampf der Kulturen endgültig in Deutschland angekommen, ein neuer Kalter Krieg, der ausgeht von den Redaktionsstuben führender deutscher Zeitungen. Im Kern des Disputs steht die Frage: Was ist schlimmer: den Islam zu verharmlosen oder ihn zu verteufeln?

am Di, 20.07. um 01:40 arte

Neapel, offene Stadt: 1943-48

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 70 min (h)

Beschreibung: Der lokalen Widerstandsbewegung Resistenza gelang 1943 die Befreiung Neapels von der deutschen Okkupation. Bis zu den ersten freien Wahlen 1948 fanden in der süditalienischen Stadt tiefgreifende soziale und politische Veränderungen statt. Mit dem Einzug der Alliierten entwickelte sich ein blühender Schwarzmarkt, die Mafia fasste wieder Fuß und vor dem Hintergrund des Kalten Krieges sollte der Bedrohung durch den Kommunismus mit allen möglichen guten und ungunen Allianzen Einhalt geboten werden. Der Dokumentarfilm von Ben Hopkins zeigt die Entwicklung Neapels in der unmittelbaren Nachkriegszeit.

am Mi, 21.07. um 08:20 WDR

Mata Hari

Spionagedrama

Dauer: 85 min (i)

Beschreibung: Um die Tänzerin Mata Hari ranken sich seit dem Ersten Weltkrieg viele Legenden; sie wurde zum Inbegriff der schönen Spionin, die ihre Macht über Männer raffiniert missbraucht. Ob sie wirklich Spionage getrieben hat, ist historisch eher umstritten. Greta Garbo darf im Film gegenüber dem ahnungslosen jungen Leutnant, der ihrer Schönheit verfällt, wirkliche Gefühle zeigen; Regie führte der gebürtige Franzose George Fitzmaurice, der sich in den 20er Jahren mit Inszenierungen exotischer Unterhaltungsfilme einen Namen gemacht hatte.

am Do, 22.07. um 23:35 phoenix

Fuck the Army! - US-Militärs gegen den Vietnam-Krieg

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 55 min (j)

Beschreibung: Der Film zeichnet die Eskalation des Konflikts zwischen Kriegsdienstverweigerern und der amerikanischen Gesellschaft während des Vietnamkrieges nach und zeigt parallel dazu die Entwicklung der Protestbewegung, die Amerika traumatisierte und spaltete.

am Fr, 23.07. um 08:15 SWR

Die Kinder der Villa Emma - Eine wunderbare Rettung im Krieg
Dokumentation

Dauer: 30 min (k)

Beschreibung: Kurz vor dem Zweiten Weltkrieg suchen jüdische Kinder Zuflucht vor der Deportation. Drei Jahre lang irren sie in Europa umher, dann finden sie ausgerechnet im faschistischen Italien in der "Villa Emma" einen sicheren Platz. Dank der Solidarität und des Mutes der Bevölkerung überleben die Kinder, auch als Norditalien durch Wehrmacht und SS besetzt wird. Schließlich gelingt die Flucht in die Schweiz. Und noch einmal drei Jahre später, können sie zu ihrem eigentlichen Ziel aufbrechen: Richtung Palästina.

- (a) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25516641&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (b) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25400511&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (c) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25582204&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (d) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25470042&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (e) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25543940&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (f) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25577164&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (g) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25493854&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (h) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25405800&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (i) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25519569&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (j) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25544071&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>
- (k) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-25505355&tvid=2a6bb6ed00121faa681ee8a3dd0a53d3>

Deadline for application: 20 July 2010

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