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ACIPSS-newsletter

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that will become intelligence history of tomorrow -

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TOP HEADLINES

2898/2010 -----

A Change of Course in Cuba and Venezuela?

(StratFor) Strange statements are coming out of Cuba these days. Fidel Castro, in the course of a five-hour interview in late August, reportedly told Jeffrey Goldberg of The Atlantic and Julia Sweig of the Council on Foreign Relations that "the Cuban model doesn't even work for us anymore."

Once that statement hit the headlines, Castro backtracked. Dressed in military uniform for the first time in four years (which we suspect was his way of signaling that he was not abandoning the revolution), he delivered a rare, 35-minute speech Sept. 3 to students at the University of Havana. In addition to spending several minutes on STRATFOR's Iran analysis, Castro addressed his earlier statement on the Cuban model, saying he was "accurately quoted but misinterpreted" and suggesting that the economic model doesn't work anymore but that the revolution lives on.

Castro, now 84, may be old, but he still seems to have his wits about him. We don't know whether he was grossly misinterpreted by the reporter during the earlier interview, was acknowledging the futility of the Cuban model and/or was dropping hints of a policy shift. Regardless of what he did or did not say, Castro's reported statement on the weakness of the revolution was by no means revolutionary.

Cuba and Venezuela face very similar geographic constraints. Both are relatively small countries with long Caribbean coastlines and primarily resource-extractive economies. While Venezuela's mountainous and jungle-covered borderlands to the south largely deny the country any meaningful economic integration with its neighbors, Cuba sits in a sea of small economies similar to its own. As a result, neither country has good options in its immediate neighborhood for meaningful economic integration save for the dominant Atlantic power, i.e., the United States. In dealing with the United States, Cuba and Venezuela basically have two options: either align with the United States or seek out an alliance with a more powerful, external adversary to the United States.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100920_change_course_cuba_and_venezuela?utm_source=GWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=100921&utm_content=readmore&elq=2635ab5f78d749edaadf1beefd62505f

2899/2010 -----

Afghan poll panel gets 4200 complaints

(The Hindu) Afghanistan's Electoral Complaint Commission (ECC) said on Wednesday that it had received more than 4,000 complaints of fraud and irregularities, and the main opposition leader alleged evidence of "massive fraud" during the parliamentary elections.

Ghazi Murad Sharifi, chairman of UN-backed ECC said thousands of complaints had been received about irregularities before and during Saturday's voting.

"We have received 2,500 complaints in formal and written way from 34 provinces," Sharifi said in Kabul. "Of that number, we have registered 570 complaints today(Wednesday)." The ECC also received around 1,700 complaints

about irregularities and electoral violations during the nearly three-month campaign, while 3,000 more complaints were lodged by phone, he said. Sharifi said complaints from callers could not be addressed unless they were submitted in writing.

More than 2,500 candidates, including 400 women, vied for 249 seats in the lower house of parliament. Election officials said they expected many of the losers and their supporters to file complaints.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/article777071.ece>

2900/2010 -----

American released from Iran prison says she's no spy

(Reuters) An American woman released last week after being held in Iran with two friends for over a year on suspicion of spying said on Sunday they were innocent hikers who never intended to cross into Iran from Iraq.

"We committed no crime. We are not spies," Sarah Shourd told a news conference. Shourd, 32, said they "had no knowledge of our proximity to the Iran-Iraq border" when they went hiking near a popular waterfall tourist site, saying any such border "was entirely unmarked and indistinguishable."

Shourd said doctors in Oman who examined her after she was released on Sept. 14 found her to be "physically well," although her family had said she was denied treatment for health problems. She thanked the government and religious leaders of Iran for her release and called the incident "a huge misunderstanding."

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN1923546420100919?sp=true>

2901/2010 -----

Iranian spy games threaten Sakineh Ashtiani's freedom



(thecommentfactory) Trial-by-media must be a stomach-churning experience; the truth is spread out, dissected and toyed with by hundreds of journalists and millions of armchair pundits. Luckily for Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani, Iranian mother of two sentenced to death for adultery, access to TV, Internet and newspapers from her prison cell is nigh on impossible.

We learn from Sakineh's eldest child, son Sajjad, that she had been acquitted of murder but sentenced instead to death by stoning for committing adultery in 2006. Whatever ones views on capital punishment may be, stoning someone for a non-crime such as adultery is not only a disproportionate punishment but outrageously inhumane. After receiving Sajjad's letter, activists sprung to action and the campaign to free Sakineh gains incredible momentum within a matter of weeks. The UK newspaper The Times featured the story on its front page twice, the second time spreading news of the Iranian authorities decision to commute the sentence from stoning to hanging. No one is impressed of course, but at least the campaigning was having a noticeable effect on the Iranian regime.

In a strange turn of events however, the courts decided to reopen the murder case. What murder case? Remember the one Sakineh was originally found innocent of back in 2006? That one. In what can only be described as a flagrantly transparent attempt to reapply guilt to save face, the Iranian authorities started spreading news of Sakineh's renewed [potential] guilt.



HOT SPOTS / WARS

2902/2010 -----

Despite denials, Iran did kidnap 5 Americans on Afghan soil

Notwithstanding Pentagon and Tehran's denials that seven US troops were detained by Iranian border guards, debkafile's military and Iranian sources report that Iran did in fact kidnap 5 Americans in Afghanistan nearly a week ago. Tehran denied its own semi-official Fars agency report in the face of a furious reaction from associates of Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad who said it was leaked deliberately as the president was on the way to New York for the UN General Assembly.

According to our sources, the five Americans were waylaid by Iranian Revolutionary Guardsmen who dragged them from Afghanistan across the border into Iran and is holding them prisoner. It happened so fast that the soldiers had no time to draw their weapons in self-defence. It is believed they were either not expecting Iranian gunmen on the Afghan side of the border, or else the assailants were disguised in Afghan army uniforms. The Saravan district where it took place is mountainous and convenient for ambush operations.

Tehran keeps the Afghan-Pakistani borders heavily guarded and under tight surveillance to block entry to US spies and commandos. Their patrols were able to keep track of US movements across the border. At one point, they decided to use this knowledge and capture US security personnel for the purpose of humiliating America and building up a negative public attitude in America toward a possible US military strike against Iran's nuclear facilities.

Tehran decided to keep the capture of the five Americans under wraps, while according to debkafile's sources, Washington was made aware of the event. The intention was to keep it dark so as not to spoil Ahmadinejad's and business meetings at the UN assembly.

<http://www.debka.com/article/9031/>

2903/2010 -----

Al-Qaeda straightens up

(Voice of Russia) According to an expert analysis of some recent developments in Iraqi provinces, the international terrorist organization Al-Qaeda again straightens up in Iraq. Militants have grown active following the withdrawal of US Army combat units from the Asian country.

Observers point out Al-Qaeda's vigorous activities even in the provinces where terrorism seemed to have been crushed. Al-Qaeda's armed units have emerged in the western Anbar province, while in the Diyala and Nainawa provinces the terrorists have seized control of entire districts. Analysts have reached the conclusion that Al-Qaeda has decided to restore its

influence in Iraq and has picked the most opportune time to attain the objective. The terrorists are capitalizing on both the ended US military operation and the political vacuum that the Asian country has been living in since the March 7th parliamentary elections.

The insurgents also make use of the population's disbelief in the government's ability to defend people at the grass roots level. Yet another important factor is that the Sahwa militia, which used to help the Americans to drive the Al-Qaeda away from Iraq, are outraged that the government has stopped paying them and is arresting their leaders.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/09/22/21662461.html>

2904/2010 -----

Iraq And The Great Sergeant Shortage

(StrategyPage) With American combat units withdrawn from Iraq, all the combat operations there are now the responsibility of the Iraqis. As expected, not all Iraqi troops were not up to the task. Fortunately, there are still lots of American combat troops left in Iraq. Most are there to provide training and advice for Iraqi security forces. Thus the U.S. has eleven combat brigades in Iraq. Seven of them are regular combat brigades, reduced (in size) retrained and reorganized for the "training and advice" job. Two of the brigades are reserve infantry units, to provide security for bases. Another two are aviation brigades, to provide transport and attack helicopters as needed for advising and defense. There are also over a thousand Special Forces troops. The seven advisor brigades have most of their regular weapons and equipment, and can be quickly switch to the purely combat role.

Because of this availability of American troops trained and equipped to fight, U.S. soldiers are often brought in to back up Iraqi troops, or, in rare cases, actually join in the fighting. While these situations are humiliating for the Iraqis, it saves their lives, and gives them a vivid example of how it's done.

Meanwhile, the biggest leadership problem the Iraqi military is a lack of competent and reliable NCOs (noncommissioned officers, or sergeants). In the Saddam era force, the Soviet style of leadership was used. That is, sergeants had much less authority and responsibility than they do in Western forces. The Soviet style of military leadership stressed the use of officers for everything, including supervisory tasks performed by sergeants in the West. To take the place of Western sergeants "keeping in touch with what the troops were thinking", each Soviet company sized (100-200 troops) unit had a political officer (Zampolit) who recruited informers among the troops, and reported directly to the secret police, not the company commander. Saddam also had a system of spies and informers in the ranks, and troops that said the wrong thing were either beaten up, or disappeared, never to be seen again.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htlead/articles/20100922.aspx>

2905/2010 -----

UN official called for stepped-up measures to deal with BC threats

(ISRIA) While United Nations Member States have a well-developed system established for preventing or responding to potential nuclear or radiological emergencies, similar measures are not in place for chemical

and biological attacks and disasters, a senior UN anti-terrorism official has warned.

Geoffrey Shaw, the chair of the UN Working Group on Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction Attacks, said it was time for countries to examine ways to ensure that the international community can respond quickly and effectively in the event of a major incident involving chemical or biological weapons or materials.

He told the UN News Centre that a review by the world body's Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) released last week indicated that a strong system existed to deal with radiation or nuclear emergencies.

That system is implemented through the IAEA. Countries have given the IAEA a central coordinating role for any response and inter-agency mechanisms are in place to alert all the necessary segments of the UN which can assist with any response.

But many Member States and civil society organizations lack awareness about the system, the report found, and it made several recommendations to enhance understanding, including strengthening the IAEA's role as the global focal point in public information coordination in the wake of an emergency.

http://www.isria.com/RESTRICTED/D/2010/SEPTEMBER_24/20_September_2010_142.php



2906/2010 -----
Publisher agrees to drop US spy secrets from book

(AFP) A publisher has agreed to remove US intelligence details from a memoir by a former army officer in Afghanistan after the Pentagon raised last-minute objections, officials said Friday.

The book, "Operation Dark Heart," had been printed and prepared for release in August but St. Martin's Press will now issue a revised version of the spy memoir after negotiations with the Pentagon, US and company officials said. In an unusual step, the Defense Department has agreed to reimburse the company for the cost of the first printing, spokesman Colonel Dave Lapan told AFP.

The original manuscript "contained classified information which had not been properly reviewed" by the military and US spy agencies, he said. St. Martin's press will destroy copies from the first printing with Pentagon representatives observing "to ensure it's done in accordance with our standards," Lapan said. The second, revised edition would be ready by the end of next week, said the author's lawyer, Mark Zaid.

The Pentagon also was carrying out an internal review over the episode, he said, as the army had raised no objections to the manuscript but had apparently failed to consult with intelligence services. In the memoir, the author, Anthony Shaffer, a lieutenant colonel in the army reserve and

former Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) officer, recounts his five-month stint in Afghanistan in 2003.

The text of the latest edition was "modified where agreement could be reached" and where the two sides disagreed, the disputed text will be blacked out, or in government parlance, "redacted," Zaid said. (a)

ACIPSS-newsletter-commentary: *ACIPSS got hold of the publishers' promotional material containing a list of "Key Background Points and New Revelations in Operation Dark Heart," w/o any reference to the pages of the incriminated edition, though.* (b) For our extensive coverage on that affair, see ACIPSS-newsletter of last week, report 2891/2010. (c)

- (a) <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jtIXHLr-BHXPkhvWxdAMyhCdDGrw>
- (b) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/news/2010/09/dark-promo.pdf>
- (c) http://acipss.org/newsletter_archiv/ACIPSS_nl_2010-38.pdf

2907/2010 -----

The CIA celebrates another birthday

(Voice of Russia) The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was established in the USA on September 18, 1947. Roscoe Hillenkotter became the agency's first director.

The CIA does not overlook its "traditional" competitor - Russia. Notwithstanding the ubiquitous "reset" of the Moscow-Washington relationship, the CIA, if you make note of the statements issued by Russian special service heads, has recently increased its focus on Russia, showing growing interest in the country's internal political processes, as well as our political and economic potential. In this regard, we would like to emphasise that if Russia and the USA have really "reset" their relationship, it should impact upon all areas of their activities, including the work of special service agencies. This is especially so given that there are plenty of areas for cooperation, including countering international terrorism, the non-proliferation of WMD and the prevention of international drug trafficking. Moreover, we already have experience in coordinating the activities of the special service agencies in these fields. Just recall that following the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York, Russia was one of the first to express its condolences to the American people and suggest joining forces in fighting international terrorism and extremism, which was subsequently implemented.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/09/17/20869793.html>

2908/2010 -----

Blackwater subsidiary's corporate work appears to fade

(Washington Post) A CIA retiree friend of mine called recently to ask where he could find the offices of Total Intelligence Solutions, the Blackwater subsidiary once headed by Cofer Black and other top former spy-agency officials.

The company doesn't list its McLean, Va., address on its Web site, so you have to fill out an e-mail form to get a call back -- if you're lucky. (I wasn't.) The firm's spookiness, it turned out, was too much even for my friend, a high-ranking former CIA officer who was exploring a business opportunity after three decades in clandestine operations.

After a visit to the TIS office in Tyson's Corner, a poured-concrete-and-dark-glass Mecca for government and private counterterrorism operations, he decided it was no more than "a front," as he put it, "for the government," meaning the CIA and Department of Defense.

And he'd had enough of that.

http://blog.washingtonpost.com/spy-talk/2010/09/blackwater_subsidiarys_corporate_work_fades.html

2909/2010 -----

Blackwater's Black Ops

(Nation) Over the past several years, entities closely linked to the private security firm Blackwater have provided intelligence, training and security services to US and foreign governments as well as several multinational corporations, including Monsanto, Chevron, the Walt Disney Company, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and banking giants Deutsche Bank and Barclays, according to documents obtained by The Nation. Blackwater's work for corporations and government agencies was contracted using two companies owned by Blackwater's owner and founder, Erik Prince: Total Intelligence Solutions and the Terrorism Research Center (TRC). Prince is listed as the chairman of both companies in internal company documents, which show how the web of companies functions as a highly coordinated operation.

Officials from Total Intelligence, TRC and Blackwater (which now calls itself Xe Services) did not respond to numerous requests for comment for this article.

<http://www.thenation.com/article/154739/blackwaters-black-ops?page=full>

2910/2010 -----

NM physicist, alleged spy sent to halfway house

(AP) A physicist accused of trying to help Venezuela develop a nuclear weapon was released to a halfway house Monday after a defense attorney argued that he has posed no national security risk since his investigation by the FBI was publicized last fall.

Pedro Leonardo Mascheroni appeared before U.S. Magistrate Don Svet, who imposed several conditions on Mascheroni's release, including that contact with his sisters and nieces, who live in Argentina, is subject to government monitoring. Svet noted Mascheroni "has the skill and science to build a bomb" and asked defense attorney Amy Sirignano why that wouldn't be considered a danger to the community.

She replied that since a search warrant was served at his Los Alamos home in October, Mascheroni has cooperated with prosecutors, surrendered his passport and rarely left the northern New Mexico town. Even when his wife went to Idaho to see their grandchildren, Mascheroni stayed behind, she said. "If he was out there selling national security secrets, the government should not have let him stay out for the last 11 months," Sirignano said. Mascheroni's wife, Marjorie Roxby Mascheroni, also appeared before Svet, who ordered her to house arrest.

In a 22-count indictment issued Friday, the couple were accused of offering to help develop a nuclear weapon for Venezuela through dealings with an

undercover FBI agent who was posing as a representative of the Venezuelan government.

- (a) <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hM7PkmAgI8S4oV0dQrEu5kopLjMAD9IBQH100>
- (b) <http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2010/09/mascheroni.html>

2911/2010 -----

Autopsy: Defected Russian spy chief choked on meat

(miamiherald) A former top Russian spy who defected to the U.S. after running espionage operations from the United Nations choked to death on a piece of meat, a Florida medical examiner says.

Sergei Tretyakov, 53, also had a cancerous tumour in his colon when he died June 13, according to an autopsy report obtained by The Associated Press through a state open records request. Tretyakov's sudden death had led to some Internet speculation that he had been killed. Tretyakov's defection in 2000 was one of the most prominent cases involving Russia's intelligence agency in the past decade. Tretyakov later said his agents helped the Russian government steal nearly \$500 million from the U.N.'s oil-for-food program in Iraq. He was 53 when he died, according to a Social Security death record.

His widow, Helen Tretyakov, announced his death July 9, the same day the United States and Russia completed their largest spy swap since the Cold War. She told Washington, D.C., radio station WTOP then that she announced the death to prevent Russian intelligence from claiming responsibility or "flattering themselves that they punished Sergei." Tretyakov lived with his wife in a peach-coloured home in the small, southwest Florida town of Osprey. At the time of his death, his neighbours said they knew he had been a Russian spy.

In a 2008 interview, Tretyakov said his agents helped the Russian government skim hundreds of millions of dollars from the oil-for-food program before the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003. He told The Associated Press he oversaw an operation that helped Hussein's regime manipulate the price of oil sold under the program, and Russia skimmed profits.

- (a) <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/09/20/1833426/autopsy-defected-russian-spy-chief.html>
- (b) <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jKtQHUEcYC3p20pVlHUrJfcDACUwd9IBLBJ00>

2912/2010 -----

US counter-intelligence efforts are snagging more Chinese spies

(StrategyPage) This may be more because of increased spying effort by China, than more success by the FBI and CIA. For example, recently, a former U.S. Army analyst (26 year old Liangtian Yang) was arrested as he was boarding an airliner headed for China. He had a one-way ticket. Yang had in his possession electronic versions of classified army manuals. Another recent development was the indictment of Chinese born Kexue Huang for stealing \$300 million worth of trade secrets (how to manufacture new organic insecticides) for use in China.

Incidents like this are just another example of China's use of industrial espionage to turn their country into the mightiest industrial and military

power on the planet. For over two decades, China has been attempting to do what the Soviet Union never accomplished; steal Western technology, then use it to move ahead of the West. The Soviets lacked the many essential supporting industries found in the West (most founded and run by entrepreneurs), and was never able to get all the many pieces needed to match Western technical accomplishments. Soviet copies of American computers, for example, were crude, less reliable and less powerful. Same with their jet fighters, tanks and warships.

Like the Russians, the Chinese are also employing the traditional methods, using people with diplomatic immunity to recruit spies, and offering cash, or whatever, to get people to sell them information. This is still effective, and when combined with the "thousand grains of sand" methods, brings in lots of secrets. The final ingredient is a shadowy venture capital operation, sometimes called Project 863, that offers money for Chinese entrepreneurs who will turn the stolen technology into something real. No questions asked. If you can get back to China with the secrets, you are home free and potentially very rich.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htm/htintel/articles/20100920.aspx>

2913/2010 -----

PETA, Greenpeace, Anti-War Activists Improperly Spied On By FBI

(huffingtonpost) The FBI improperly targeted Greenpeace, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and two antiwar groups in domestic terrorism investigations between 2001 and 2006, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice said in a report released today.

The IG found there was "little or no basis" for the terror investigations, and that they were "unreasonable and inconsistent with FBI policy."

At least two of the investigations resulted in innocent people being placed on the domestic terror watch list for years, and one resulted in FBI Director Robert Mueller providing Congress with "inaccurate and misleading information," according to the report.

PETA slammed the FBI for using "McCarthyite tactics."

<http://abcnews.go.com/News/Blotter/fbi-spied-peta-greenpeace-anti-war-activists/story?id=11682844>

2914/2010 -----

Hiring Foreign Spies and Bringing Israeli Military Values to America

(pacificfreepress) The surprise disclosure that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, through its state Homeland Security Agency, along with a number of local police departments in the state, have been employing a private Israeli security company with strong links to Mossad and the Israeli Defense Force to spy on law-abiding citizens, grows increasingly disturbing when the website of the company, called the Institute of Terrorism Research and Response, is examined. ITRR's slick site at TerrorResponse.org features a homepage image of an armor-clad soldier or riot policeman preparing to fire an automatic pistol, while the company boasts of being "the preeminent Israel/American security firm, providing training, intelligence and education for clients across the globe."

The firm, which offers courses locally at the University of Philadelphia, notes that all its course offerings, some of which are taught in Israel, are "approved by the Israeli Ministry of Defense."

ITRR reportedly did work for the Pittsburgh Police Department in advance of the disastrous G-20 meeting in Pittsburgh, which turned into a police riot after the local government and police brought in hundreds of reinforcements from other cities, with cops suited up as though for war, to lock down the city and prevent students from demonstrating against the predations of international capital and international "free trade" agreements. It appears that ITRR had ingratiated its way into the confidence of demonstration planners by having its agents join chat rooms and websites "posing as G-20 opponents." One wonders whether these same agents may have also acted as agents provocateur.

Members of both political parties in the state legislature are calling for a General Assembly hearing into ITRR's activities, but such calls in this closely divided body generally come to little or nothing.

<http://www.thiscantbehappening.net/node/208>

2915/2010 -----

Office/Homeland Security releases intel bulletins tracking activists

(pennlive.com) The Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security has posted copies of all its intelligence bulletins to its website, so anyone can now see the basis of Gov. Ed. Rendell's recent cancellation of a \$125,000 state contract with the Institute of Terrorism Research and Response, the company that supplied information for the bulletins.

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2010/09/office_of_homeland_security_re.html

2916/2010 -----

ACLU sues state police over intelligence gathering

(chicagobreakingnews) The American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois filed a lawsuit in Cook County today, seeking records on how the Illinois State Police protects people's privacy while combing through databases compiling evidence of criminal activity.

The Illinois Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center, known as a "fusion center," was formed to gather and share information about suspected criminals and criminal activity.

The centers were created in response to the 9/11 Commission report that called for better sharing of terrorism intelligence at the national, state and local levels. But the centers have also used their resources to fight local crime.

Concerned about the privacy of Illinois residents whose personal information may end up in the fusion center's database, the ACLU in September 2008 submitted a Freedom of Information Act request asking the state's center for documents about its privacy policy, its access to databases that compile personal information and its policy on information gathering from the Internet, among other documents, according to the lawsuit.

But the Illinois State Police, which oversees the fusion center, did not reply to all of the request or to follow-up requests, according to the complaint.

<http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/09/aclu-sues-state-police-over-intelligence-gathering.html>

2917/2010 -----

Parked Car Causes Stir During U.S. Spy Satellite Launch

(space.com) A new spy satellite launched into space late Monday on the latest classified mission for the U.S. National Reconnaissance Office, but not before a private car caused delays because it was parked in the wrong spot.

The classified satellite NROL-41 blasted off at 9:03:30 PDT (0403:30 GMT) from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. An unmanned Atlas 5 rocket managed by the United Launch Alliance carried the satellite into space. The satellite's launch was delayed about a half hour due to the pesky car, which was parked at Vandenberg's Space Launch Complex 8 - an area that was supposed to be clear of vehicles. The NROL-41 satellite soared spaceward from the nearby Space Launch Complex 3E.

Flight controllers wanted to be sure it wasn't a range safety concern, launch officials said. They later decided it was no concern for the launch.

<http://www.space.com/missionlaunches/new-spy-satellite-launch-car-delay-100921.html>

2918/2010 -----

Marines have joined SOCOM

(StrategyPage) The marines have also joined SOCOM (Special Operations Command), the traditional special operations outfit. Three years ago, the U.S. Marine Corps Special Operations Command (MARSOC) had 2,500 personnel declared "operationally capable." The marines basically lost two of their four Force Recon companies (one of them a reserve unit) in order to build MARSOC. Meanwhile, more troops have been added to division level reconnaissance units, to take up some of that slack, and replace the lost force recon capability. The Special Operations companies (with about 120 personnel each) can provide Force Recon capabilities to marine units they are attached to. The MEU involved in the September 9th operation had a Force Recon platoon attached, and those troops formed the core of the boarding force.

The Marine Special Operations Regiment consists of three Special Operations Battalions providing a combination of services roughly equal to what the U.S. Army Special Forces and Rangers do, as well as some of the functions of the Force Recon units. Each Special Operations Battalion consists of four Special Operations Companies, and each of those consists of four Special Operations Teams. These have fourteen men each, and are commanded by a captain (O-3). Battalions and companies also have some command and support personnel.

The marines finally got around to working with SOCOM in late 2005, when it was agreed that they would create a marine special operations command. The Marine Corps had long resisted such a step, largely because of its belief that marines are inherently superior warriors, capable of highly

specialized missions. This attitude began to change during the fighting in Afghanistan, when marines were assigned to support SOCOM troops there.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htm/htamph/articles/20100920.aspx>



2919/2010 -----

Russia and Norway have signed a treaty on the sea borders

(ISRRIA) President Dmitry Medvedev said the signing of the Russian-Norwegian Treaty on Maritime Delimitation and Cooperation in the Barents Sea and the Arctic Ocean is a historic event that will influence the general situation in the region, strengthening international and regional security and intensifying cooperation between the Arctic countries.

The treaty, the signing of which was witnessed by Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg, creates favourable conditions for cooperation in fishing and hydrocarbons extraction.

The treaty is based on the principle that natural resources deposits crossed by the sea border between the two countries can be developed only jointly and as a single whole. It also states explicitly that delimitation must not impair conditions for Russian and Norwegian fishing activities in the neighbouring areas of the Barents Sea and Arctic Ocean.

http://www.isria.com/RESTRICTED/D/2010/SEPTEMBER_17/15_September_2010_175.php

2920/2010 -----

Russia not to deliver S-300 missiles to Iran - Russian top general



(Voice of Russia) Russia will not deliver S-300 air defense missiles to Iran as planned because such transfers are prohibited under UN sanctions, the chief of the Russian general staff said Wednesday.

"The decision has been made not to deliver S-300s to Iran," General Nikolai Makarov told journalists at an aircraft equipment production plant in the Moscow Region's town of Ramenskoye. "They are of course covered by the sanctions," he said, adding: "The leadership decided to suspend the delivery process. We are carrying this decision out."

Answering the question whether a relevant contract with Iran will be cancelled, Makarov said "we will see - it will depend on Iran's behavior." Western powers suspect that Iran's nuclear enrichment program is aimed at producing weapons, but Tehran claims it needs high-enriched uranium to fuel a reactor producing medical isotopes.

In late August, Russian Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov said a decision on the delivery of S-300 missiles to Iran had not yet been taken.

http://en.rian.ru/mlitary_news/20100922/160683069.html

2921/2010 -----

Russian police on trail of suspects in Vladikavkaz blast

(Voice of Russia) Russia's law enforcement agencies have the information about those who may be behind the recent terrorist attack in North Ossetia's capital of Vladikavkaz, Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev said in the city of Pyatigorsk (North Caucasus) Monday.

Earlier the Federal Security Service (FSB) chief Alexander Bortnikov said that his agency detained three people who might have been involved in the attack, Nurgaliyev noted.

On September 9, a suicide bomber car blast in the center of the capital of North Ossetia killed 18 people and injured over 100.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/09/13/20145206.html>

2922/2010 -----

Merchant of Death's wife to address Russian president

(RIAN) The wife of suspected Russian arms trader Viktor Bout, who is in Thai custody awaiting extradition to the United States, will appeal to the Russian President on Thursday for help in getting him home.

Alla Bout told RIA Novosti she would read her address at a press conference in Moscow on Thursday.

"I will ask the Russian president for assistance in returning my husband back to Russia," Alla Bout said. "It is clear that if he is extradited to the U.S. there is no hope for a fair trial."

Alla Bout said she would also tell Medvedev about violations committed by U.S. Special Forces during the arrest of her husband. She said Viktor Bout's hotel room was raided without a warrant from a Thai court.

The suspected arms dealer's wife sent an open letter to the Thai prime minister on Monday claiming that her husband was innocent.

Bout, dubbed the Merchant of Death by the international media, was arrested in March 2008 at the request of the United States. His extradition to the United States was ordered by the Thai appeals court on August 20 this year. Bout claims he has never been involved in the arms trade and that there was no evidence of his involvement in the business.

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20100922/160683160.html>

2923/2010 -----

Two Russians detained on suspicion of spying for China

(AFP) Two Russian scientists are being held in a high-security Moscow prison while being investigated on suspicion of spying for China, a lawyer for one of the scientists said Wednesday.

The two men, Svyatoslav Bobyshev and Yevgeny Afanasyev, who are both university academics, are being held in Lefortovo jail while being investigated for "high treason and espionage", Bobyshev's lawyer Dmitry

Agranovsky told AFP. Lefortovo was used by the KGB in Soviet times and by its successor FSB, or the Federal Security Service, since 1995.

On Wednesday, Bobyshev's defence lost an appeal against his pre-trial detention, the Interfax news agency reported, citing the Moscow City Court. The two men teach at Voenmekh University in Saint Petersburg, an engineering school with a military slant, working in a department that specialised in technical equipment for rockets and space vehicles.

They also lectured at China's Harbin Technical University as part of an exchange programme. Bobyshev's daughter said Wednesday that the claims were absurd.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5h3TKorDqPemHUhv5L6564lou5mxg>

2924/2010 -----

Russian Retooling Revives The Red Army

(StrategyPage) The Russians continue to make incremental, but significant, changes to improve their armed forces. Surplus officers are already being retired, the size of the Russian Army is being reduced to break away from the old Soviet/Warsaw Pact line of thinking, and major exercises are being organized to increase the military's readiness and war fighting capabilities. Given their recent experiences in the '90s following the collapse of the USSR (when Russia was basically ruled by gangsters and suffered constant terrorism and insurgency in Chechnya), the Russians seem to finally be getting their collective act together step-by-step.

Right now, Russia seems determined to make the next 20 years a positive time for its armed forces, and they mean business. One thing the Russians are doing now is investing more in major war games and exercises. This year, between June 28 and July 8, the Russians conducted a massive series of multi-branch training exercises known as Vostok-2010. The games involved over 20,000 ground troops, 70 combat aircraft, and a massive naval armada of 30 warships. The naval components of the exercise involved cooperative efforts between three of the Russian Federation's fleets, the Black Sea Fleet, Pacific Fleet, and the Northern Fleet. The ground warfare portion of the exercise included simulated parachute assault and amphibious landings involving the Russian Naval Infantry.

The war games were a success given the complex coordination and skills required to pull off such a major endeavour with so many troops. It demonstrated that, despite all the work that still has to be done, the state of Russia's military is steadily improving. Of course, the fact that the Bear is once again sharpening its claws makes its smaller neighbours nervous.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htlead/articles/20100916.aspx>

2925/2010 -----

Russia developing laser weapons - military chief

(Voice of Russia) Russia is working on a military laser system, the chief of Russia's Armed Forces General Staff said on Wednesday.

"Work on laser weapons is underway across the world, and that includes us," Gen. Nikolai Makarov said. It is "too soon yet" to speak about the specifications of the Russian laser system, he added.

According to some media reports, Russia has been developing an airborne laser - the so-called flying laser - to disable enemy reconnaissance and data processing systems, as well as shoot down missiles in flight.

http://en.rian.ru/military_news/20100922/160685196.html

2926/2010 -----

The Cossacks Return

(StrategyPage) Cossacks are once again involved in Russian conflicts during the last decade. In an effort to bolster national pride and recover some of the distinct Russian heritage that was suppressed during 70 years of Soviet rule, Russia has officially brought back the formation of exclusively Cossack military units, and in a big way. This has accompanied a general explosion of Cossack culture in recent years. Cossack military schools have been established in the country, where student ages 10 to 17 attend classes in army fatigues and learn military tactics alongside regular academic subjects. The Russian Minister for Cossack Affairs, Gen. Gennady Troshev, is a Cossack himself and has been instrumental in the remilitarization of the Cossack society. An entire Kuban Cossack Army, headquartered in Krasnodar, has been established and is incorporated as a unique, but fully integrated, part of the Russian Army.

More recently, irregular Cossack paramilitaries, said by some reports to have numbered in the thousands, fought on the Russian/separatist side in the 2008 Russo-Georgian War, which saw South Ossetia taken from Georgia and made a de facto part of Russia. Cossack volunteers by the hundreds mobilized during the Georgian attack of South Ossetia and crossed the border to engage Georgian forces. Cossacks in nearby North Ossetia apparently organized a relatively efficient and rapid system for clothing, equipping and transporting their paramilitaries into the breakaway province to feed them into combat. Cossack fighters entered South Ossetia by bus, having been issued combat uniforms and gear on the way to the border, and were issued small arms and light weapons once they arrived in theatre. Cossack volunteers formed the second major paramilitary force in the war, the first being the South Ossetian militias. According to reports, the Cossack forces fought with dogged determination.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htpara/articles/20100917.aspx>



NEAR / MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA

2927/2010 -----

Omar Suleiman, Egypt's intelligence spy chief for president?



(Macleans) Last week, activists began campaigning for Omar Suleiman, Egypt's intelligence chief, to be the next president. The elections are set for 2011, and posters have been plastered on Cairo's streets depicting Suleiman as a suave leader in a business suit and dark sunglasses. A slogan touts him as the "real alternative as president of the republic"—a slap at

President Hosni Mubarak. Suleiman, 74, has been Egypt's intelligence chief for two decades, and is known as one of the president's most trusted aides.

Suleiman hasn't endorsed the movement. But the campaigners clearly hope to thwart a family dynasty that would see Mubarak, 82, the country's leader for almost 30 years, pass power on to his son Gamal. The younger Mubarak was previously kept at arm's length by his father, but has lately been attending high-profile political events. Some Egyptians are also touting former UN nuclear agency chief Mohamed ElBaradei as a potential presidential candidate. As it stands, the race still appears to be open: Gamal has yet to be endorsed by his father, and some analysts think the elder Mubarak could still run again.

<http://www2.macleans.ca/2010/09/16/a-spy-chief-for-president/>

2928/2010 -----

Egypt Arrests Head of Hamas Intelligence

(Jewish News) A blow to the Hamas military wing: Arab media is reporting that Muhammad Dababash, one of the terrorist organizations top officials, has been arrested in Cairo. Dababash is a party to many Hamas secrets, including weapons smuggling into Gaza, the shooting of rockets at Eilat and Aqaba, and assassination of Fatah officials. Hamas is concerned about the ramifications of the arrest.

<http://www.worldofjudaica.com/jewish-news/israel/egypt-arrests-head-of-hamas-intelligence/634/32/comment-page-1/>

2929/2010 -----

Hamas leader Meshal met Egyptian spy chief in Mecca

(Haaretz) Khaled Meshal, Hamas' Damascus-based political head, met at the beginning of September with Egyptian intelligence chief Omar Suleiman in Saudi Arabia, London daily Al-Hayat reported Sunday.

Meshal traveled to the Saudi capital, Mecca, in a bid to heal ties with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah faction, from which Hamas seized the Gaza Strip in a bloody 2007 coup. Egypt, a sponsor of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, has mediated numerous attempts at Palestinian reconciliation. But Cairo remains wary of Hamas, which has close links to the Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt's major opposition movement.

<http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/report-hamas-leader-meshal-met-egyptian-spy-chief-in-mecca-1.314593>

2930/2010 -----

Israelis Float Settlement Deal Involving Spy



((NY Times) Israeli officials have tried to float a trade-off in which they would extend the temporary moratorium on settlement construction in exchange for the release by the United States of Jonathan Jay Pollard, the American who pleaded guilty to spying for Israel and is serving a life term in an American jail, Israel's Army Radio reported Monday.

The idea would be that the exchange might help Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel to sell an extension of the partial settlement freeze on the West Bank to his rightist ministers, the radio said. The moratorium is due to expire on Sunday, and Palestinian leaders have threatened to halt the fledgling American-sponsored peace talks with the Israelis if construction resumes.

The radio cited an unnamed diplomatic official as saying that the proposal had been raised in the Israeli prime minister's office "as one of many ideas." It said a private individual had been asked to try to gauge the potential of such an initiative "discreetly and informally" with American officials.

"The Israelis have mentioned it in recent days," said a senior American official. "This is an important issue for Israeli governments going back more than a decade. It surfaces from time to time and has again."

Israeli officials in Jerusalem had no immediate comment.

- (a) http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/21/world/middleeast/21israel.html?_r=5
- (b) <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/sep/20/israel-spy-release-settlement-freeze>
- (c) White House, CIA ignore reported Pollard gambit:
http://blog.washingtonpost.com/spy-talk/2010/09/white_house_cia_ignore_reported_pollard_gambit.html

2931/2010 -----

Who Shall Guard Israeli Cyber Space

(StrategyPage) There is a war going on in Israel, between Shin Bet (the internal security and intelligence agency) and the IDF (Israeli Defense Forces.) The object of this dispute is who shall control Cyber War activities. The problem arises from the fact that the IDF has developed most of the offensive and defensive Cyber War tools. This has led to Israel being a disproportionate source of network security software and hardware, most of which is sold outside of Israel. Shin Bet, however, is, by law, in charge of internal security. However, Shin Bet is playing catch-up, because the IDF is now the leading practitioner of cyber security and wants more control over Cyber War operations. Many of the Israeli computer security firms were founded by IDF veterans. The IDF has also developed a good sense of how to use these Cyber War tools. While Shin Bet is also an intelligence agency, the IDF has taken the lead in collecting Cyber War secrets around the world.

So now there's a showdown, as the IDF and Shin Bet seek to get primary authority for Cyber War activities from the government. To further complicate matters, the IDF is proposing more offensive Cyber War operations when Israeli networks and computers are attacked. This makes politicians nervous, because of the potential for diplomatic, or military, blowback. The IDF has already demonstrated their skills in this area, hacking into military and civilian systems in Syria, Lebanon, the Palestinian territories and other areas.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htiw/articles/20100920.aspx>

2932/2010 -----

Egypt: US Sonar On Their Chinese Ships To Seek Israeli Subs From GE

(StrategyPage) The U.S. is selling Egypt a towed array sonar system, for \$23 million. The three ton LFATS (Low Frequency Active Towed Sonar) system is compact and can be carried by small warships (large patrol boats or corvettes) and is very good at finding quiet submarines in shallow coastal waters. Egypt plans to equip its Chinese made patrol boats with the new system.

Although a defense system, sometimes towed arrays can have offensive use. In June, 2009, an American destroyer, while training off Subic Bay in the Philippines, had its towed sonar array collide with a Chinese submarine. The U.S. Navy did not reveal if the American ship had detected the sub before the collision. If the array was not activated, its sound (sonar) detectors would not have detected the sub. The Chinese admitted the sub was one of theirs, and the boat was apparently following the American ship unaware that a sonar array (which usually operates over a hundred meters beneath the surface, and up to two kilometers behind the ship towing it) was there.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htsub/articles/20100916.aspx>

2933/2010 -----

U.S. Counterterrorism Strategy in Yemen

(Daniel Benjamin, US Dept of State) I'm sure many of you saw the recent (August 24) Washington Post story claiming that CIA analysts now rank al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula - in Yemen - as the most urgent threat to U.S. security, even a greater threat than the al-Qaida core in Pakistan. Let me say, for the record, that we have no such rankings, and such statements are of little value except to highlight a threat. Terrorism emanating from Yemen is a major security concern for the United States. But al-Qa'ida's core in Pakistan remains an extraordinarily formidable and dangerous terrorist organization whose targeting of the United States continues. As we've seen over the last year, the threat continues to evolve in ways that make a purely geographical focus impossible, so we need to put away the ranking tables and focus on the danger.

But let me make clear that Yemen isn't a new security concern. Al-Qa'ida has had a presence in Yemen since at least December 1992, when it attempted to bomb a hotel in Aden where American military personnel were staying. Those troops, you may recall, were en route to Somalia to support the UN mission there. This was almost eight years before the U.S.S. Cole attack in 2000. Al-Qa'ida has always had a foothold in Yemen, and it's always been a major concern for the United States. In the 1990s, a series of major conspiracies were based in Yemen, most of them aimed at Saudi Arabia. Following the attack on the U.S.S. Cole in 2000, the Yemeni government, with support from the United States, dealt significant blows to al-Qa'ida's presence in Yemen through military operations and arrests of key leaders.

(a) <http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/rm/2010/147296.htm>

(b) CIA plans to hit Al-Qaeda in Yemen:

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/08/25/17271985.html>

(Daniel Benjamin is Coordinator, Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism, U.S. Institute of Peace, Washington, DC)

2934/2010 -----

Jordanien: Bin-Laden-Gefolgsmann festgenommen

(Standard) Die jordanischen Sicherheitskräfte haben einen islamistischen Extremisten festgenommen, der als wichtiger Unterstützer des Al-Kaida-Anführers Osama bin Laden gilt. Der selbst ernannte Religionsgelehrte Essam al-Barqawi, der von seinen Anhängern Sheikh Abu Mohammed al-Makdissi genannt wird, wurde bereits am vergangenen Freitag festgenommen. Das meldeten arabische Medien und die Website des Sheikhs am Montag.

Al-Barqawi war einst ein enger Verbündeter des Terroristen Abu Mussab al-Zarqawi gewesen, den US-Soldaten 2006 im Irak töteten. Ein Sohn von Al-Barqawi soll im vergangenen Juni bei einer Schlacht in der nordirakischen Stadt Mossul ums Leben gekommen sein. Al-Barqawi hetzt auf seiner arabischen Website gegen Christen und Schiiten und veröffentlicht Schriften von Al-Kaida-Anführer Osama bin Laden.

Der Grund für die Festnahme Al-Barqawis soll jedoch ein kürzlich von ihm veröffentlichtes Buch mit dem Titel "Die Religion Abrahams" sein, in dem er das Herrscherhaus von Saudi-Arabien attackiert. Al-Barqawi soll Al-Zarqawi, der später zum Terroristenanführer im Irak wurde und der den Tod Hunderter Menschen verschuldet hatte, 1991 in Pakistan kennengelernt haben. Al-Barqawi galt anfangs noch als Mentor von Al-Zarqawi, den er später jedoch wegen der von ihm befohlenen Anschläge auf Zivilisten im Irak kritisierte. Al-Barqawi hat in Jordanien bereits mehrfach im Gefängnis gesessen. 1999 profitierte er von einer königlichen Amnestie.

<http://derstandard.at/1284594688423/Bin-Laden-Gefolgsmann-festgenommen>

2935/2010 -----

Canadian held in Libya as US oil spy suspect: report

(AFP) A Canadian suspected of industrial espionage on behalf of the United States has been prevented from leaving Libya for security reasons, the newspaper Oea reported on Monday.

It said Douglas Oriali, who also has Australian and Irish citizenship, is suspected of working with US intelligence "to gather information aiming to ensure the failure of a drilling project off the Libyan coast by Britain's BP." The paper quoted "a senior official" as saying that Oriali on arrival said he was an archaeologist visiting Libya as a tourist.

Oriali was placed under surveillance, the official said, adding he was then prevented from leaving the country after "contacts with a US diplomat in Libya who is suspected of being an intelligence agent."

The Canadian embassy, contacted by AFP, refused to comment.

- (a) <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5i38qRrstqjgS8po682bFTTyCO9QA>
- (b) UPDATE: Libyan authorities allow Canadian implicated in spy probe to leave: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/libyan-authorities-allow-canadian-implicated-in-spy-probe-to-leave/article1716255/>

(See also "America"-section)

2936/2010 -----

Yemen: Road Warriors Under Siege

(StrategyPage) Troops have cornered several dozen armed men in the town of Houta, in Shabwa province (in the mountains along the southeast coast). The gunmen are believed to be members of al Qaeda, and officials believe one of them is Islamic radical cleric Anwar al Awlaki. About half the 20,000 of civilians in Houta, and surrounding areas, have fled the military operation. Some were prevented from leaving, by gunmen, and used as human shields. This operation began three days ago, and troops destroyed five homes believed used by the terrorists. The army believed that some 120 al Qaeda men were living in the village, which they used as a base. Efforts to get tribal elders to negotiate a surrender were not successful. This operation is part of an effort to shut down dozens of homes and villages known (or suspected) as al Qaeda refuges in the south, and bases for terror attacks.

The government has persuaded (via bribes or threats of violence) a growing number of tribes and clans to stop supporting al Qaeda and southern separatists. These kinds of negotiations are a major component of any conflicts in Yemen, but do not lend themselves to headline grabbing media stories. What does get media attention is troops setting up roadblocks, which is the most effective tactic against uncooperative tribes. The roads are very important, as the population explosion of the last century has made most parts of country dependent on trucked in food supplies.

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/yemen/articles/20100922.aspx>



FAR EAST & ASIA

2937/2010 -----

Briton, 70, held by Pakistan as alleged spy

(Scotsman) PAKISTANI authorities have held a 70-year-old Briton on suspicion of spying for almost a month in the country's lawless tribal areas.

Nicholas Bain, who claims he is an author researching a book, is being held alongside suspected militants in an overcrowded prison after being found without proper travel documents. "He had entered Pakistan from Afghanistan via the Torkham border crossing. We suspect that he is working for a British intelligence agency," said an official.

He was arrested near Landi Kotal, where a fort guards the historic Khyber Pass, when he was unable to produce valid travel documents, and is being held at Peshawar Central Jail.

<http://news.scotsman.com/world/Briton-70-held-by-Pakistan.6543822.jp>

2938/2010 -----

Six arrested for impersonating intelligence personnel (Pakistan)

(Daily Times) The police booked and arrested six men for posing as intelligence agency personnel on Saturday. Shah Faisal Town SP Shah Ibne Masih said the men Abdul Wali, Basharat, Malik Baaz, Hamza, Ejaz Hussain

and Yousuf Ali, employees of a private security agency, pretended to be intelligence men when the Airport police intercepted them on suspicion. The police recovered a pistol, a car and a set of walkie-talkie from their possession. staff report

http://www.dailymtimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010%5C09%5C19%5Cstory_19-9-2010_pg12_9

2939/2010 -----

Kim Jong Il regelt Nachfolge

(Wiener Zeitung) Machtübergaben in Nordkorea haben selbst für diktatorische Verhältnisse eine ganz eigene, bizarre Note: Staatschef Kim Jong Il war einst völlig abgeschottet aufgewachsen, ehe er 1980 auf dem Parteitag von Nordkoreas Kommunisten als künftiger Nachfolger seines Vaters Kim Il Sung präsentiert wurde.

Um auch nur annähernd in die Fußstapfen des übermächtigen Staatsgründers treten zu können, um den sich zahlreiche Heldenlegenden ranken, wurde dem Sohn gar eine Geburt auf dem Paektusan angedichtet - dem "heiligen Berg" der Koreaner. In Wirklichkeit erblickte der als "geliebter Führer" gepriesene Kim Jong Il wohl im sibirischen Chabarowsk das Licht der Welt.

Auch diesmal sieht es ganz nach einer Machtübergabe im Stil der Kim-Dynastie aus: In der kommenden Woche hält das Land seine mit Spannung erwartete Parteitagung ab, auf der sich das abgeschottete Regime eine neue politische Führung geben will. Und Beobachter erwarten, dass Kim Jong Il dort seinen dritten Sohn Kim Jong Un in ein hohes Amt hebt, um ihn offiziell als Nachfolger aufzubauen. Die zunächst für Anfang September geplante und dann aus ungenannten Gründen verschobene Konferenz wurde am Dienstag für den 28. September angesetzt.

Der Mann, der möglicherweise bald Nordkorea lenken wird, ist für die Welt noch ein Phantom. Um die 27 Jahre alt soll der junge Kim sein, das Jahr seiner Geburt ist umstritten. In Südkorea wusste man bis vor kurzem nicht einmal genau, wie sein Name geschrieben wird.

- (a) <http://www.wienerzeitung.at/default.aspx?tabID=3858&alias=wzo&ob=518376>
- (b) North Korea Announces Leadership Summit Amid Succession Speculation:
http://www.rferl.org/content/North_Korea_Announces_Leadership_Summit_Amid_Succession_Speculation/2163872.html

2940/2010 -----

Boat collision sparks anger, breakdown in China-Japan talks

(Washington Post) It began with a minor fender bender on the Asian seas - a Chinese boat colliding with Japanese coast guard ships. But in just two weeks the dust-up has escalated to a full-scale diplomatic standoff, with the Chinese government now officially no longer speaking to the Japanese.

On the surface, the argument is over custody of the Chinese boat captain, who is under arrest in Japan. But fuelling the angry posturing is a struggle between China and Japan for regional dominance, along with long-standing disputes over territory. The angry rhetoric, which has come more from Beijing than Tokyo, is the latest indication that a newly assertive China is looking to flex its muscles internationally.

Since the boat collisions, several other disputes have flared up, ranging from serious (threats on both sides to start drilling for gas in the East China Sea) to bizarre (Chinese investigators were sent to look into the death of a Chinese panda at a Japanese zoo).

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/20/AR2010092000130.html?hpid=topnews>

2941/2010 -----

Chinese version of Russian jet endangers bilateral relations

(Russian Times) Despite holding the position as one of the world's biggest economies, China seems unwilling to shed its reputation for producing cheap replicas.

And one of their more ambitious copycat efforts may put a strain on Russia-China relations.

"This Chinese plane is simply a Russian design stuffed with local electronics," says Maksim Pyadushkin from the Center for Analysis of Strategies and Technology about the Chinese J11B jet's resemblance to the Russian Su-27. "It's a knock-off."

Last year, Russian aircraft sales internationally topped \$3 billion - second only to the US. But others too want a slice of the aviation pie. Vadim Kozyulin, program director for conventional arms from the Russian Center for Policy Studies, says that fake Su-27s are widely offered in the world arms market. "Sooner or later, Russian arms traders will face competition from the Chinese colleagues," he told RT.

China was given the design plans for the Russian fighter jet in 1995, when it promised to buy 200 kits and assemble them domestically. After building 100 planes, the Chinese said the Russian plane did not meet specifications, only for a copycat version soon to appear - "Made in China" - without copyright.

http://rt.com/Top_News/2010-04-20/russian-arms-copycat-china.html?fullstory

2942/2010 -----

Ex-wife divulged spy's income

(koreatimes) The South Korean court is dealing with an unusual case involving a former wife of a spy agent, demanding a fair divorce settlement fee.

The National Intelligence Service (NIS), spy agency, doesn't appreciate what she already did. In demanding her share of allotment from the broken marriage, she revealed how much her ex-husband made - a highly sensitive information that can compromise the secretive agency's activities.

It has never been known how much a South Korean spy agent makes. The spy agency only tells potential recruits that the pay is "comparable" to major South Korean companies, without being specific.

But the ex-wife, who had been married to her husband for over 20 years, and who was surnamed Oh in the local Chosun Ilbo daily on Saturday, claims an

employee at the NIS makes twice as much money than other government employees do, but pays only half the tax than the others, pointing out the seeming legal loophole.

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2010/09/113_73284.html

2943/2010 -----

China orbits spy satellite amid uptick in space activity

(spaceflightnow) A secret military payload successfully launched aboard a Long March rocket early Wednesday, continuing a feverish pace of Chinese space activity that includes a mysterious orbital rendezvous, an upcoming lunar probe and preps for continued human missions.

It was the fifth launch in barely 50 days for China, and the second mission in that period lofting a clandestine Yaogan reconnaissance satellite.

Wednesday's launch began with the blastoff of a Long March 2D rocket at 0242 GMT (10:42 p.m. EDT Tuesday) from the Jiuquan space center in the desert of northwestern China, according to the state-run Xinhua news agency.

<http://www.spaceflightnow.com/news/n1009/22longmarch/>



EUROPE (GEOGRAPH.)

2944/2010 -----

Who launched the skyrocketing extremist sites?

(Voice of Russia) The chief of the European intelligence agency Interpol Ronald Noble said recently that the "skyrocketing" number of extremist websites is making it easier for terrorists to recruit middle class youth around the world.

According to him, terrorist recruiters are exploiting the Web to target vulnerable young people who are "not on the radar of law enforcement." He says fighting this kind of terrorist recruitment is especially difficult because viewing websites is not necessarily criminal. According to Interpol, there is a register of about 10,000 wanted or suspected terrorists on their search list. And the sharp growth in extremist websites is making recruitment much easier for al-Qaeda and other related groups.

The threat is global, it is virtual and it is on our doorsteps," said Ronald Noble at a conference of police chiefs in Paris. He stated that there were 12 sites in 1998 and 4,500 by 2006. "As soon as you knock out one, another pops up. It's like playing 'whack-a-mole'."

He also said tackling radicalisation had been made far harder by the internet because many of the activities involved were not criminal.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/09/22/21765785.html>

2945/2010 -----

French spies stop woman's suicide bomb plot to attack 'busy' Paris

(Scotsman) A female suicide bomber plotted to blow herself up in Paris last week, French spy agencies have revealed. Intelligence services uncovered and thwarted the threat which was due to have taken place in a "busy part of Paris" on Thursday, France's RTL radio said.

The alert came as French domestic intelligence chief Bernard Squarcini warned at the weekend that France's burqa ban had "seriously increased" the threat of a major terrorist attack in France. Mr Squarcini said "all the red lights were flashing" over the risk that Islamic extremists would bomb French cities. Mr Squarcini warned: "France's role in Afghanistan, its foreign policy and the debate over the law banning the burqa have all increased the risk."

The alert over the female suicide bomber was revealed to RTL radio yesterday. The station said: "The intelligence service learned last Wednesday night that a female suicide bomber was plotting to commit a terrorist act in a busy part of Paris on Thursday.

"The intelligence came from agents in north Africa and was immediately transmitted to the offices of the president and prime minister.

<http://news.scotsman.com/news/French-spies-stop-woman39s-suicide.6541423.jp>

2946/2010 -----

Dänen rätseln über einbeinigen Bombenleger

(op-online) Terrorist, "normaler" Krimineller, Spion oder Verrückter? Kopenhagen rätselt weiter über einen mysteriösen Mann mit Beinprothese, der sich am Freitag beim Hantieren mit Sprengstoff in seinem Hotel selbst verletzt hat.

Auch vier Tage nach der Festnahme des etwa 40-Jährigen konnte die Polizei die Identität nicht klären. "Wir haben keine Ahnung, wer dieser Mann ist", sagte ein Kripo-Sprecher am Dienstag in der dänischen Hauptstadt. Der Einbeinige war leicht verletzt aus dem "Hotel Jørgensen" geflohen, nachdem ihm eine relativ kleine Sprengladung in einer Toilette explodiert war.

"Er hatte Papiere für drei falsche Identitäten bei sich", teilte die Polizei mit. Aus seiner Hightech-Prothese für das rechte Bein unterhalb des Knies hatte der fließend Französisch, Deutsch und Englisch sprechende Mann sogar die Seriennummer weggefeilt. "So gut wie alle europäischen Länder haben uns mitgeteilt, dass seine Fingerabdrücke dort unbekannt sind", musste Fahndungssprecher Svend Foldager einräumen.

Die Polizei machte es auskunftswilligen Bürgern nicht unbedingt leichter, als sie das Aussehen des Mannes mit den Worten "europäisch oder nordafrikanisch" umschrieb. Der Mann verweigert bisher jede Aussage und bat in der Untersuchungshaft sowohl um einen Koran als auch um eine Bibel. "Will er sich über uns lustig machen?", fragten die ratlosen Ermittler.

<http://www.op-online.de/nachrichten/welt/daenen-raetseln-ueber-einbeinigen-bombenleger-917559.html>

2947/2010 -----

Poland: Russia's Worst Nightmare

(StrategyPage) Poland continues to increase its defense budget, with next year's spending going up 7.1 percent, to \$8.9 billion. This will mark a decade of setting the defense budget at 1.95 percent of GDP. In that time, Poland has been spending heavily to bring its forces up to NATO standards, helped along by a robust economy. This was accomplished by spending more on procuring Western weapons and equipment (new and used) and cutting personnel strength and the use of conscription.

Also valuable was the retirement of old Soviet era equipment, which was expensive to maintain. This was especially the case with Russian warplanes, like the MiG-29. Now Poland is replacing them with F-16s. Second hand Leopard 2A4 tanks provide Poland with a more powerful tank than anything the Russians have. Most Polish tanks are Polish made upgrades of the T-72 (the PT-91). Most Polish forces are up to NATO standards, and all will be in the next decade. This is immensely reassuring to Poles, who have been threatened by their Russian neighbor for centuries.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htlead/articles/20100918.aspx>

2948/2010 -----

Polen: Tschetschenischer Separatistenführer Sakajew verhaftet

(Die Presse) Eigentlich wollte Achmed Sakajew gestern am Dritten Tschetschenischen Weltkongress teilnehmen. Doch am Freitagmorgen spürten Zivilpolizisten den Separatistenführer auf und nahmen ihn vor einem Warschauer Hotel fest.

Einen „Skandal“ nannte es Adam Borowski, Polens Honorarkonsul der von keinem Staat in der Welt anerkannten Republik Ischkerien (Tschetschenien). Mit den polnischen Behörden sei verabredet worden, dass sich Sakajew selbst bei der Staatsanwaltschaft meldet. Sakajew wollte damit seine Unschuld beweisen.

Moskau sucht den Chef der tschetschenischen Exilregierung seit über zehn Jahren mit einem internationalen Haftbefehl als Terroristen. Unter anderem sei Sakajew für die Geiselnahme im Moskauer Musiktheater Dubrowka im Oktober 2002 verantwortlich.

Warschauer Verfassungsexperten halten indes eine Auslieferung Sakajews an Russland für unwahrscheinlich, da Russland mehrmals vom Europäischen Menschenengerichtshof wegen der Folterung von Tschetschenen gerügt worden sei.

- (a) http://diepresse.com/home/politik/aussenpolitik/595387/index.do?_vl_backlink=/home/politik/aussenpolitik/index.do
- (b) Polish prosecutors 'studying' Russia's extradition request for Zakayev: <http://en.rian.ru/russia/20100922/160682590.html>

2949/2010 -----

We'll consider John Hume proposal to mediate: ETA

(Belfast Telegraph) The armed Basque separatist group ETA has said it is prepared to consider proposals put forward by 19 people, including former SDLP leader John Hume.

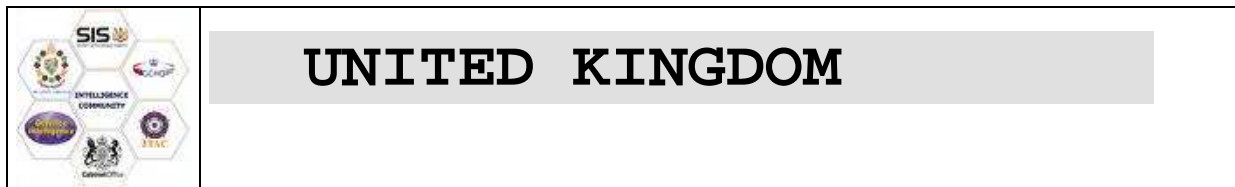
The group also said it was willing to accept international mediation to help resolve its long-running conflict with the Spanish government. Two weeks after it announced a ceasefire, the group said that it is ready to "jointly explore" with overseas mediators the steps required for a democratic process. Since launching its violent campaign for an independent Basque homeland in the late 1960s, ETA has killed more than 825 people.

The Spanish government has repeatedly said progress can only be made when ETA renounces violence for good. ETA said it will consider proposals put forward in March by 19 people in a document called the Brussels Declaration.

The document called on ETA to announce an internationally verifiable ceasefire. Among its signatories were archbishop Desmond Tutu, former Irish president Mary Robinson and former Foyle MP John Hume.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/wersquoll-consider-john-hume-proposal-to-mediate-eta-14953429.html>

(Hat tip to Oliver PLAUDER for this info!)



2950/2010 -----

Police release 'Pope threat' men without charge

(BBC) ix men arrested by police investigating an alleged plot to attack the Pope have all been released without charge, Scotland Yard said.

The six - who work as street cleaners in Westminster - were arrested after they were allegedly overheard in the works canteen discussing an attack. Police refused to confirm reports that the men were joking, saying they had a duty to investigate. Policing for Pope Benedict's four-day UK visit is expected to top flm.

The men are employed by Veolia Environment Services, a cleaning company contracted by Westminster Council. At least five of the men are not British nationals. Most are thought to be Algerian.

The men, aged between 26 and 50, were arrested on suspicion of the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism on Friday, and released late on Saturday and early on Sunday.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11360568>

2951/2010 -----

William Hague: yes we have spies round the world

(Guardian) Foreign secretary ventures into sensitive territory during appearance before commons committee.

Has William Hague broken the unwritten rule that foreign secretaries never confirm that MI6 has a network of spies overseas?

Hague entered this highly sensitive area when he appeared before a Commons select committee yesterday. His comments came when he was asked by Bernard Jenkin, the Conservative chairman of the commons public administration select committee, about his strategy for foreign policy. The committee is holding an enquiry which is asking: Who does UK Grand Strategy?

Jenkin was asking Hague whether the ordinary footsoldiers of British foreign policy were now drawing up strategy "on the hoof" after the new government scrapped the strategy unit at the foreign office. Here is their exchange.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/wintour-and-watt/2010/sep/15/williamhague-foreignpolicy>

2952/2010 -----

MI6 spy found in sports bag had been playing sex game, police believe

(Telegraph) The spy whose naked body was found in a sports bag in an empty bath in Pimlico was probably involved in an unusual sex game, police now believe.

Having ruled out almost every other possibility, officers have come round to the view that Gareth Williams probably died after climbing into the bag which was then locked by another person.

It is unclear whether he did so on instructions from the other person or was locked in at his own request, but detectives believe that he was probably involved in some sado-masochistic game in which he got a kick from being helpless. It is likely that once locked and left in the bag, he died from a combination of causes including suffocation and dehydration, which have been difficult to identify in a post-mortem.

The red North Face holdall was made from a laminate material and had reinforced seams, making it both hot and almost impossible to escape from. The top floor flat is likely to have heated up in the August weather, causing Mr Williams to pass out. The bag was padlocked from the outside and officers believe the other person was supposed to return to the flat to release him but when they did so, they found him dead.

Scotland Yard is still seeking a Mediterranean couple aged between 20 and 30, who were let into the spy's flat in Alderney Street, Pimlico, central London, late one evening in June or July.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/8012360/MI6-spy-found-in-sports-bag-had-been-playing-sex-game-police-believe.html>

2953/2010 -----

British informant sues MI5 for breach of contract

(IntelNews) An informant, who was used by British intelligence to infiltrate an Irish Republican dissident group, is suing the British government claiming he was forced to give evidence in court despite his will. The case, which is believed to be the first of its kind in British legal history, has been brought before the court by a man identified only as "Amir". Britain's domestic intelligence agency, MI5, has admitted recruiting Amir in 2004, and using him to infiltrate the Real Irish Republican Army (RIRA), a Provisional IRA splinter group that continues its armed campaign against British presence in Northern Ireland. But the informant claims that he accepted payment from MI5 on condition that he would never be expected to testify as a witness in court. Amir established contact with RIRA members in Luxembourg, and eventually put them in contact with two other MI5 informants posing as weapons merchants.

The latter offered to sell the RIRA rifles, AK-47s, rocket-propelled grenades, and even plastic explosives. But when the MI5, which was monitoring the RIRA members' meetings with the informants, decided to move ahead with a trial, Amir was surprised to receive a court summons to give evidence in the case. He claims that he was ultimately forced to appear in court in May 2010, after he was threatened with imprisonment if he refused to testify. He is now suing the British government for nearly \$1 million, accusing the MI5 of breach of trust, and claiming that his livelihood as an informant has been compromised by his forced appearance in court. The trial continues.

- (a) <http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/09/16/01-563/>
- (b) <http://www.independent.ie/world-news/europe/mi5-spy-sues-bosses-for-blowing-cover-with-real-ira-2334639.html>
- (c)

2954/2010 -----

Britain's James Bond spies to be sacked soon

(sify) It's bad news for Britain's James Bond spies as the government has decided to slash spending on counter terrorism abroad so more money can be poured into defending the country against cyber attacks.

Jobs are expected to be lost at MI6 as the number of spies abroad is cut - while rival home security service MI5 will escape cuts but have its budget frozen. Details of the move are contained in the Strategic Security Review, which concludes big changes need to be made to Britain's spy budgets. "You will see some trenchant cuts at the top, a freeze for MI5 and some tough funding cuts for MI6," News of the World quoted a senior Cabinet Office source as saying.

"It's unrealistic to make substantial cuts to MI5 ahead of the Olympics - but its funding has doubled in 10 years. Those increases are over."

<http://sify.com/news/britain-s-james-bond-spies-to-be-sacked-soon-news-international-kjtouddbhdi.html>

2955/2010 -----

British spy chief warns of risk of terrorist attack

(xinhuanet) The head of Britain's internal spy service said on Friday that the country faced renewed threats from terrorism and his organization was fighting an "invisible struggle" with al-Qaida.

The head of MI5 Jonathan Evans said in a speech in London that "there is a persistent intent on the part of al-Qaida and its associates to attack the UK."

He added: "The country continues to face a real threat from al Qaida-related terrorism. That threat is diverse in both geography and levels of skill involved but it is persistent and dangerous and trying to control it involves a continual invisible struggle. Counter-terrorist capabilities have improved in recent years but there remains a serious risk of a lethal attack taking place. I see no reason to believe that the position will significantly improve in the immediate future."

MI5 is the secret service with the job of guarding against terror attacks in Britain. Evans, who has been the director-general of MI5 for just over three years, is an expert on al-Qaida.

He said there was still a threat from al-Qaida based in the border areas but new al-Qaida threats were coming from Somalia where "there are a significant number of UK residents training in al Shabaab camps to fight in the insurgency there."

London will be hosting the Olympics in the summer of 2012, and it presents a tempting target for terrorists, warned Evans.

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-09/18/c_13517745.htm

2956/2010 -----

«The main effort for the MI5 remains international terrorism»

(ISRIA) This remark was made during an address at the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals by the Director General of the Security Service, Jonathan Evans, 16 September 2010.

Full transcript:

http://www.isria.com/RESTRICTED/D/2010/SEPTEMBER_17/17_September_2010_xl.php

2957/2010 -----

In Somalia ausgebildete Briten: Neue Gefahr für Großbritannien

(IRIB) London (Mehr/Guardian) - Der Chef des britischen Inlandsgeheimdienstes (MI5) hat eventuelle Terroranschläge von jungen Briten, die in somalischen Terrorlagern ausgebildet werden, als das neue Problem des Landes bezeichnet. Evans wies daraufhin, dass rund hundert britische Bürger mit unterschiedlichen Nationalitäten an der Seite der somalischen Extremistengruppe Asch-Schabab kämpfen würden. Der britische Inlandsgeheimdienst müsse Anti-Terrorgesetze neu überdenken und dabei mehr Acht auf die Kontrolle von mutmaßlichen Terroristen geben, wurde Evans laut der Nachrichtenagentur „Mehr“ unter Berufung auf die Zeitung „Guardian“ zitiert.

Wie der Vorsitzende des britischen Nachrichtendienstes Evans weiters sagte, sei ein Anschlag der in Somalia ausgebildeten Milizengruppe in Großbritannien nur eine Frage der Zeit.

<http://german.irib.ir/nachrichten/politik/item/115382-junge-briten-werden-in-somalia-ausgebildet>

(IRIB ist die staatliche Rundfunkgesellschaft des Iran. In seinem deutschen Programm bezeichnet sich der Sender als „Stimme der Islamischen Republik Iran“.)

2958/2010 -----

Now, a UK intelligence unit to target corrupt sportspersons

(Sify) The British Government has pushed through plans of constituting a new intelligence unit in a bid to target international gangsters and corrupt sportspersons, following the latest spot-fixing revelations involving the Pakistan cricket team.

"Match-fixing is a cancer that destroys the integrity of sport and we are determined to do whatever we can to stamp this out," News of the World quoted Hugh Robertson, Minister for Sports and the Olympics, as saying.

The Sports Betting Intelligence Unit, one of the key recommendations in former Liverpool chief executive Rick Parry's report on sports betting integrity, will collect and analyse information about match-fixing and illegal gambling.

The government will tell bodies such as the Professional Players Federation (PPF) to draw up a new code of conduct on betting integrity this week, and will work towards ensuring that young players coming into professional sports are trained about the hazards. part from these, the government also plans to lobby countries where illicit gambling exists - such as India - to legalise it, so it can be properly regulated.

Robertson has already written to Indian sports minister MS Gill to keep the topic high on agenda at the meeting of Commonwealth Sports Ministers at the Commonwealth Games (CWG) in Delhi next month.

He is also planning to meet International Cricket Council president Sharad Pawar at the Games to discuss the issue.

<http://sify.com/sports/now-a-uk-intelligence-unit-to-target-corrupt-sportspersons-news-news-kjtu4hhjedd.html>



NORTHERN IRELAND

(This section is edited entirely by Oliver PLAUDER)

2959/2010 -----

Ford denies 'blind eye' turned on UVF murder

(BBC) The Justice Minister David Ford has denied that the police have turned a 'blind eye' to the killers of Bobby Moffett.

On Wednesday, the Independent Monitoring Commission (IMC) found that Mr Moffett's murder on the Shankill Road in May was sanctioned by the leadership of the UVF. The report said UVF bosses could have prevented the killing but did not.

No-one has been charged with his murder.

Some people from the Shankill Road claim the police in the area have turned a blind eye to Mr Moffett's killers but Mr Ford denied this was the case. "I don't think there's any question of the police turning a blind eye, as I understand it, the police are investigating the murder of Bobby Moffett as they investigate all serious crimes. "I think the issue is, what is the UVF leadership up to?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-11365459>

2960/2010 -----

Real IRA brothers provoke 'upset' in criminal underworld

(Irish Examiner) VETERAN members of the Provisional IRA have joined senior criminals in taking on two Real IRA brothers who have "upset" the criminal underworld.

The brothers, from Donaghmede, in north Dublin, have made many enemies recently by extorting money from drug dealers and muscling in on security at pub doors. The brothers, particularly the 30-year-old sibling who is the leader of the outfit, are suspects in the murder of drug gang member Sean Winters in north county Dublin last Sunday week. Garda sources said the pair were an "arm of the Reals in Dublin", but were criminals first and foremost, with dubious Republican beliefs.

Security chiefs said criminal figures, who consider themselves long-time supporters of the republican cause, and older members of the PIRA have had enough of the pair. "They are upsetting a lot of the old stock Provos and criminals who see themselves as long-time supporters of the Provos," said one source. "They're saying something needs to be done about these little fuckers. There's no doubt they are trying to get rid of them. The brothers are criminals. I doubt they could give you the basic principles of republicanism, yet operate under that banner."

Garda sources said the brothers are "running doors" at pubs across the city and "controlling" a lot of drug runs in the city. "They're not supplying drugs themselves. They wait until someone else imports them, then levies them with a premium, extortion really," said the source.

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/real-ira-brothers-provoke-upset-in-criminal-underworld-131255.html>

2961/2010 -----

Dissident threat sparks cross-border security summit

(Belfast Telegraph) British and Irish government ministers meet this morning for a cross-border security summit on the threat posed by dissident republicans.

The talks will focus on the increased campaign of terror being waged by the renegade gangs with more than 30 attacks or attempted attacks on security targets since the start of the year. Northern Ireland Secretary Owen Paterson and Irish Justice Minister Dermot Ahern will jointly review the latest police assessments of the extent of the threat and determine whether fresh initiatives should be launched against the dissidents. They will also hear updated intelligence reports from Garda Commissioner Fachtina Murphy and PSNI Chief Constable Matt Baggott.

The PSNI and Garda are particularly concerned that recent arrests have confirmed their fears that the renegades have succeeded in attracting new recruits, who had not previously been known as republican supporters.

Officers are also worried that the level of bombing expertise has increased within their ranks in Northern Ireland in recent months and they are now managing to detonate bombs that previously failed to explode. The director general of MI5 Jonathan Evans warned last week that while the dissidents did not have the capacity to return to the levels of violence reached by the Provisional IRA at the height of the Troubles, he believed they represented a "real and rising security challenge".

The police experts say the dissidents do not have the capacity at present to launch attacks overseas and have no intelligence on either side of the border to suggest that any of the groups is close to a major expansion of a campaign of violence to include financial institutions and bankers.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/dissident-threat-sparks-crossborder-security-summit-14953427.html>

2962/2010 -----

UK spy chief warns of dissident Republican threat

(AP) The head of Britain's domestic spy agency warned Friday that the U.K. faces potent new threats from terrorism incubated in Northern Ireland, the Middle East and North Africa.

Jonathan Evans, director-general of MI5, the country's domestic intelligence service, said in a rare public speech that attacks on the U.K. are increasingly likely to emanate from Somalia, Yemen or Belfast, as al-Qaeda-linked groups flee strongholds in Pakistan. The spy chief said the 2012 London Olympic Games will likely be a major target for terrorist attacks, and warned that dissidents who reject Northern Ireland's peace process could strike mainland British cities for the first time since 2001.

Evans said Irish republican splinter groups have access to weapons, including Semtex explosives, and funds from smuggling and drug trafficking. "We cannot exclude the possibility that they might seek to extend their attacks to Great Britain, as violent republican groups have traditionally

done," Evans said, making a speech late Thursday to security industry professionals in central London. Details of the speech were made public Friday.

While security officials have improved defenses against the threat from Islamic extremism, Evans said al-Qaida plots against Britain are "uncovered on a fairly regular basis," with officers dealing with a handful of different cases at any one time.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jv9P6lGV7Mfpuq0tLuUCr_78cfHwD9I9A3I00

2963/2010 -----

Gardaí say dissidents no threat to Britain

(Irish Examiner) GARDAÍ have said the threat of a terrorist attack by dissident republicans was a reality in the North, but not in Britain.

Security chiefs were responding to warnings from the head of the British domestic intelligence agency that renegade republican groups might extend their terror campaign to Britain.

MI5 boss Jonathan Evans, who rarely speaks in public, said yesterday: "While at present the dissidents' campaign is focused on Northern Ireland, we cannot exclude the possibility that they might seek to extend their attacks to Great Britain as violent Republican groups have traditionally done." He said there were "increasing signs of co-ordination and co-operation" between dissident groups, resulting in 30 attacks or attempted attacks in the North this year.

He said the groups were using a greater variety of techniques from shooting to large vehicle bombs and had improved their capability in the use of explosives. MI5 has estimated there are around 600 hardline Republicans involved in terrorist activity.

Garda intelligence chiefs yesterday said that all information available to them showed the terror threat remained directed at the North and not in Britain.

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/gardai-say-dissidents-no-threat-to-britain-131145.html>

2964/2010 -----

Accused 'key player' in RAAD - court told

(Derry Journal) An application to vary the bail conditions of a man police believe is a "key player" in Republican Action Against Drugs (RAAD) has been adjourned for expert medical evidence, reports Theresa Casey.

Kieran George McCool, of Ederowen Park, who is charged with having a stun gun, applied to have his electronic tag and a curfew condition of his bail removed so he could care for his four-year-old son. Defence solicitor Paddy McGurk told Derry Magi strate's Court the 42-year-old was the sole carer for his son, who has health problems, including difficulty sleeping.

He said McCool would regularly take him for walks or for a drive in the car to help him get to sleep and as a result of the electronic tag and curfew from 8pm to 8am, McCool was unable to do this.

The investigating officer strenuously opposed the application to vary bail, telling the court the police strongly believe McCool is a "key player, who is instrumental in carrying out attacks and other forms of activity on behalf of the RAAD group."

- (a) <http://www.derryjournal.com/journal/Accused-39key-player39-in-RAAD.6542700.jp>
- (b) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-11374221>

2965/2010 -----

Man on gun and ammunition charges refused bail

(BBC) A man accused of possessing a "terrorist arsenal" following a bomb attack on a Londonderry police station has been refused bail in the High Court in Belfast.

Thomas Christopher Nash, 53, from Iveagh Park in Derry is charged with a number of offences. The court was told that real and fake guns were found along with ammunition during searches of two properties linked to Mr Nash. He denies the offences. Mr Nash is charged with possessing a rifle with intent, having eight rounds of ammunition, 33 rounds of Magnum ammunition, and 100 rounds of Luger ammunition.

He is also accused of possessing a CS spray canister, an imitation AK47 rifle and fake handgun. He denies the offences. Crown Counsel Fiona O'Kane said a silencer, balaclava and latex gloves, multiple mobile phones, SIM cards, batteries, an electric tester and duct tape were found during searches carried out following the attack on Strand Road PSNI station on 3 August.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-11343192>

2966/2010 -----

Four arrested after major illegal fuel crackdown

(Belfast Telegraph) Four men from Co Armagh have been arrested in a major cross-border operation to tackle suspected fuel fraud, tax evasion and money laundering.

A total of 11,400 litres of fuel, two vehicles, a sum of cash, fuel pumps and a fuel tank were seized in Co Antrim and Co Armagh yesterday. A storage depot and filling stations across seven counties were raided yesterday morning in a co-ordinated operation on both sides of the border.

The operation was made possible by the Cross Border Fuel Fraud Enforcement Group, announced in the summer of 2008 by security Minister Paul Goggins and then financial secretary to the Treasury Jane Kennedy. Officers from HM Revenue & Customs, supported by the PSNI, searched business premises in west Belfast where they dismantled a huckster site selling cheap smuggled green diesel.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/four-arrested-after-major-illegal-fuel-crackdown-14952006.html>

2967/2010 -----

Real IRA chief's brother in court over weapons

(Belfast Telegraph) The brother of a Real IRA commander has appeared in court in Lithuania charged with involvement in an international arms smuggling racket.

Michael Campbell (37) was arrested in January 2008 in an undercover operation after allegedly trying to buy weapons for the Real IRA from an intelligence officer posing as an international arms dealer. Prosecutors allege the Dundalk man handed over €10,000 (£8,600), for the haul of weapons including a sniper rifle, detonators, timers and 22lb of high explosive in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital. But the bogus deal had been set up as part of an elaborate sting operation involving the Garda Síochána, Interpol and British security services. Campbell has been charged with possession and attempted smuggling of illegal weapons and supporting a terrorist organisation.

His wife, Fiona Duffy, was also detained at the time of the undercover operation but was released four months later and all charges were dropped.

If found guilty, Campbell could face 20 years behind bars in Lithuania.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/real-ira-chiefrsquo-s-brother-in-court-over-weapons-14951985.html>

2968/2010 -----

Haddock trial may be postponed

(UTV) The trial of Mark Haddock, so-called Special Branch informer and suspected one-time UVF leader in the Mount Vernon area of north Belfast, may not go ahead at the beginning of the New Year as planned.

<http://www.u.tv/News/Haddock-trial-may-be-postponed/1670172d-4943-4fbl-85c2-542eb1554fac>

2969/2010 -----

Dissidents find new cause in drug war

(Independent.ie) 'They're Celtic supporters with guns,' says a senior republican. 'They don't know any rebel songs, only Celtic songs'

Since it began reporting on the activities of terrorist groups in Ireland in 2003, the Independent Monitoring Commission has tracked the activities of the self-styled 'dissident' terror groups such as the 'Real' IRA and the 'Continuity' IRA.

In all its reports in the last few years, the Commission has repeated that the 'dissidents' are heavily involved in crime, primarily tiger kidnapping, armed robbery, extortion and smuggling. In its 21st report, issued earlier this year, the Independent Monitoring Commission also said the 'Continuity' IRA was involved in "brothel keeping".

Gardai in Dublin now see these groups as centrally involved in organised crime, including the murders of ordinary criminals who have refused to pay their extortion demands or who have otherwise crossed them.

Sean Winters, the 42-year-old north Dublin drug dealer who was shot dead as he walked along Station Road in Portmarnock last Sunday night is, ostensibly, a victim of republican gunmen. There was no political motivation whatsoever in his murder by the 'Continuity' IRA. He was murdered as part of a turf war over the distribution and sale of drugs in north Dublin.

<http://www.independent.ie/national-news/dissidents-find-new-cause-in-drug-war-2343600.html>

2970/2010 -----

PSNI name 'UDA chief'

(Belfast Telegraph) Police have named a "UDA chief" in court in connection with the attempted kidnap of an east Belfast criminal.

Cops last week named William Floyd as the Dee Street leader of the loyalist gang during a bail bid by suspected UDA man David 'Dee' Bell.

Bell used his work van during a bid to kidnap Brian McCullough on September 8, the court was told. But McCullough escaped and went to police. Cops say Floyd has since gone on the run.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/sunday-life/psni-name-uda-chief-14953071.html>

2971/2010 -----

Postman killing inquest delayed

(Belfast Telegraph) An inquest into the murder of a postman in Belfast has been delayed again after police asked the coroner to carry out further checks.

Catholic Danny McColgan, who was 20, was shot dead by the Ulster Defence Association (UDA) as he arrived for work at the sorting office at Rathcoole on January 12 2002.

Coroner John Leckey has 20 boxes of material but police want him to check its relevance to the investigation and to preserve European Convention rights to life and privacy.

Mr Leckey has already ruled that non-sensitive material should be provided to the family but this is the subject of a review in the Court of Appeal.

A police lawyer told the coroner: "You must carry out a relevance test, you must look at the material to test if it is relevant and at that stage it can be passed to the families."

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/postman-killing-inquest-delayed-14953787.html>



GERMANY

2972/2010 -----

Wirtschaftsspionage richtet in Unternehmen horrende Schäden an

(Südwest Presse) Es klingt wie die Vorlage für einen Agenten-Thriller: Da ist die junge Chinesin, die während ihres Praktikums bei dem Mittelständler heimlich sensible Firmendaten per Mail ans persönliche Postfach abzweigt. Oder der Vertriebsmitarbeiter, der abends in der Hotelbar von einer fremden Schönheit über Ausschreibungsdetails für ein wichtiges Projekt ausgehört wird. Für Verfassungsschützer und Sicherheitsexperten gehören solche Vorfälle zur täglichen Arbeit. Sie warnen vor den wachsenden Gefahren durch Wirtschaftsspionage und raten vor allem kleinen und mittleren Firmen dringend zu mehr Wachsamkeit.

Auf bis zu 50 Mrd. EUR werden die Schäden geschätzt, die Ausspähung und Datenklau durch fremde Nachrichtendienste und Konkurrenten bei deutschen Unternehmen jährlich anrichten. Belastbare Zahlen gibt es nicht, dafür sei die Dunkelziffer zu groß, sagt eine Sprecherin des Bundesamtes für Verfassungsschutz.

Besonders Unternehmen aus innovativen Branchen wie Maschinenbauer, Autozulieferer, Elektronik- und Softwareanbieter werden häufig zur Zielscheibe. Die Methoden der Angreifer reichen von professionellen Analysen bis zum Diebstahl von Daten, Plänen und Produkten.

<http://www.swp.de/ehingen/nachrichten/wirtschaft/art4325,637587>

2973/2010 -----

BKA verhaftet mutmaßlichen Spion aus Libyen

(SPIEGEL) In Halle an der Saale ist ein mutmaßlicher Spion des libyschen Geheimdienstes verhaftet worden. Wie die Bundesanwaltschaft am Mittwoch in Karlsruhe mitteilte, soll der 45-jährige Omar K. von April bis Mai 2010 in Deutschland lebende Oppositionelle ausgespäht haben. Der Beschuldigte wurde bereits am Dienstag von Beamten des Bundeskriminalamts festgenommen und sitzt nun in Untersuchungshaft.

Der Mann sei der geheimdienstlichen Agententätigkeit dringend verdächtig, berichtete die Bundesanwaltschaft. Er habe für einen 42-jährigen Libyer gearbeitet, der als Führungsoffizier des libyschen Geheimdienstes ein Netz informeller Mitarbeiter geleitet haben soll.

Gegen den mutmaßlichen Führungsoffizier und einen weiteren Libyer hatte die Bundesanwaltschaft bereits Anfang September Anklage vor dem Kammergericht in Berlin erhoben. Die beiden waren am 13. Mai in Berlin festgenommen worden und befinden sich in Untersuchungshaft. Ziel der nachrichtendienstlichen Maßnahmen sei es gewesen, die im Exil aktiven Oppositionsbewegungen bis hin zu ihrer Zerschlagung zu schwächen.

Der nun festgenommene Omar K. soll ein informeller Mitarbeiter des Geheimdienstes gewesen sein und seine Erkenntnisse über Oppositionelle "gegen Agentenlohn an seine geheimdienstlichen Auftraggeber weitergeleitet haben". Er war am Dienstagnachmittag dem Ermittlungsrichter des Bundesgerichtshofes vorgeführt worden, der ihm den Haftbefehl eröffnet und Untersuchungshaft angeordnet hat.

- (a) <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/0,1518,719031,00.html>
- (b) <http://www.mz-web.de/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=ksta/page&atype=ksArtikel&aid=1285130762991>
- (c) German police arrest man who allegedly gathered intelligence for Libyan spy network:
<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5jB4vv4kzGJc9IUDL6islcQogLx2g>



2974/2010 -----

Streit im Bundesrat wegen Libyen-Affäre

(Blick.ch unter Berufung auf NZZ) Max Göldi und Rachid Hamdani wurden im Juli 2008 in Libyen festgenommen. Die Schweizer Armee wollte sie befreien. Ein internes Papier gibt erstmals detaillierten Einblick in die geplanten Aktionen.

Die Libyen-Affäre sorgt weiterhin für Zunder im Bundesrat. Zwar hat sich die Regierung selber ein Redeverbot zu allem was Libyen anbelangt auferlegt, bis die Geschäftsprüfungskommission ihre Untersuchung zu Libyen abgeschlossen hat. Es wird erwartet, dass sie noch im Herbst ihren Bericht abliefern. Trotzdem dringen immer mehr Details zu den geplanten Befreiungsaktionen an die Öffentlichkeit.

So hat am Samstag die Westschweizer Zeitung «Le Temps» Einzelheiten der Befreiungsaktionen ausgebreitet. Heute doppelte die «NZZ am Sonntag» nach, indem sie den «Entwurf eines Aussprachepapiers» von Außenministerin Micheline Calmy-Rey zitierte. Wie Blick.ch schon im Juni berichtet hat, wird darin erstmals bestätigt, dass im Auswärtigen Amt und im VBS drei Befreiungsaktionen in Planung waren. Laut diesem Papier trugen die Einsatzkonzepte die Namen, SAKR, SAKR DUE und SAKR TRE. Sie stammen vom 3. November 2008, 8. Januar 2009 und eben vom 4. Mai 2009. Weit fortgeschritten waren die Pläne für SARK Due. Angehörige des Aufklärungsdetachements AAD10 führten in allen drei Fällen zivile Erkundungsmissionen im Ausland durch.

Auch Aussagen des früheren Nachrichtenkoordinators und damaligen Chefs des politischen Sekretärs im EDA, Jacques Pitteloud, die er gegenüber der Geschäftsprüfungsdelegation zweite Befreiungsaktion in letzter Minute gestoppt, weil der Nachrichtendienst des Verteidigungsdepartements erfahren hat, dass Libyen von einem befreundeten Staat von den Plänen erfahren hatte. (a)

Der Plan sah dem Bericht zufolge vor, die beiden Männer über einen Nachbarstaat Libyens und unter Mithilfe eines Beduinenstammes zu befreien. (b)

- (a) <http://www.blick.ch/news/schweiz/politik/die-geheimen-libyen-plaene-von-maurer-und-calmy-rey-156846>
- (b) <http://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/schweiz/standard/Befreiungsaktion-erst-im-letzten-Moment-gestoppt/story/26732062>

- (c) <http://de.news.yahoo.com/2/20100919/twl-presse-genf-plante-befreiung-von-in-ae625d2.html>
- (d) <http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/09/20/01-565/>
- (e) http://www.nzz.ch/nachrichten/schweiz/schweizer_militaer_zivil_in_li-byen_1.7604926.html



AUSTRIA

2975/2010 -----

Russischer Polit-Machtkampf im fernen Kitzbüheler „Exil“



(TT) Zwischen Kreml und Moskaus Bürgermeister Luschkow herrscht Eiszeit. Offenbar feiert der in Ungnade gefallene Politiker in Kitzbühel Geburtstag, während Medien in Russland sein politisches Ende verkünden.

Eine Entscheidung dazu könnte der 74-Jährige in Tirol treffen. Offenbar befindet sich Luschkow derzeit in Kitzbühel, wo seine Ehefrau Jelena Baturina (74) das Fünf-Sterne-Hotel Grand Tirolia besitzt. Eine Bestätigung dafür konnte Kitzbühels Bürgermeister Klaus Winkler dafür allerdings nicht liefern. Er wisse nichts von einer Feier erklärte er auf Anfrage der Austria Presseagentur. Wenn es eine Feier gegeben habe, „dürfte sie im Stillen abgelaufen sein“.

Spekulationen darüber, dass der Oberbürgermeister aus dem Urlaub nicht mehr nach Russland zurückkehren würde wies Luschkows Sprecher Sergej Zoj als Spekulation zurück. Nach seinen Worten steuert der Bürgermeister auch während des Urlaubs „die städtische Wirtschaft weiter“. Kommentatoren sehen in der seit Tagen andauernden Kampagne gegen Luschkow laut dpa die schwerste politische Krise in Russland seit zehn Jahren. Der Bürgermeister hatte einen Rücktritt mehrfach abgelehnt. Er habe sich nichts vorzuwerfen, sagte Luschkow dem Fernsehsender Ren-TV am Samstag.

Gründe für einen Abgang könnten nur „fehlende Unterstützung in der Bevölkerung“ oder „Misswirtschaft“ sein. Zugleich wies der bei vielen Russen beliebte Luschkow Vorwürfe zurück, er wolle einen Keil zwischen Präsident Medwedew und Premier Putin treiben, um so die Staatsmacht zu schwächen.

- (a) <http://www.tt.com/csp/cms/sites/tt/Nachrichten/1314868-2/russischer-polit-machtkampf-im-fernen-kitzbueheler-exil.csp>
- (b) <http://www.wirtschaftsblatt.at/archiv/kitzbuehel-statt-moskau-luschkow-im-urlaub-438991/index.do>
- (c) <http://www.zeit.de/politik/ausland/2010-09/putin-moskau-luschkow>
- (d) <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/0,1518,718528,00.html>
- (e) Kremlin Wants Him Out, But Moscow's Mayor Isn't Going Without A Fight:
http://www.rferl.org/content/Kremlin_Wants_Him_Out_But_Moscows_Mayor_Isnt_Going_Without_A_Fight/2159890.html

2976/2010 -----

Enthüllungen werfen einen Schatten auf Bruno Kreisky

(Die Presse) Der israelischen Historiker Tom Segev präsentierte am Mittwoch in Wien seine Wiesenthal-Biografie. Die Enthüllungen werfen einen Schatten auf Bruno Kreisky. Er habe in Wiesenthal einen gefährlichen Gegner gesehen.

Es war der Briefbomber Franz Fuchs, der die beiden Männer in den Neunzigerjahren, wenn auch ungewollt, einander näher brachte. Als Generaldirektor für die öffentliche Sicherheit suchte Michael Sika damals Simon Wiesenthal auf, der ins Visier des Serienattentäters geraten war. In vielen, teils langen Gesprächen entwickelte sich wenn schon keine Freundschaft, so doch ein Verhältnis, das von gegenseitiger Sympathie getragen wurde. „Wir waren gut miteinander“, sagt Sika, heute 77, zur „Presse“.

Die Enthüllungen des israelischen Historikers Tom Segev, der seine druckfrische Wiesenthal-Biografie heute, Mittwoch, in Wien präsentiert, geben Sika nun einiges zu denken auf. Stand der Nazijäger tatsächlich zehn Jahre lang im Sold des israelischen Geheimdienstes Mossad? Ließ ihn Bundeskanzler Bruno Kreisky mit Hilfe des gesamten Staatsapparates bespitzeln?

Sika, dessen Karriere erst am Anfang stand, als der Konflikt zwischen Kreisky und Wiesenthal zu eskalieren drohte, bezweifelt jedenfalls Segevs zweite Behauptung: Nie hätte der Nazijäger eine Bespitzelung erwähnt. Er kenne außerdem die damalige Staatspolizei und viele ihrer Mitarbeiter: „Ich habe nie etwas in diese Richtung gehört. Aber das heißt natürlich gar nichts.“

Doch „Beobachtungen“ durch die Staatspolizei scheinen damals eher die Regel denn die Ausnahme gewesen zu sein. Es gebe in Österreich eine lange Tradition des Bespitzelns, sagt der Zeithistoriker Oliver Rathkolb. Die Behörden seien bisweilen auch aus Eigeninteresse aktiv geworden, nicht nur nach Aufträgen. Hannes Androsch, Finanzminister unter Kreisky, beschrieb es in der „Presse“ vor Kurzem so: „Wir alle, die eigenen Minister, sind unter Observierung der Staatspolizei gestanden.“

http://diepresse.com/home/politik/zeitgeschichte/594505/index.do?_vl_backlink=/home/politik/zeitgeschichte/index.do

2977/2010 -----

Kreiskys Ex-Sekretär: "Keine systematische Überwachung Wiesenthals"

(Standard) er frühere Bosnien-Beauftragte und ehemalige Sekretär des verstorbenen Bundeskanzlers Bruno Kreisky, Wolfgang Petritsch, hat Aussagen des israelischen Historikers Tom Segev widersprochen, wonach der "Nazijäger" Simon Wiesenthal systematisch überwacht worden sei. "Segev neigt zu Übertreibungen, es hat keine systematische Überwachung gegeben", sagte Petritsch Mittwochabend.

Petritsch, dessen Buch über Kreisky im Oktober erscheinen soll, äußerte sich im Anschluss an eine Präsentation der neuen, von Segev verfassten Wiesenthal-Biographie im Jüdischen Museum in Wien. Bei einem vom Journalisten Michael Kerbler moderierten Podiumsgespräch, bei dem auch Tonaufnahmen Wiesenthals eingespielt wurden, bekräftigte der israelische Historiker seine Vorwürfe gegenüber Kreisky. Dieser habe Wiesenthal "ungeheures Unrecht" getan und ihn aushorchen lassen. Der frühere Bosnien-Beauftragte und Botschafter widersprach dem und sagte, er habe bei seinen

Recherchen dieselben Dokumente einsehen können wie Segev. Wäre Wiesenthal systematisch überwacht worden, hätte man leicht herausgefunden, dass der Nazi-Jäger für den Mossad gearbeitet habe, wie Segev in seinem Buch enthüllt habe. Segev hatte zuvor zu dem Thema gemeint, es sei falsch, Wiesenthal als Agenten oder Spion zu bezeichnen, der auch Illegales gemacht haben müsse. "Der Mossad arbeitete für Wiesenthal", meinte er.

<http://derstandard.at/1282979871000/Wurde-Wiesenthal-ueberwacht-Petritsch-widerspricht-Segev>

2978/2010 -----

Diskussion um Wehrpflicht

(OÖN) Auf Ablehnung stoßen die jüngsten Vorschläge von Michael Spindelegger (VP). Der Außenminister hatte sich dafür ausgesprochen, die Wehrpflicht zu reformieren und gegebenenfalls ganze Jahrgänge nicht einzuberufen. Das Bundesheer soll demnach kleiner werden.

Derzeit verfügt das Heer über eine Mobilmachungsstärke von rund 55.000 Mann: 16.500 Berufssoldaten, 27.000 Milizsoldaten und im Schnitt 12.000 Grundwehrdiener. Sie sind für Landesverteidigung, Auslandseinsätze und Katastrophenschutz zuständig.

SP-Verteidigungsminister Norbert Darabos hatte die Pläne umgehend zurückgewiesen. Er erinnerte seinen Ministerkollegen an den Koalitionspakt, in dem sich die Regierung zur Wehrpflicht bekennt.

„Ich halte von solchen absurden, idiotischen Vorschlägen gar nichts“, wettete FP-Chef Heinz-Christian Strache. Er ist strikt dagegen, ganze Jahrgänge nicht einzuberufen. Es schade nicht, wenn jeder Österreicher eine Zeit lang seine Verantwortung wahrnehme.

Das BZÖ vermutet einen Wahlkampfschmäh. BZÖ-Vize Herbert Scheibner forderte die Volkspartei auf, in der Frage der Wehrpflicht endlich Farbe zu bekennen. (a)

ACIPSS-Newsletter-Kommentar: Die Art und Weise, wie und das Niveau auf welchem die Debatte um die allgemeine Wehrpflicht derzeit geführt wird, ist besorgniserregend. So sei „Österreichs Mehrheit gegen die Wehrpflicht“! (b) Na so eine Überraschung! Gleiche Mehrheiten sind in Umfragen wahrscheinlich auch für die Abschaffung der Steuern und - damit verbunden - der Finanzämter zu finden. „Sechs Monate Bundesheer sind eine reine Zeitverschwendung!“ (c) Gefragt wurden vornehmlich 15 - 17-Jährigen, die (noch) keine eigene Wahrnehmung von der Materie haben können.

Das Beste zum Schluss: Die Grünen und die Kronenzeitung gehen bei diesem Thema eine seltsame, bizarre Allianz ein, indem sich das Massenblatt als Plattform für die grüne „Drohung“: „Abschaffung oder Volksbegehren“ hergibt. Die Grünen fordern sogar eine Aussetzung der Wehrpflicht, damit die Einberufungstermine 3. Jänner 2011 in Wien und 10. Jänner in der Steiermark „nicht mehr wahrgenommen werden müssen“. (d) Für die Genannten gilt natürlich die Unschuldsvermutung, dass dies in engem Zusammenhang mit den Wahlen der nächsten Wochen (arg. Stimmenfang) steht.

Um nicht missverstanden zu werden: Dieser Kommentar richtet sich nicht gegen die Debatte als solche, das Thema ist viel zu sensibel (NATO, Neutralität) und komplex (Auslandseinsätze), um ein einem Kommentar abgehandelt werden zu können. Im Lichte der Umwälzungen bei den Armeen Europas war es nur eine Frage der Zeit, bis auch in Österreich diese Diskussion geführt wird. Aber, bitte, doch nicht so!

- (a) <http://www.nachrichten.at/nachrichten/politik/innenpolitik/art385,464690>
- (b) Kronenzeitung, 21.09.2010, Titel, S. 2f.
- (c) Kronenzeitung, 21.09.2010, Titel, S. 10f.
- (d) Kronenzeitung, 22.09.2010, Titel, S. 2f.

2979/2010 -----

CIA-Vize-Direktor auf Kurzbesuch in Österreich

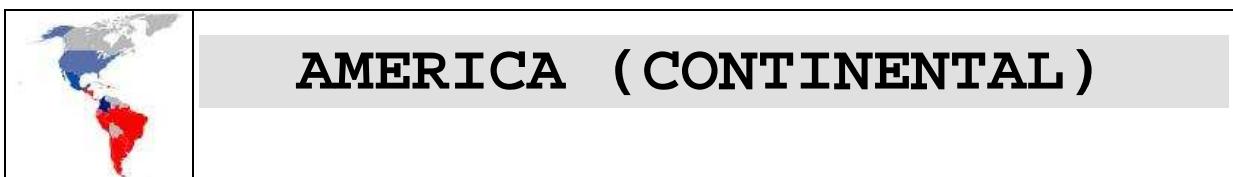


(Krone) Erneut streng geheimes Agenten-Versteckspiel auf dem Rollfeld in Wien-Schwechat: Der Vize-Direktor des amerikanischen CIA landete am Freitagvormittag mit seiner eigenen Security völlig abgeschirmt in Österreich. Um der US-Botschaft in der Bundeshauptstadt einen Besuch abzustatten, wie aus Insiderkreisen zu erfahren war.

Beeindruckend sanft setzte das rund 200 Tonnen schwere "Flug-Monstrum", eine C-17 der US-Air-Force, am Freitagvormittag auf dem Rollfeld auf. Unter strengster Geheimhaltung - niemand durfte wissen, dass der Vize-Direktor des CIA, Michael J. Morell, österreichischen Boden betritt.

Wenig später öffnete der Flieger auch schon sein Riesenmaul am Heck. Drei gepanzerte Geländewagen rollten aus dem Bauch der C-17-Maschine und holten den Geheimdienstvertreter zweithöchsten Ranges von der Ausstiegsrampe ab. Um schließlich im Konvoi in Richtung Wien zu fahren. Angeblich für eine Stippvisite bei der US-Botschaft. Über die Hintergründe des CIA-Besuchs hüllt man naturgemäß den Mantel des Schweigens. Der heimischen Polizei blieb die Beobachter-Rolle. Der Vize-Direktor der CIA hatte seine eigenen Fahrzeuge und Security-Männer im Gepäck.

http://www.krone.at/Wien/CIA-Vize-Direktor_auf_Kurzbesuch_in_Oesterreich-Geheimlandung-Story-221092



2980/2010 -----

CSIS says it didn't abuse any Afghans

(thechronicleherald) Canada's spy service admits interrogating up to 50 Afghan prisoners captured by the Canadian Forces, but insists they were never mistreated, federal documents reveal.

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service's involvement in interviewing suspected Taliban fighters alongside military intelligence officers was revealed by The Canadian Press last March, though details have remained largely cloaked in secrecy. Briefing notes prepared for CSIS director Dick Fadden take pains to emphasize the conduct of agents has been above reproach and that the spy agency is bound "in every instance by the law, ministerial directives and internal policies."

The documents, obtained under the Access to Information Act, were drawn up to brief Fadden for a June interview with the CBC, which did not ask him about the CSIS role in Afghanistan. "CSIS officers have been serving alongside the Canadian Forces and willingly share some of the risks faced by our soldiers," say the notes, which acknowledge the spies were armed.

The briefing materials lift the curtain ever so slightly on the agency's activities, but also raise more questions in the mind of a legal expert.

University of Ottawa law professor Errol Mendes said the notes raise the spectre of spies travelling along with soldiers in combat – or perhaps taking part in ultra-secret special forces operations. Such actions exceed CSIS's legislated mandate, he said.

- (a) <http://thechronicleherald.ca/Canada/1202892.html>
- (b) <http://www.ctvbc.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20100919/csis-afghan-interrogations-100919/20100919?hub=BritishColumbiaHome>

2981/2010 -----

Ottawa querying Libya on Canadian held as US spy

(AFP) he Canadian government said Monday it is seeking "more information" about a Canadian national who is suspected of industrial espionage on behalf of the United States and has been prevented from leaving Libya.

"We're aware that a Canadian citizen is presently in Tripoli, Libya and is not in a position to leave the country," Melissa Lantsman, a spokeswoman for Canada's foreign affairs department, told AFP in an email. "The Canadian mission in Tripoli is working with local officials in order to get more information, and is offering him consular services," she added.

The newspaper Oea earlier reported that Douglas Oriali, a Canadian who also has Australian and Irish citizenship, was prevented from leaving Libya for security reasons. He is suspected of working with US intelligence "to gather information aiming to ensure the failure of a drilling project off the Libyan coast by Britain's BP," the newspaper said.

The paper quoted "a senior official" as saying that Oriali said on arriving in the North African country that he was an archaeologist visiting Libya as a tourist. Oriali was placed under surveillance, the official said, adding he was then prevented from leaving the country after "contacts with a US diplomat in Libya who is suspected of being an intelligence agent."

The Canadian embassy, contacted by AFP, refused to comment.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hQXvbF9iJg9sY7bMSCQ_SyEl dXQg

2982/2010 -----

Cross-border human smuggling tilted twrd Canada, border intel report

More people were caught trying to sneak into Canada at remote border points with the United States in 2008 than the other way around, a newly released intelligence report reveals.

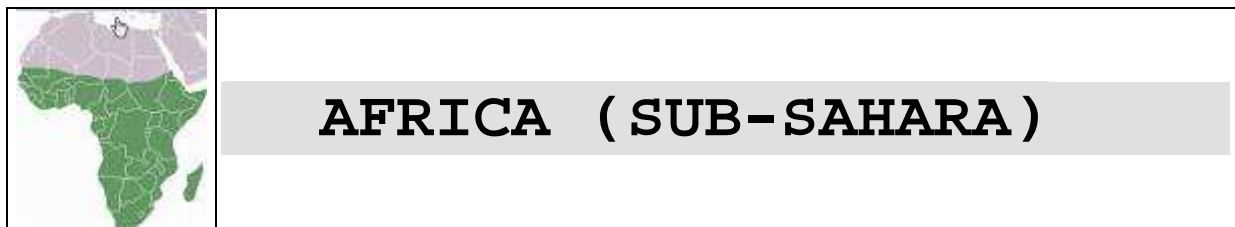
It was the second straight year that continental human smuggling and other surreptitious crossings tilted in Canada's direction. The RCMP attributes

the trend to factors including a U.S. crackdown on undocumented workers, more American agents along the border and the shaky state of the U.S. economy. The figures, the latest available, show 952 people were caught entering Canada between legitimate border crossings, while 819 were U.S.-bound.

The numbers appear in the 2009 Integrated Border Enforcement Team threat assessment report, obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act. The 15 binational teams strung along the border include members of the RCMP, the Canada Border Services Agency, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Service, the U.S. Coast Guard and other American agencies. They work at strategic points between border crossings to thwart smugglers of everything from people and drugs to currency and firearms.

Human smuggling groups identified by the teams have international contacts and focused in 2008 on the B.C.-Washington state border as well as the Quebec-New York-Vermont corridor, the report says.

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/breakingnews/cross-border-human-smuggling-tilted-toward-canada-says-border-intelligence-report-103157744.html>



2983/2010 -----

American Marine Commandos operating against pirates

(StrategyPage) On September 9th, a German container ship, seized by pirates off the north coast of Somalia, was retaken by ships from the anti-piracy patrol. The eleven man crew had shut the engines down and got to a safe room as the pirates boarded. Warships showed up shortly and convinced the pirates to leave, or be killed. This was done by sending a platoon of American marines to board the ship and convince the nine pirates that resistance was futile.

The marine force was described as the Maritime Raid Force, a special group of marines trained for just this sort of thing (getting onto a ship controlled by pirates, and quickly overcoming the pirates and rescuing the crew). The concept of having a Maritime Raid Force with a MEU (Marine Expeditionary Unit, a reinforced battalion) arose after the end of the Cold War (1991). MEUs travel on the carrier-like amphibious ships that the U.S. Navy deploys all over the world, usually in conjunction with a carrier task force.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htamph/articles/20100920.aspx>

2984/2010 -----

Amphibious Somali Rebels Caught In The Mountains

(StrategyPage) Eritrea accused Ethiopia of conducting what it called an endless disinformation campaign. Eritrea rejected as completely false a

recent Ethiopian claim that Eritrea had delivered a plane load of weapons and medical supplies to Somalia's Al Shabaab militant Islamist terror organization. Ethiopia claimed the delivery took place on September 3.

The ONLF denied reports that a group of its fighters were surrounded by Somaliland forces. It also denied reports that it had moved a contingent of troops by sea to the Somali coast. The ONLF claimed that its forces had killed 150 Ethiopian soldiers in combat in the towns of Arabi and Shebelle in fights that took place September 13 and 14. Arabi and Shebelle are both located well inside Ethiopian territory.

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/ethiopi/articles/20100917.aspx>

2985/2010 -----

Islamists claim responsibility for Nigerian hostage-taking

(Voice of Russia) The terrorist organization Al-Qaeda of the Islamic Maghreb, has claimed responsibility for kidnapping foreigners in the north of Niger. No demands have been put forward by the kidnappers, according to ITAR-TASS.

On the night of September 16th five French citizens, as well as Malagasy and Congolese nationals, were kidnapped in the African country. At the moment, according to the Intelligence Services of Niger, all the hostages are alive and are in the north of Mali.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/09/22/21640280.html>

2986/2010 -----

Nigeria : Local Taliban Returns

(StrategyPage) So far, about 300 of the 800 prisoners freed by Islamic radicals on the 7th, have returned. Most of these men had nearly completed their sentences, and realized that, technically, participating in a prison break constituted another crime. But about 120 of the escaped prisoners were Boko Haram members, and they have not returned. In July 2009, there was an armed uprising in the north by Boko Haram (translates as "Western education is sinfull"), which consisted of an attack on a police station, to steal weapons and other attacks on non-Moslems and local officials. The police station attack was repulsed and at least 40 of the attackers were killed.

Boko Haram was following in the footsteps of an earlier group called Al Sunna wal Jamma. In the aftermath of the attack, many young Nigerians, angry at the corruption and resulting economic malaise (and unemployment) joined in the violence, and carried out some looting. The police retaliated, arresting thousands of suspects. The police ended up killing 800 people, some of whom were innocent bystanders. But during the interrogation, over 30 Boko Haram admitted that they had travelled to Afghanistan and Pakistan to receive military training from the Taliban.

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/nigeria/articles/20100916.aspx>



2987/2010 -----

Was Stuxnet Built to Attack Iran's Nuclear Program?

(PC World) A highly sophisticated computer worm that has spread through Iran, Indonesia and India was built to destroy operations at one target: possibly Iran's Bushehr nuclear reactor.

That's the emerging consensus of security experts who have examined the Stuxnet worm. In recent weeks, they've broken the cryptographic code behind the software and taken a look at how the worm operates in test environments. Researchers studying the worm all agree that Stuxnet was built by a very sophisticated and capable attacker -- possibly a nation state -- and it was designed to destroy something big.

Though it was first developed more than a year ago, Stuxnet was discovered in July 2010, when a Belarus-based security company discovered the worm on computers belonging to an Iranian client. Since then it has been the subject of ongoing study by security researchers who say they've never seen anything like it before. Now, after months of private speculation, some of the researchers who know Stuxnet best say that it may have been built to sabotage Iran's nukes.

Last week Ralph Langner, a well-respected expert on industrial systems security, published an analysis of the worm, which targets Siemens software systems, and suggested that it may have been used to sabotage Iran's Bushehr nuclear reactor. A Siemens expert, Langner simulated a Siemens industrial network and then analysed the worm's attack.

http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/205827/was_stuxnet_built_to_a_tack_irans_nuclear_program.html

2988/2010 -----

The Web's New Gold Mine: Your Secrets

(Wall Street Journal) A Wall Street Journal investigation finds that one of the fastest growing businesses on the Internet is the business of spying on American consumers.

The Journal conducted a comprehensive study that assesses and analyses the broad array of cookies and other surveillance technology that companies are deploying on Internet users. It reveals that the tracking of consumers has grown both far more pervasive and far more intrusive than is realized by all but a handful of people in the vanguard of the industry.

The study found that the nation's 50 top websites on average installed 64 pieces of tracking technology onto the computers of visitors, usually with no warning. A dozen sites each installed more than a hundred. The nonprofit Wikipedia installed none.

Tracking technology is getting smarter and more intrusive. Monitoring used to be limited mainly to "cookie" files that record websites people visit. But the Journal found new tools that scan in real time what people are doing on a Web page, then instantly assess location, income, shopping

interests and even medical conditions. Some tools surreptitiously re-spawn themselves even after users try to delete them.

These profiles of individuals, constantly refreshed, are bought and sold on stock-market-like exchanges that have sprung up in the past 18 months.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703940904575395073512989404.html>

2989/2010 -----

Commercial Spying: Worse Than We Knew

(techland) The Wall Street Journal, which has been doing great work on Internet privacy, has a disturbing piece today on the way online data companies build "profiles" of your intimate life -- even if you try to stop them by deleting browser cookies. The disclosures are not entirely new -- Wired, for example, has done good reporting on it before -- but the Journal adds a lot to the conversation.

The 50 most popular web sites "placed 3,180 tracking files in total on the Journal's test computer." About "two-thirds--2,224--were installed by 131 companies, many of which are in the business of tracking Web users to create rich databases of consumer profiles that can be sold." Ever notice how slowly pages load in Dictionary.com? That site alone installed 233 separate pieces of tracking software.

<http://techland.com/2010/09/20/commercial-spying-worse-than-we-knew/>

2990/2010 -----

The Google spy: Engineer sacked for hacking teenagers' email accounts

(dailymail) A computer engineer used his privileged status to spy on teenagers' Google email accounts, it has been revealed. David Barksdale, an elite technical engineer, was working for the internet giant in Kirkland, Washington, when he breached the youngsters' privacy.

In a series of worrying actions, the 27-year-old spent months looking at four children's Google accounts without their consent, it was claimed by U.S. website Gawker. The embarrassing revelations came just days after the firm launched its Google Family Safety Centre to help safeguard children when they use the internet.

U.S. website Gawker reported that in one incident earlier this year, Barksdale hacked into Google Voice, its internet phone service, to discover the name of a 15-year-old boy's girlfriend.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/worldnews/article-1312294/Google-engineer-sacked-hacking-teenagers-accounts-befriend-them.html>

2991/2010 -----

Sienna Miller: Spion hackt sich in ihr Handy

(promiflash) Sienna Miller (28) verklagt die Zeitung News of the World und Scotland Yard. Angeblich wurde ein Spion eingesetzt um private Informationen aus Siennas Leben herauszufinden.

Das britische Nachrichtenmagazin Guardian behauptet auf seinem Online-Portal, dass Sienna bereits 2008 die Boulevardzeitung News of the World auf Schadensersatz verklagte. Private Details aus ihrem Liebesleben und intime Bilder wurden angeblich von der Zeitung veröffentlicht.

Jetzt stellt die Boulevardzeitung den Privatdetektiv Glenn Mulcaire ein, der Telefonnummern, Kontonummern und die PIN-Nummer der Voicemail aus dem Speicher ihres Handys hackte und somit an Nachrichten ihres Anrufbeantworters gelangte. Scotland Yard ließ den Spion bereits im Jahr 2006 verhaften. Allerdings hielten sie es nicht für nötig, Sienna einzuweißen, geschweige denn anderen möglichen Opfern vor ihm zu warnen.

- (a) <http://www.promiflash.de/sienna-miller/201009170915-sienna-miller-spion-hackt-sich-in-ihr-handy>
- (b) <http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2010/sep/14/sienna-miller-phone-hacking-scandal-legal-action>

2992/2010 -----

Nasty Twitter Worm Outbreak

(Krebs) Several new Internet worms are spreading quite rapidly via a newly-found vulnerability in Twitter.com. While the flaw that powers these attackers will most likely be sewn shut in a matter of hours, if you're going to frequent Twitter today you'd be wise to use a Twitter client or at least block Javascript on the site, as these worms appear to be spreading with little or no interaction on the part of users.

According to security firm F-Secure Corp., the trouble started earlier today, when several worms began quickly spreading by leveraging a cross-site scripting vulnerability in Twitter that used "onmouseover" techniques, meaning it was enough to move your computer mouse on top of a malicious Tweet to resend the nasty message to all of your followers.

The initial worms apparently began as a proof-of-concept, but a number of new Tweets in the Twitter trending topics page indicate that newer versions are silently redirecting victim PCs to fetch more malicious payloads.

http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/09/nasty-twitter-worm-outbreak/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KrebsOnSecurity+%28Krebs+on+Security%29

2993/2010 -----

On Web, Children Face Intensive Tracking

(Wall Street Journal) A Wall Street Journal investigation into online privacy has found that popular children's websites install more tracking technologies on personal computers than do the top websites aimed at adults.

The Journal examined 50 sites popular with U.S. teens and children to see what tracking tools they installed on a test computer. As a group, the sites placed 4,123 "cookies," "beacons" and other pieces of tracking technology. That is 30% more than were found in an analysis of the 50 most popular U.S. sites overall, which are generally aimed at adults.

The most prolific site: Snazzyspace.com, which helps teens customize their social-networking pages, installed 248 tracking tools. Its operator

described the site as a "hobby" and said the tracking tools come from advertisers.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703904304575497903523187146.html>

2994/2010 -----

Google Adds 2-Factor Security to Gmail, Apps

(Krebs) Google said today that it will begin offering users greater security protections for signing in to Gmail and other Google Apps offerings. This "two-step verification" process – which requires participating users to input a user ID, password and six-digit code sent to their mobile phones – effectively means Google will be offering more secure authentication than many U.S. financial institutions currently provide for their online banking customers.

http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/09/google-adds-2-factor-security-to-gmail-apps/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KrebsOnSecurity+%28Krebs+on+Security%29

2995/2010 -----

Islamistische Propaganda im Social Web

(ORF) Fast neun Jahre ist es her, dass der damalige US-Präsident George W. Bush den "Kampf gegen den Terror" ausgerufen hat. In dieser Zeit hat sich auch die Aktivität von islamistischen Propagandisten verstärkt – auch im Internet. Vor allem das Social Web dient den virtuellen Dschihadisten als Bühne, wie eine Studie der Landesverteidigungsakademie zeigte.

Oliver Dengg vom Institut für Human- und Sozialwissenschaft der österreichischen Landesverteidigungsakademie hat das Verhalten islamistischer Propagandisten in seiner Studie "Der Dschihad und das Mitmach-Netz" unter die Lupe genommen.

Dengg, Kommunikationswissenschaftler im Rang eines Obersten, wertete im Rahmen der bereits im April veröffentlichten Studie Sekundärquellen wie andere Studien und Zeitungsartikel aus. Darüber hinaus untersuchte Dengg die Auftritte von Islamisten im Sozialen Web. Vor allem in den letzten Jahren sei die Anzahl der Seiten mit radikal-islamischen Inhalten explodiert, so Dengg: "Auf Plattformen wie YouTube und Facebook haben sich regelrechte Fanggemeinschaften gebildet, die ihre Videos und Bilder hochladen und rege miteinander diskutieren."

<http://futurezone.orf.at/stories/1662136/>

2996/2010 -----

Mit Hilfe GPS-Funktion lassen sich Smartphone-Besitzer ausspionieren

(20min) Praktisch in jedem besseren Handy befindet sich heute ein Empfänger für das Global Positioning System (GPS). Dieser bestimmt die Position des Telefons auf wenige Meter genau. Die Technik hilft, Adressen, Freunde und gute Beizen zu finden, kann sich aber auch als Schnüffelhelfer oder digitale Fessel entpuppen.

GPS-Empfänger ermitteln zwar die eigene Position, können diese aber nicht an die Satelliten zurückübermitteln. Einfache Navigationssysteme mit integrierten Kartendaten und ohne Internetanbindung sind deshalb diskrete Wegbegleiter. Oder GPS-Logger speichern in Zeitabständen die Position und können so später den Besitzer über zurückgelegte Strecken informieren.

Verräterischer sind dagegen moderne, interaktive Navigationssysteme sowie die meisten Handy-Navi-Lösungen. Denn diese übermitteln Positionsdaten an Dritte. Wer beispielsweise auf seinem Mobiltelefon den Kartendienst von Google Maps nutzt, erhält zwar aus dem Internet eine hübsche Straßenkarte passend zur aktuellen Position auf den Handy-Bildschirm geliefert. Im Gegenzug erfährt allerdings Google, wo sich das Handy befindet.

<http://www.20min.ch/digital/hardware/story/22450091>

2997/2010 -----

Iranischem "Blogfather" droht Todesstrafe

(presstext.at) Die iranische Regierung geht weiter mit ungebrochener Härte gegen die regimekritische Opposition im Internet vor. Für Aufregung sorgt derzeit insbesondere der Fall eines im November 2008 inhaftierten Online-Bloggers, der neben anderen Anklagepunkten beschuldigt wird, als israelischer Spion tätig gewesen zu sein. Wie das internationale Anti-Zensur-Netzwerk Global Voices unter Berufung auf vertrauenswürdige Quellen berichtet, droht Hossein Derakhshan, so der Name des mittlerweile im Web als Held gefeierten Angeklagten, nun sogar die Todesstrafe.

<http://www.presstext.at/news/100922024/iranischem-blogfather-droht-todesstrafe/>



SPYCRAFT

2998/2010 -----

Solar-powered spy plane will be able to fly non-stop for 5 years

(dailymail) Boeing is developing a solar-powered unmanned aircraft that will be able to fly non-stop for more than five years.



The SolarEagle is designed to soar in the upper atmosphere for years on end, constantly sending surveillance and intelligence information back to the ground. Darpa, the US military's has given Boeing an \$89 million contract to develop a Solar Eagle demonstrator vehicle which will make its first flight in 2014.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1313552/The-solar-powered-spy-plane-able-fly-non-stop-FIVE-years.html>

2999/2010 -----

Japan Builds A Better GPS

(StrategyPage) Japan recently launched the first of three QZSS navigation satellites. These are to complement the current American GPS satellites. QZSS is meant to overcome the interference (to GPS signals) from the many mountains and tall buildings in Japan. When all three of the four ton QZSS satellites are operational, Japanese GPS users will get a signal 99.8 percent of the time, rather than the current 90 percent. While QZSS broadcasts a similar signal, special receivers will be required to use the QZSS signals.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htm/htspace/articles/20100922.aspx>

3000/2010 -----

spy.appspot analyses social media, for free !

(spy.appspot) spy can listen in on the social media conversations visualizes the conversations (on Twitter, Friendfeed, Flickr, Blogs and more), you're interested in.

<http://www.spy.appspot.com/>

ACIPSS-newsletter-commentary: Though considered a "fun project", this site proved to be quite effective in a test run conducted by the newsletter staff.

3001/2010 -----

BlackBerry-Tablet kurz vor Start

(ORF) Wie das "Wall Street Journal" (WSJ) am Mittwoch unter Berufung auf Insider berichtet hat, soll BlackBerry-Hersteller Research in Motion (RIM) anlässlich einer Entwicklerkonferenz kommende Woche in San Francisco seinen eigenen Tablet-Computer vorstellen.

Das Gerät höre auf den Codenamen BlackPad und solle noch im vierten Quartal dieses Jahres auf den Markt kommen. Es werde über einen 7"-Touchscreen, eine oder zwei eingebaute Kameras sowie über Bluetooth verfügen. Das Tablet könne sich nur über ein BlackBerry-Smartphone via Mobilfunk mit dem Netz verbinden. Das Gerät werde als CPU einen Chip des kalifornischen Herstellers Marvell verwenden und vom taiwanesischen Produzenten Quanta zusammengebaut werden.

Interessanter als die Hardware-Spezifikationen ist das Gerücht über das eingesetzte Betriebssystem. Hier soll nicht das BlackBerry-OS Version 6 zum Einsatz kommen, sondern das unlängst zugekaufte Echtzeit-Betriebssystem QNX, das als außerordentlich stabil gilt. RIM plane die Migration auf QNX. RIM hält derzeit rund 18 Prozent des Smartphone-Weltmarkts. Das Unternehmen steht in starker Konkurrenz zu Apple und Googles Android-System.

<http://futurezone.orf.at/stories/1662877/>



INTELL HISTORY

3002/2010 -----

Nobel literature winner Mueller shocked: hero was enemy spy

(Nobel literature winner Mueller shocked: hero was enemy spy) Herta Mueller, current holder of the Nobel Prize for Literature, was in shock Friday after the revelation that the real-life hero of her latest anti-totalitarian novel had actually been a communist spy.

Romanian-born Mueller, who lives in Berlin, received the prize last December for her chilling books about the cruelty of communism and her own persecution by Romania's Securitate secret police. Last year, she published a novel, entitled *Atemschaukel* (rocking of breath) in German, about a homosexual Romanian who is locked up by the Soviets in a Ukrainian gulag where many people starve to death.

Her close friend, Oskar Pastior, helped her till his sudden death in 2006 to write it. It was based on his true story. On Thursday, a literary scholar revealed that Pastior, a poet and an ethnic German like Mueller, had been a traitor. Using the code name 'Otto Stein,' he worked as an informer from 1961 to 1968 for the Securitate, documents in Bucharest show.

http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/europe/news/article_1585294.php/Nobel-literature-winner-Mueller-shocked-hero-was-enemy-spy-Roundup

3003/2010 -----

Funeral of former spy Eileen Nearne to take place



(BBC) Hundreds of mourners are expected at the funeral of a World War II heroine whose work as a British spy only became known after her death.

Eileen Nearne, 89, died in her home in Torquay, Devon, on 2 September, after suffering a heart attack. It was only afterwards that friends and neighbours learned of her secret past. As a young woman she was recruited by the Special Operations Executive and was captured by the Nazis in France but never talked about it.

Miss Nearne did not appear to have any known relatives when she died and the local council entered her flat a few days later so that funeral arrangements could be made.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-11379629>

3004/2010 -----

Pope Benedict pays tribute to Britain's sacrifices in fighting Nazis

(Telegraph) Britain's "courageous resistance" to the "evil ideology" of Nazism was honoured by the Pope as he spoke to a crowd of more than 50,000 in Birmingham.

Benedict XVI said it was "deeply moving" to recall the sacrifices made by Britons during the Second World War and paid particular tribute to nearby Coventry, which was heavily bombed during the Battle of Britain 70 years ago. Speaking at the Beatification Mass for Cardinal John Henry Newman in Cofton Park, near where the Victorian theologian was buried, the Pope said the destruction of the conflict should be remembered with "shame and horror".

His words were particularly significant given controversy over his own wartime record. As a 14 year-old growing up in Germany, the then Joseph Ratzinger was drafted into the Hitler Youth and later enlisted in the anti-aircraft corps. More recently he has been urged to slow down the canonisation process for the controversial Pope Pius XII, who is accused of not doing enough to prevent the Holocaust.

Yet in his homily during the Beatification Mass, the culmination of his four-day visit to Britain, Benedict made clear his opposition to Nazism. He said: "This particular Sunday also marks a significant moment in the life of the British nation, as it is the day chosen to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/religion/the-pope/8011924/Pope-visit-Benedict-pays-tribute-to-Britains-sacrifices-in-fighting-Nazis.html>

3005/2010 -----

The CIA Museum ... OSS Escape and Evasion Map

(CIA) he CIA Museum is home to many interesting artefacts associated with the Central Intelligence Agency's predecessor, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS); foreign intelligence organizations; and the CIA itself. The following article is the fifth in a series that will explore the Agency's amazing history through the artefacts in the CIA Museum. This article focuses on the escape and evasion map.

<https://www.cia.gov/news-information/featured-story-archive/2010-featured-story-archive/oss-escape-and-evasion-map.html>

3006/2010 -----

Ex-Geheimdienstler: US-Spione waren in sowjetischer Führung

(RIAN) Unter sowjetischen Top-Politikern hat es ausländische Spione gegeben, behauptet der russische Geheimdienst-Veteran Juri Drosdow. Er erklärt, warum Russland heute Agenten im Ausland braucht.

Einige ranghohe Staatsbeamte in der UdSSR hätten als Amerikas Agenten auf der schwarzen Liste gestanden. Wladimir Krjutschkow, Leiter der Auslandsaufklärung des KGB im Zeitraum von 1974 bis 1988, habe diese Liste „nicht aus der Luft gegriffen“, betonte Drosdow in einem Interview mit der „Rossijskaja Gaseta“. Er war Krjutschkows Stellvertreter gewesen.

Jeder Staat brauche eine Auslandsaufklärung, so Drosdow weiter. Um seine „Beziehungen mit der Welt richtig aufzubauen und voranzukommen“, müsse auch Russland „gut ausgerüstete und allseitig ausgebildete“ Agenten im Ausland haben.

„Warum sollen wir darauf verzichten, was alle Großmächte nutzen? Man muss ein ausführliches Bild der politischen Landschaft haben und die künftige Strategie sorgfältig planen. Ohne Auslandsaufklärung ist das nicht möglich“, sagte Drosdow, der unter anderem in China und den USA verdeckt gearbeitet hatte.

http://de.rian.ru/security_and_military/20100917/257296508.html

3007/2010 -----

Former detective reveals how outspoken Bishop Muge met his death

(nation.co.ke) Had the Kiplagat team, which is supposed to dig out the truth from Kenya's past, started off on the right footing, Kenyans would already have been treated to shocking details about their political past.

And it might just happen if they take up testimony from a former intelligence officer, James Lando Khwatenge, who has stepped out, saying the time has come to speak out on the atrocities committed in the 1980s and early 1990s by agents of the now defunct Directorate of State Intelligence. The dreaded torture machine for the Moi government was commonly referred to as the Special Branch and Mr Khwatenge, who worked with the agency, says he knows the chilling details only too well.

He has contacted the Truth Justice and Reconciliation Commission to give his side of the story and provide highlights of what might turn out to be controversial revelations. Mr Khatwenge, who left the security service as inspector in 1992, is waiting for his chance at the witness stand to tell Kenyans what he knows about the operations of the defunct State agency and the men and women they marked for torture and death.

Their only crime was challenging the government at a time when dissent was suicidal. Anglican bishop Alexander Kipsang Muge was one of the many marked men. One of the Kanu hawks who had issued threats against the bishop was then Cabinet minister Peter Okondo. He had warned the bishop that should he step into Busia, he would not leave alive.

But Bishop Muge was not a man to take such threats. He was committed to the justice he lived and died for and he believed in speaking the truth. Bishop Alexander Kipsang Muge, the cleric who died in a tragic road accident many, including former intelligence officer James Khwatenge (inset), suspected was planned.

<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/Former%20detective%20reveals%20how%20Bishop%20Muge%20met%20his%20death%20/-/1056/1013658/-/11qwjl4z/-/>

3008/2010 -----

Anschlag auf das Münchner Oktoberfest 1980 wird neu aufgerollt

(DER SPIEGEL) Vor 30 Jahren riss eine Bombe auf dem Münchner Oktoberfest 13 Personen in den Tod, Hunderte wurden verletzt. Jetzt wollen Politiker und Opferanwälte den Fall neu aufrollen.

DER SPIEGEL 37/2010, S. 69f.

3009/2010 -----

A Scots spy with a talent for poetry

(Scotsman) AMONG the most prominent Scots who worked for MI6 was Compton MacKenzie, who would go on to write Whisky Galore, and whose literary sensibilities were proudly displayed in the official reports he despatched back to Britain. It would also lead him to become the first person from MI6 prosecuted under the Official Secrets Act.

As head of the Eastern Mediterranean Special Intelligence Bureau (EMSIB) during the First World War, he was reputed to have sent reports in blank verse. As one reply read: "We like your poetical reports immensely. Please send more."

By 1917, MacKenzie had created a lavishly resourced Aegean Intelligence Service with a staff of 39 officers, a 200-tonne ex-royal yacht and a monthly budget of £5,000, the equivalent of more than £200,000 today. While his colleagues at the domestic secret service, MI5, complained of his "extravagant verbiage", they also praised him and said: "However flamboyant his methods, they irritate and unsettle the local Boche."

He ran into trouble with the government in 1932 when he published the third volume of his war memories, Greek Memories, in which he alluded to the identify of 'C', the head of MI6, which was kept secret at the time.

<http://news.scotsman.com/news/A-Scots-spy-with-a.6544017.jp>

3010/2010 -----

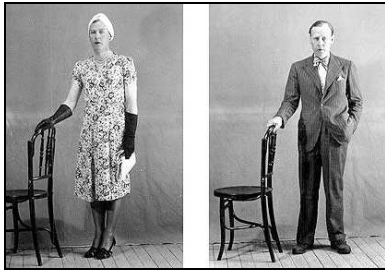
Gross: British spy agency 'used bodily fluids as invisible ink'

(dvice) Here's something Britain's Secret Intelligence Service – also known as the MI6 of James Bond fame – probably doesn't want you to know. Frankly, we don't know if we wanted to know, either. Apparently, a fellow named Cummings found a certain bodily fluid could double as invisible ink. Guess which fluid!

You really can't make this stuff up sometimes. The man? Mansfield Cumming, the first chief of the SIS. The time? 1915, during the first World War. The invisible ink? Semen.

The then-deputy head of military intelligence at GHQ France, Walter Kirke, wrote in his diary that "C," or Cummings, was "making enquiries for invisible inks at the London University."

<http://dvice.com/archives/2010/09/gross-british-s.php>

MI6's cross-dressing spy

(Telegraph) Among the colourful characters employed by MI6 was Lt Col Dudley Clarke who was arrested in a street in Madrid "dressed down to a brassiere as a woman" according to one report.

Clarke had been running a GCHQ deception operation in Cairo using the cover of a newspaper reporter and had travelled to Madrid to meet Hamilton Stokes, the head of the MI6 station there. After leaving Stokes on October 17 1941, he was arrested by the Spanish police dressed, for no reason ever explained, in women's clothing. He at first told them he was a novelist studying the reactions of men to women in the streets and then that he "was taking the feminine garments to a lady in Gibraltar and thought that he would try them on for a prank."

"This," reported the British Embassy in Madrid to London, "hardly squares with the fact that the garments and shoes fitted him." The police were inclined to believe that Clarke was a "homosexualist" Stokes reported, but the German secret police, the Gestapo, alleged he was a spy.

After four days in custody he was eventually released and returned to Cairo where he "went on to have a brilliant career in deception," according to the new authorised history of the Secret Intelligence Service.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/politics/defence/8017042/MI6s-cross-dressing-spy.html>

**Certified Ethical Hacker Training (NO JOKE !)**

(Securable via Cryptome) Securable, LLC can offer your organization Certified Ethical Hacker training. If you want to stop hackers from invading your network, first you've got to invade their minds. The goal of the ethical hacker is to help the organization take preemptive measures against malicious attacks by attacking the system himself; all the while staying within legal limits. This philosophy stems from the proven practice of trying to catch a thief, by thinking like a thief. As technology advances and organization depend on technology increasingly, information assets have evolved into critical components of survival.

<http://cryptome.org/isp-spy/afcea-spy.zip>

(Repeat: No joke!)

3013/2010 -----

NSA Technical Ship History

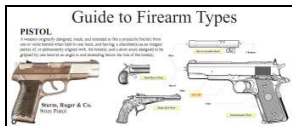
(NSA doc via SCRIBD) Below is a link to a highly redacted, but still provides the broad outlines of policy and history of the NSA/US Navy's Technical Research Ship Program written by Ms. Julie Alger. The history which, according to its preface, was written in early Spring 1970, is an early account of the NSA/US Navy's Technical Research Ship Program. These ships were floating SIGINT/COMINT/ELINT(1) platforms that collected intelligence from hostile targets by trawling off-shore and scooping up whatever intelligence they could gather. The most famous of these was the USS Liberty which was attacked and nearly sunk by Israeli forces during the Six-Day-War. The USS Pueblo, seized by North Korean forces in 1968, is not mentioned in this report, but was a ship of similar function for a US Navy only program.

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/37693410/NSA-Technical-Ship-Paper>

(Fundamentally redacted, indeed!)

3014/2010 -----

ATF Law Enforcement Guide to Firearm Types



(Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives via public intelligence)

<http://info.publicintelligence.net/ATFfirearms.pdf>

3015/2010 -----

CORRUPTION IN AFGHANISTAN. Bribery as reported by the victims

(UN) Poverty and violence are usually portrayed as the biggest challenges confronting Afghanistan. But ask the Afghans themselves, and you get a different answer: corruption is their biggest worry. As revealed in this new UNODC report, for an overwhelming 59% of the population the daily experience of public dishonesty is a bigger concern than insecurity (54%) and unemployment (52%).

(Report is from January 2010 but nevertheless interesting reading stuff with reference to the current polls.)

<http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Afghanistan/Afghanistan-corruption-survey2010-Eng.pdf>

3016/2010 -----

"The Secret History of MI6, 1909-1949" by Keith Jeffery



(Bloomberg) It has taken a century, but Britain's MI6 intelligence service is finally emerging, blinking, into the light of day.

Until the 1980s, MI6 didn't officially exist. In the 1990s, it got a flashy new headquarters fronting the River Thames. And today its early history has been revealed in "The Secret History of MI6, 1909-1949" by Keith Jeffery, a professor of British history at Queen's University Belfast. Jeffery's book is presented without sensationalism, and it's all the more imposing for that. Espionage buffs will eagerly await the next volume, though we shouldn't hold our breath. As the material becomes more sensitive, who knows how long the security clearance will take?

"The Secret History of MI6" is published by Penguin Press in the U.S. and by Bloomsbury in the U.K. under the title "MI6: The History of the Secret Intelligence Service 1909-1949" (810 pages, \$39.95, 30 pounds).

- (a) <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-09-21/mi6-spies-wallowed-in-edwardian-nudes-covert-blunders-champagne-books.html>
- (b) http://www.mi6.co.uk/sections/articles/literature_history_of_mi6_preview.php3?t=&s=articles&id=02673
- (c) <http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-world/from-bond-to-bizarre-mi6-secrets-20100922-15mah.html>
- (d) <http://derstandard.at/1285042490035/Britischer-Geheimdienst-ist-100-James-Bond-und-die-Realitaet>

3017/2010 -----

Werner Stiller: Der Agent. Mein Leben in drei Geheimdiensten

(Deutsche Welle) Er gilt als der spektakulärste Überläufer: DDR-Agent Werner Stiller wechselte 1979 zum BND, samt geheimen Dokumenten. Darüber schrieb er bereits 1986 ein Buch. Jetzt legt er nach und kritisiert rückblickend den BND.



Bei der Buchpräsentation in Berlin signiert Werner Stiller seine Bücher mit dem Namen Peter Fischer - seiner zweiten Identität, für sein zweites Leben. Nach der Flucht in den Westen hatte er dem Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND) eineinhalb Jahre lang alles erzählt, was er über die Struktur und die Methoden der Staatssicherheit der DDR wusste. Gejagt vom ostdeutschen Geheimdienst konnte der BND Stillers Sicherheit in Westdeutschland nicht mehr garantieren und gab ihn in die Hände des CIA. Der US-amerikanische Geheimdienst sorgte ab 1980 für ein neues Leben als Peter Fischer in den USA. "Ich hab in meinem

ganzen Leben immer das Abenteuer gesucht", erklärt Werner Stiller, alias Peter Fischer, seine Motivation.

Als Abenteurer hat er nicht viel übrig für moralische Fragen. Für die Staatssicherheit habe er nur angefangen zu arbeiten, weil diese ihm eine spätere Tätigkeit im Westen versprochen hatte. Als er merkte, dass daraus nichts werden würde, war klar: Diesen Schritt muss er selbst in die Hand

nehmen. "Aber ich wollte nicht einfach nur abhauen. Dazu hätte ich wirklich mit einigen Auslandsreisen genügend Gelegenheit gehabt. Ich wollte schaden - und zwar so groß wie möglich." Aber auch weitere Erlebnisse beschreibt Stiller erstmalig, allen voran einige schwerwiegende Fehler des BND.

So erzählt Stiller von sogenannten toten Briefkästen, mit deren Hilfe der westdeutsche Geheimdienst mit ihm kommunizieren wollte. Doch diese Briefkästen wären entweder in Zügen angebracht gewesen, die gar nicht in der DDR hielten oder aber an derart exponierten Stellen befestigt, dass es unmöglich gewesen sei, nicht aufzufallen. "Einer dieser toten Briefkästen war in zwei Meter Höhe neben der Berliner Marienkirche versteckt. Da hätte ich eine Leiter mitnehmen müssen, um da dran zu kommen." Das Vorgehen des BND nennt er rückblickend "unprofessionell" und "stümperhaft".

Vor allem hätte der BND das einmalige Insider-Wissen von Stiller, besonders vor dessen Flucht in den Westen, nicht annähernd genutzt: "Wir hätten die ganze Hauptverwaltung Aufklärung verwanzen können. Wenn man einmal so einen Ausweis hatte, gab es keine Kontrolle mehr. Ich hätte dort zehn Mann mit reinschleppen können - wir hätten alles durchsuchen können." Dazu hätte es aber dem BND laut Stiller an Mut gefehlt. "Das waren einfach nur Beamte, die von Geheimdienstarbeit keine Ahnung hatten. Deren größte Sorge galt ihrer Pension." (b)

- (a) Werner Stiller: Der Agent. Mein Leben in drei Geheimdiensten, Ch. Links Verlag, ISBN: 978-3-86153592-8, EUR 19.90
- (b) <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,6011462,00.html>

3018/2010 -----

Intelligence Studies At US Universities: Who Does It?

(via sourcesandmethods and Sribd) One of the questions that seems to pop up with increasing frequency on the fora, blogs and email lists I frequent/subscribe to is "I am interested in a career in intelligence; where can I get a degree?"

William Spracher's recent dissertation, National Security Intelligence Professional Education: A Map of U.S. Civilian University Programs and Competencies, not only answers this important question but also provides the first comprehensive snapshot of intelligence studies programs in the US.

Of particular interest to potential students will be Bill's descriptions of 14 of the most fully developed intel studies programs (beginning on page 136 with a handy summary chart on page 137) and the results of his survey of young intelligence professionals (beginning on page 76). Senior leaders within the intel community are probably going to be interested in the entire dissertation but I found the "crosswalk" of course offerings with ICD 610's intel core competencies (at Appendix C on page 235) to be particularly interesting.

Once caveat, though. This dissertation, as useful as it is, is, in my opinion, just a snapshot of a quickly evolving target. The dissertation was finalized in 2009 and I am sure that some of the info Bill uses was collected even earlier. Bill recommends that the DNI stay on top of the trends in this field and, given the changes I have seen in just the last year or two, it is a recommendation with which I heartily concur.

- (a) <http://sourcesandmethods.blogspot.com/2010/09/intelligence-studies-at-us-universities.html>

- (b) Dissertation: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/37044454/National-Security-Intelligence-Professional-Education-A-Map-of-U-S-Civilian-University-Programs-and-Competencies>

3019/2010 -----

New FRUS Volume Shows Declass Strengths, Weaknesses

(FAS) A new volume of the State Department's official Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS) series on the war in Vietnam, published this month, embodies both the strengths and the weaknesses of the government document declassification program.

The new FRUS volume presents an exceptionally vivid and interesting account of the Nixon Administration's conduct of the war, beginning with the aftermath of the invasion of Cambodia. It also "documents President Nixon's penchant for secret operations and covert warfare." Several such secret operations "are documented in some detail to demonstrate the role of covert actions in support of overt political and military operations."

http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2010/09/frus_vietnam.html



CONFERENCES / LECTURES

3020/2010 -----

MALCON - Malware Conference



Malcon is the worlds first platform bringing together Malware and Information Security Researchers from across the globe to share key research insights into building the next generation malwares. Spread across the world, malcoders now have a common platform to demonstrate expertise, get a new insight and be a part of the global MALCODER community. This conference features keynotes, technical presentations, workshops as well as the EMERGING CHALLENGES of creating undetectable stealthy malware.

Abstract submission deadline	October 15th 2010
Notification of abstract acceptance	October 20th 2010
Final copy of full paper due	November 10th 2010
Workshop and Trainings on Malwares	December 2nd 2010
Malcon Conference, Mumbai	December 3rd 2010
Malcon Presentation, Pune (Clubhack 2010)	December 5th 2010

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<http://malcon.org/>

3021/2010 -----

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



3022/2010 -----

Serial to explore mysterious death of royal spy Christopher Marlowe

(dnaindia) The mysterious death of Christopher Marlowe is set to become the subject of a new British film.

Starring Sam Riley as the legendary 16th century dramatist, the film is based on the late Anthony Burgess's novel, A Dead Man In Deptford. The movie will portray Marlowe as a royal spy for Elizabeth I. It will suggest that his death in a tavern brawl in Deptford at the age of 29 was an assassination ordered by the English secret service. "It's a period thriller with a fascinating, conflicted character who wrote some of the greatest plays in the English language," the Daily Express quoted a source as saying.

The shoot will start early next year with a cast that also includes Ray Winstone and James Purefoy.

- (a) http://www.dnaindia.com/entertainment/report_period-thriller-to-explore-mysterious-death-of-royal-spy-christopher-marlowe_1440273
- (b) http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/entertainment/period-thriller-to-explore-mysterious-death-of-royal-spy_100431051.html

3023/2010 -----

Tom Hardy im Spionagethriller "Dame, König, As, Spion"

(cinefacts) Regisseur Tomas Alfredson ("So finster die Nacht") inszeniert die britische Neuverfilmung von John Le Carres Spionage-Bestseller "Dame,

König, As, Spion" ("Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy"). Für die Rolle des Ricky Tarr konnte nun "Inception"-Darsteller Tom Hardy verpflichtet werden. Ursprünglich war Michael Fassbender für die Rolle vorgesehen, der jedoch aus terminlichen Gründen die Produktion für "X-Men: First Class" wieder verließ.

In der Hauptrolle steht Gary Oldman ("The Book of Eli") als ehemaliger Agent George Smiley vor der Kamera, an seiner Seite sind Ciaran Hinds, Jared Harris, Colin Firth und Benedict Cumberbatch zu sehen.

Die beiden Autoren Bridget O'Connor und Peter Straughan adaptieren den Thriller über einen ehemaligen Agenten, der vom britischen Geheimdienst zurückgerufen wird, um einen russischen Maulwurf unter seinen ehemaligen Kollegen zu enttarnen. Die Dreharbeiten finden derzeit in London statt, ein britischer Kinostart ist für das nächste Jahr vorgesehen.

Bereits in den 70er Jahren erhielt die Romanvorlage eine gleichnamige britische Miniserie "Dame, König, As, Spion" mit Alec Guinness in der Hauptrolle, der dafür mit einem BAFTA Award ausgezeichnet wurde.

<http://www.cinefacts.de/kino-news/22927-tom-hardy-im-spionagethriller-dame-koenig-as-spion.html>

3024/2010 -----

True Lies Lands At ABC



(comicbookresources) ABC, the former home of Lost and Alias, is getting into the James Cameron business. The network has won the race to tell True Lies, Cameron's planned television revival of his 1994 spy movie starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jamie Lee Curtis.

James Hibberd at The Live Feed has the scoop, reporting that ABC "has made a script deal with penalty for the project." True Lies comes courtesy of 20th Century Fox TV, Cameron's Lightstorm Entertainment, and writer/showrunner and co-executive producer Rene Echevarria.

Little is known about the True Lies pilot, other than the fact that Cameron is still involved and the series borrows its title from the critically acclaimed spy thriller. Regardless of the plot, here's hoping that Tom Arnold finds his way to a series regular role.

<http://spinoff.comicbookresources.com/2010/09/20/true-lies-lands-at-abc/>

3025/2010 -----

Moretti in "Jud Süß - Film ohne Gewissen"

(Kurier) Es gebe Rollen, die hätten einen Feierabend, sagt Tobias Moretti. Aber die Rolle des Jud Süß, die gehöre nicht dazu. Zu viel wurde da bei ihm selbst aufgewirbelt - "da hat man keinen Tag frei. Da bleibt man drin." Und Tobias Moretti hat sie glänzend gespielt, die Rolle. In Oskar Roehlers neuem, umstrittenem Film "Jud Süß - Film ohne Gewissen" (Start: 24.09.2010) verkörpert Moretti den österreichischen Schauspieler Ferdinand Marian, zu elenden Ehren gekommen als Hauptdarsteller "Jud Süß" in Veit Harlans üblem, antisemitischem Propaganda-Film von 1940 (siehe unten: Goebbels' Prestige-Projekt).

"Wir wollten keine Person zeigen, die a priori unsympathisch ist. Da gäbe es keine Identifikation", meint Tobias Moretti über die Zwiespältigkeit jenes Mannes, der sich zuerst geweigert hatte, den antisemitischen Part zu übernehmen: "Wir wollten Marian in seinem Feinsinn zeigen, aber auch in seiner Selbstverlogenheit und seiner Schwäche."

Propaganda-Minister Joseph Goebbels hatte die Verfilmung von "Jud Süß" zur Chefsache gemacht und sich Marian, einen aufstrebenden, besonders bei Frauen beliebten Charmeur mit Wiener Schmäh, als Hauptdarsteller in den Kopf gesetzt. Als Marian sich schließlich breitschlagen ließ, nahm er sich vor, seine jüdische Figur so sympathisch wie möglich zu spielen- nicht zuletzt, um sich selbst moralisch zu beruhigen: "Als Schauspieler muss man sich immer, auch wenn man noch so kalkulierend vorgeht, einen Rest von Naivität und Leidenschaft bewahren", analysiert Moretti: "Wenn man sich da seiner eigenen Sache nicht sicher ist, kann es passieren, dass man benutzt wird."

- (a) <http://kurier.at/kultur/2033731.php>
- (b) Kritik des neuen Films von Oskar Roehler („...(historisch verzerrte) Story erzählen kann und klingt daher letztlich einfach unseriös ...")
<http://kurier.at/kultur/2033736.php>
- (c) Offizielle Filmseite: <http://www.jud-suess-film.de/>

„Jud Süß - Film ohne Gewissen“ kommt diese Woche in die österreichischen Kinos

3026/2010 -----

Media alerts

am Do, 23.09. um 03:45 ZDF infokanal
recht & justiz: Der Spionage-Profi
Dauer: 15 min (a)

Beschreibung: Forschern von der Universität des Saarlandes ist es gelungen, gedruckte Texte anhand der Geräusche eines Nadeldruckers zu entschlüsseln. Diese Drucker werden noch dort verwendet, wo es um sensible Daten geht: beim Arzt und für Kontoauszüge.

am Do, 23.09. um 04:05 DMAX
Future Weapons - Tarnkappentechnik
Original-Titel: Stealth
Doku-Reihe

Dauer: 50 min (b)
Beschreibung: Ferngesteuerte Roboter, hoch sensible Radargeräte und Waffensysteme, die den Gegner mittels akustischer Signale außer Gefecht setzen - "Future Weapons" beschäftigt sich mit den neuesten Errungenschaften auf dem Gebiet der Militär-Technik. Ex-Navy Seal Richard Machowicz stellt in der Dokumentar-Serie moderne Hightech-Waffen vor und erklärt deren Machart und Funktionsweise - vom Laserwaffen-System, über "intelligente" Kampf-Dronen, bis hin zur "Cornershot Rifle", einer Handfeuerwaffe, die um die Ecke schießen kann.

am Fr, 24.09. um 07:00 ARD Eins extra
An vordersten Fronten - Kriegsalltag in Afghanistan
12 neue Folgen
Dauer: 45 min (c)

Beschreibung: Der Krieg in Afghanistan ist ein Krieg mit vielen Fronten. Wie operieren die US-Truppen im Kampf gegen die Taliban? Was unternimmt die Bundeswehr? Wie lebt die Bevölkerung und welche Taktik verfolgen die Taliban? Wie unabhängig können die Korrespondenten berichten? Im Frühjahr/Sommer 2010 unternimmt der Filmautor Ashwin Raman mehrere Reisen durch Afghanistan. Er ist auf eigene Faust unterwegs und auf eigenes Risiko, ausgerüstet mit einer kleinen Videokamera und einer kugelsicheren Weste. Das Ziel: möglichst dicht an die Wirklichkeit in Afghanistan herankommen.

am Fr, 24.09. um 21:40 SF zwei
Box Office mit dem Thema: Jud Süß von Oskar Roehler
Filmmagazin

Dauer: 40 min (d)
Beschreibung: Monika Schärer stellt «Eat, Pray, Love» (Regie: Ryan Murphy) vor, den neuen Film mit Julia Roberts. Darin begibt sich der Hollywoodstar auf einen Selbstfindungstrip, der um die halbe Welt führt. Außerdem in der Sendung: «The Town», die zweite Regiearbeit von Ben Affleck, der bereits auf dem Filmfestival von Venedig gefeiert wurde. Und schließlich «Jud Süß» (Regie: Oskar Roehler), in dem die Entstehungsgeschichte des gleichnamigen nationalsozialistischen Propaganda-Films erzählt wird.

am Sa, 25.09. um 15:02 ZDF infokanal
Deckname Annett - Im Netz der Stasi
Szenische Dokumentation
Dauer: 43 min (e)
Beschreibung: Leipzig 1952: Mitten in der Nacht wird Gerhard Staudte von der Stasi aus dem Bett geholt und abgeführt. Zurück bleibt seine Frau Rosel mit dem erst drei Monate alten Sohn. Es folgt ein dramatischer Kampf um Leben und Freiheit, unter dessen Folgen die Beteiligten bis heute leiden.

am Sa, 25.09. um 16:00 arte
Das Rote Kreuz im Dritten Reich - Vom Versagen der Hilfe
Dokumentation
Dauer: 55 min (f)
Beschreibung: Die Opfer der Shoah konnten während der Nazizeit keine Hilfe vom Internationalen Komitee des Roten Kreuzes (IKRK) in Genf erwarten. Lange berief sich das IKRK darauf, nur für die Kriegsgefangenen ein völkerrechtliches Mandat gehabt zu haben. Der Dokumentarfilm sucht nach den wahren Gründen und zeichnet das skandalöse Verhalten des IKRK nach.

am So, 26.09. um 00:15 mdr
Topas
Spionagethriller
Dauer: 120 min (g)
Beschreibung: Von einem russischen Überläufer erhält die CIA 1962 die alarmierende Nachricht, dass die Sowjets mit der Stationierung atomarer Mittelstreckenraketen auf Kuba begonnen haben. Zwecks Aufklärung schicken die USA den französischen Top-Agenten Devereaux auf die Karibikinsel. Mit Hilfe seiner Geliebten, der Widerstandskämpferin Juanita de Cordoba, schleust Devereaux Fotos russischer Militärbasen aus dem Land. Als der Agent überraschend zurück nach Paris beordert wird, gerät Devereaux zwischen die Fronten amerikanischer Interessen und russischer Spione, die das französische Machtzentrum unterwandert haben.

am So, 26.09. um 20:15 ORF 1

James Bond 007 - Casino Royale 4 Sterne

Agententhruiller

Dauer: 135 min (h)

Beschreibung: Geheimagent James Bond ist den Financiers des internationalen Terrorismus auf der Spur. Der Kopf der Geldwäscher ist der geheimnisvolle Le Chiffre. Der ebenso begnadete wie psychopathische Pokerspieler beschafft in den Casinos sicheres Kapital, das durch skrupellose Börsenspekulationen vermehrt wird. Gemeinsam mit der verführerischen Vesper Lynd als Geldgeberin macht sich 007 auf den Weg zum alles entscheidenden Spiel um Leben und Tod.

am So, 26.09. um 23:25 zdf_neo

Flucht in die Freiheit - Mit dem Mut der Verzweiflung

Dokumentation, Folge 1

Dauer: 45 min (i)

Beschreibung: Sie sprangen über Stacheldraht, fälschten Pässe, riskierten ihr Leben im Todesstreifen, kaperten U-Bahnen - einer stahl sogar einen Panzerwagen, um die Mauer zu überwinden. Nachdem das SED-Regime in der Nacht zum 13. August 1961 in Berlin die Sektorengrenzen zum Westen geschlossen hatte, versuchten Tausende Menschen die Absperrungen zu überwinden und in den Westen zu fliehen. 20 Jahre nach Fall der Mauer widmet ZDFneo einigen besonders bewegenden Flüchtlingsschicksalen eine zweiteilige Dokumentation.

am Mo, 27.09. um 00:05 ZDF

ZDF-History mit dem Thema: Putsch gegen die deutsche Einheit - Wollte Russlands Militär die Wiedervereinigung verhindern?

Geschichtsmagazin

Dauer: 25 min (j)

Beschreibung: Am 9. September 1990 erhalten sechs Regimenter russischer Fallschirmjäger den Befehl zur Eilverlegung nach Moskau - in voller Kampfausrüstung und mit scharfer Munition. Staats- und Parteichef Michail Gorbatschow ist nicht informiert. Die Fallschirmjäger beziehen strategische Stellungen rund um die Hauptstadt. Sinn und Auftraggeber des geheimen Aufmarschs bleiben jahrelang im Dunkeln. Ein Militärsprecher erklärt, die Soldaten seien lediglich zur "Kartoffelernte" beordert worden. Tatsächlich aber handelt es sich um ein brisantes Manöver hochrangiger Gorbatschow-Gegner aus Militär und Geheimdienst. Sie halten das sowjetische Ja zur deutschen Wiedervereinigung für falsch.

am Mo, 27.09. um 00:10 zdf_neo

Flucht in die Freiheit - Mit allen Mitteln

Dokumentation, Folge 2

Dauer: 45 min (k)

Beschreibung: Zwischen Mauerbau 1961 und Mauerfall 1989 gelang über 40 000 DDR-Bürgern die Flucht in den Westen. Doch keine Statistik hielt fest, wie viele Versuche schon während der Vorbereitung scheiterten. Auch der zweite und letzte Teil der Dokumentation "Flucht in die Freiheit" schildert bewegende Schicksale von Frauen und Männern, die alles riskierten, um ihrem "Gefängnis" zu entgehen.

am Mo, 27.09. um 03:20 ZDF

Jeder kannte meinen Vater - Kinder von DDR-Promis erinnern sich

XXL: Die lange Nacht - Bilanz der Einheit

Dokumentation

Dauer: 30 min (l)

Beschreibung: Günter Schabowski, Wolf Biermann, Kurt Masur, Hans Modrow, Frank Schöbel - in der DDR wurden sie geachtet, verehrt, einige auch

gefürchtet. Sie gehörten zur Riege der berühmten Politiker, Künstler und Sportler. Während sie im Rampenlicht standen, wuchsen neben ihnen ihre Kinder auf. Acht von ihnen erzählen ihre Eindrücke aus jener Zeit, in der ihre Väter prominent waren.

am Mo, 27.09. um 03:55 ZDF

ZDF-History: Einmal Freiheit und zurück - Die Geschichte der DDR-Rückkehrer
XXL: Die lange Nacht - Bilanz der Einheit

Doku-Reihe

Dauer: 45 min (m)

Beschreibung: Was bringt Menschen dazu, die Freiheit aufzugeben und in die DDR zurückzukehren - hinter Mauer und Stacheldraht? Alwin Ziel, DDR-Flüchtling und nach der Wende Innenminister in Brandenburg, hat genau das getan. 1988 war er von einem Verwandtenbesuch im Westen nicht zurückgereist und hatte versucht, seine Familie nachzuholen. Doch die DDR-Behörden verschleppten seine Frau ins Gefängnis und drohten, die beiden Söhne in ein Kinderheim zu geben. Er war einer von wenigen hundert DDR-Flüchtlingen und Übersiedlern, die pro Jahr in die DDR zurückgingen.

am Mo, 27.09. um 15:00 WDR

Planet Wissen mit dem Thema: Faszinierende Bionik - Spionage in der
Werkstatt der Natur

Magazin, vorerst letzte Folge

Dauer: 60 min (n)

Beschreibung: Die Bionik - Lernen von der Natur, konstruieren nach den Vorbildern der Natur. Studiogäste: Der Biologe Dr. Rudolf Bannasch untersucht seit vielen Jahren die fantastischen Eigenschaften und Fähigkeiten von Organismen, immer auf der Suche nach Anregungen für technische Innovationen. Pinguine, Delfine aber auch Vögel haben es ihm besonders angetan - in Planet Wissen erzählt Rudolf Bannasch, was wir von den Tieren lernen können.

am Mo, 27.09. um 22:30 BR

Italien im Kalten Krieg - das Rätsel um Flug Itavia 870

Dokumentation

Dauer. 45 min (o)

Beschreibung: Bis heute ist nicht geklärt, was den Flugzeugabsturz vom 27. Juni 1980 in der Nähe der italienischen Insel Ustica verursacht hat, beim dem 81 Flugzeuginsassen starben. Auf der Suche nach Antworten stoßen die Filmemacher auf ein dichtes Geflecht aus Lügen und Halbwahrheiten, das seit 30 Jahren jeden Versuch der Wahrheitsfindung erschwert.

am Di, 28.09. um 20:15 ZDF

Sonderauftrag Mord - Die Geheimnisse der Stasi

Wiederholung der Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (p)

Beschreibung: Zuerst nahm der aus der DDR geflohene Fußballlehrer Jörg Berger nur ein Kribbeln in den Zehen wahr, dann in den ganzen Füßen und Händen. Hinzu kamen Fieber, Übelkeit und ein allgemeines Schwächegefühl. Ein Virusinfekt, dachte der Bundesliga-Trainer von Hannover 96 zunächst - vielleicht zu viel Stress. Als er seine Gliedmaßen kaum noch spürte und nicht mehr laufen konnte, musste er für lange Zeit seinen Beruf aufgeben. Eine Erklärung für seine schwere Krankheit im Jahr 1986 hatte der populäre Trainer Berger viele Jahre lang nicht, genauso wenig konnte er sich erklären, warum sich an seinem neuen Auto plötzlich ein Rad löste. Erst als er nach der Wende seine Stasi-Akten sichtete, kam ihm ein schrecklicher Verdacht: Hatte ihn die Stasi vergiftet?

am Mi, 29.09. um 00:00 ORF 2

Das Leben der Anderen

Geschichtsdrama

Dauer: 125 min (q)

Beschreibung: 1984. Stasi-Hauptmann Gerd Wiesler soll Theaterregisseur Georg Dreyman und dessen Lebensgefährtin, die Schauspielerin Christa-Maria Sieland, observieren. Das intellektuelle Vorzeigepaar der DDR muss auf Wunsch von Minister Hempf auf Linientreue geprüft werden. Mit bürokratischer Akribie verwanzt Wiesler die Wohnung des Künstlerpaares und richtet sich auf dem Dachboden ein geheimes Abhörzimmer ein. Je länger er die Gespräche belauscht, umso größer werden die Zweifel an seinem Auftrag.

am Mi, 29.09. um 23:35 BR

Das Ministerium für Staatssicherheit - Alltag einer Behörde

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 90 min (r)

Beschreibung: Unser Dokumentarfilm "Alltag einer Behörde" wird sich in diesem Spannungsfeld zwischen alltäglicher Perfidität und Grausamkeit der Stasi-Methoden und einer von Selbstzweifeln geprägten Mitarbeiterschaft bewegen. Zum ersten Mal äußern sich viele unserer Zeitzeugen, Generäle und andere operativ tätige Mitarbeiter des MfS für diesen Film vor der Kamera. Detailliert erzählen sie von ihren Arbeitstechniken. Es entsteht eine beeindruckende und bedrückende Innensicht des MfS aus Sicht der Täter. Es entsteht ein Bild, das die Stasi in all ihrer Macht und Perfidität, aber auch in ihrer Biederkeit und Banalität, und schließlich in ihrer Ohnmacht zeigt. Nichts war in der DDR so geheim wie die Arbeitsweise des Ministeriums für Staatssicherheit (MfS). Die Bedrohung, die vom MfS ausging, war unkalkulierbar. Neun ehemalige Mitarbeiter erzählen vom Innenleben des Apparates und von den Techniken der Geheimdienstarbeit. Christian Klemke porträtiert das Menschenbild und die Rechtfertigungsstrategien ehemaliger Stasi-Mitarbeiter.

am Fr, 01.01. um 21:02 ARD Eins extra

Brückenbauer - Jüdische Emigranten und die Wiedervereinigung

Dokumentation

Dauer: 43 min (s)

Beschreibung: Henry Kissinger, Fritz Stern und Lord George Weidenfeld - drei Brückenbauer und Visionäre, die durch ihr Wirken einen wesentlichen Beitrag zur Aussöhnung mit Deutschland und damit zur Wiedervereinigung beigetragen haben. In Exklusivinterviews gewähren sie ganz besondere Einblicke in ihr privates und berufliches Leben und ihr wechselvolles Verhältnis zu Deutschland und den Deutschen. Sie schildern schließlich ihre persönliche Sicht der Wiedervereinigung, bewerten die internationalen Reaktionen auf die dramatische Entwicklung in den Monaten nach der Maueröffnung, als die Weichen für die Einheit Deutschlands gestellt wurden.

- (a) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26143059&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
- (b) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26087522&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
- (c) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26102897&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
- (d) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26135026&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
- (e) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26199440&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
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- (k) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26147870&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
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- (n) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26141570&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
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- (p) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26130267&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
- (q) <http://tvintern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26171904&tvid=cb2cc9cd1c6e8ce6fd2bda8e3bdcfec6>
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