

=====
ACIPSS-newsletter

- collecting intelligence news of today
that will become intelligence history of tomorrow -
=====

nr: 53 / 2010
date: 30 December 2010
from: www.acipss.org
contact: newsletter@acipss.org
ISSN: 1993-4939

***Das ACIPSS-Newsletter-Team wünscht allen Abonnenten und Lesern
einen guten Rutsch und ein glückliches Neues Jahr!***

A Happy New Year to all our subscribers and readers!

Table of contents:

TOP HEADLINES

4309/2010 Assange droht mit Total-Veröffentlichung
4310/2010 Iran hangs man accused of passing military secrets to Israel
4311/2010 Making Sense of the START Debate

HOT SPOTS / WARS

4312/2010 Burqa-clad suicide bomber kills 42 in Bajaur Agency
4313/2010 Separating Terror from Terrorism

US

4314/2010 US drug agency expands role, learns to spy
4315/2010 Details on CIA officer killed in Afghanistan
4316/2010 US Declined to Cooperate with Investigation of Mossad's Dubai hit
4317/2010 Push for Pollard Supporters see convicted spy's release on horizon
4318/2010 Canadian special operations troops train at Roswell
4319/2010 The Great Ranger School Rebellion

FORMER SOVIET UNION

4320/2010 Russia's biggest spy agencies at war
4321/2010 Russia attacks foreign critics over Khodorkovsky guilty verdict
4322/2010 Polizei und KGB in Weißrussland durchsuchen unabhängige Zeitung

NEAR / MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA

4323/2010 Officer in charge of Syrian nuclear program was Mossad spy
4324/2010 The Mossad myth
4325/2010 Israel sabotaged Egypt's Internet, says alleged Mossad spy
4326/2010 Enge Kontakte zwischen arabischer Welt und CIA
4327/2010 Lebanese diversion op

FAR EAST & ASIA

4328/2010 Pakistan officials forced visa agent to spy
4329/2010 Pakistan says it will defend spy chief in US suits
4330/2010 South Korean military spy expelled from China
4331/2010 Wife can't spy on agent's pay packet, S Korea court rules
4332/2010 North Korea Downsizes To Remain Competitive

EUROPE (GEOGRAPH.)

4333/2010 Rom : Paketbombe vor griechischer Botschaft entdeckt
4334/2010 Holländische Behörden rechtfertigen Festnahme von Somaliern
4335/2010 Spain-Russia spy row leads to diplomats' expulsion
4336/2010 Dänischer Geheimdienst verhindert Terroranschlag

4337/2010 France's Spy Agency Looking for a Few Good Men

UK

4338/2010 Russian parliamentary 'spy' denies accusations, wants to stay
4339/2010 Dead MI6 spy 'was to assume new identity'
4340/2010 Nine men remanded in custody charged with terror offences
4341/2010 Mossad-Chef sagt « sorry » für falsche Pässe
4342/2010 SAS man to take charge of cyber-warfare defences

NORTHERN IRELAND

4343/2010 Campbell presses PM on dissidents
4344/2010 Phone 'links accused to bomb'

GERMANY

4345/2010 Warnung vor chinesischer und russischer Cyberspionage in Deutschland
4346/2010 Germany launches probe into poisoning of ex-KGB colonel
4347/2010 Bundesnachrichtendienst office building nears completion

SWITZERLAND

4348/2010 Anklage gegen Nuklearschmuggler : CIA hat schon wieder ein Leck

AUSTRIA

4349/2010 Bundesheer Neu : SPÖ will Neutralität aufwerten

AMERICA (CONTINENTAL)

4350/2010 Cuban spymaster Hernandez has broken ranks with the Castro government
4351/2010 Mexican request for U.S. help in drug war detailed

AUSTRALIA

4352/2010 Australian Federal Police files used in deadly missions
4353/2010 Spy fears halt NZ's Mossad probe

AFRICA (SUB-SAHARA)

4354/2010 Ivory Coast: Gbagbo-controlled TV 'inciting UN hate'
4355/2010 French spy hostage 'still alive in Somalia'

THE CYBER BATTLEFIELD / CIVIL RIGHTS

4356/2010 Mossad brought down Egypt's internet
4357/2010 Cyber-Spies to Wage Non-Stop Assaults on Defense Firms in 2011
4358/2010 Is the Apple iPhone 5 set to spy on you?
4359/2010 Menschenrechtler häufig Ziele im Cyber-Krieg
4360/2010 Flaws Spotlighted in Tor Anonymity Network
4361/2010 Stuxnet-Virus könnte tausend Uran-Zentrifugen zerstört haben
4362/2010 Handys lassen sich per SMS lahmlegen
4363/2010 Russian e-Payment Giant ChronoPay Hacked
4364/2010 Iran's Intelligence Minister Admits Hacking Into Opposition E-Mail
4365/2010 Mobiltelefone abhören? GSM macht's leicht!
4366/2010 Nato rüstet sich für den Cyber-Krieg
4367/2010 Syrische Blogger im Visier des Geheimdienstes

SPYCRAFT

4368/2010 Polar bears get the better of spy cameras

INTEL HISTORY

4369/2010 Margaret Thatcher in cover-up after Czech spy exposed John Stonehouse
4370/2010 Kim Philby's KGB card on show in Moscow spy display
4371/2010 SAS 'for hire' after Iranian embassy siege in 1980

HOT DOCS ONLINE

4372/2010 Surveillance and Censorship in Britain and the EU
4373/2010 The Shorthand of Experience

LITERATURE

4374/2010 Journal for Intelligence, Propaganda and Security Studies VOL.4,
NR.2/2010

MEDIA ALERTS

4375/2010 'The Avengers: A Celebration' spies on a memorable mod moment
4376/2010 Media alerts



TOP HEADLINES

4309/2010 -----

Assange droht mit Total-Veröffentlichung

(futurezone) Wikileaks-Gründer Julian Assange hat mit der Veröffentlichung aller im Besitz seiner Organisation befindlichen Dokumente gedroht, sollte er ermordet oder für lange Zeit ins Gefängnis gesteckt werden.

„Wir verhalten uns auf verantwortliche Weise“, sagte Assange dem arabischen Fernsehsender Al Jazeera, wie Medien am Golf am Donnerstag berichteten. „Aber wenn ich dazu gezwungen werde, könnten wir bis zum Äußersten gehen und jedes einzelne Dokument, das wir haben, zugänglich machen.“ 2000 Webseiten stünden bereit, um das derzeit durch Passwörter geschützte Material ins Internet zu stellen.

Den letzten Teil des viel beachteten Interviews strahlte Al Jazeera am Mittwochabend aus. Assange berichtete, dass zahlreiche hohe Funktionsträger in der arabischen Welt engste Kontakte zum US-Geheimdienst CIA unterhielten, die sie durch Besuche in den jeweiligen US-Botschaften pflegen würden.

„Diese Funktionsträger sind Spione der USA in ihrem eigenen Land“, fügte Assange hinzu. Namen nannte er in der Sendung keine. Einige arabische Länder hätten eigene Folterzentren eingerichtet, um dort von Washington überstellte Gefangene zu verhören und zu „bearbeiten“. Auch hier ging Assange auf keine Einzelheiten ein.

<http://www.futurezone.at/stories/1665101/>

4310/2010 -----

Iran hangs man accused of passing military secrets to Israel

(The Independent) Iran yesterday hanged a man accused of spying on the country's military apparatus for the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad.

The Iranian judiciary announced through the official IRNA news agency that Ali Akbar Siadat had been executed at Tehran's Evin Prison after being found guilty of passing on information, including details of the missile programme of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards.

According to an official list of charges, which included accusations of "spreading corruption on earth" and "supporting the Zionist regime", Mr Siadat was repeatedly paid up to \$7,000 (£4,555) a time for meetings with Israeli agents abroad between 2004 and his arrest in 2008. IRNA claimed that he had also confessed to being paid an initial \$60,000 to begin a career in espionage during which he transferred data to the agents on "foreign trade" trips to Turkey, Thailand and the Netherlands with a digital camera, transmitters and a laptop.

The classified information was said to have included details of military manoeuvres, bases, operational military jet fighters, air crashes and missiles. Earlier this week, Iran's judiciary announced that a spy for Israel would be executed soon after confirmation by an appeals court of his death sentence. That statement said that the defendant's lawyer had been present at the trial.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/iran-hangs-man-accused-of-passing-military-secrets-to-israel-2171103.html>

4311/2010 -----

Making Sense of the START Debate

(Stratfor) Last week, the U.S. Senate gave its advice and consent to the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START), which had been signed in April. The Russian legislature still has to provide final approval of the treaty, but it is likely to do so, and therefore a New START is set to go into force. That leaves two questions to discuss. First, what exactly have the two sides agreed to and, second, what does it mean? Let's begin with the first.

The original START was signed July 31, 1991, and reductions were completed in 2001. The treaty put a cap on the number of nuclear warheads that could be deployed. In addition to limiting the number of land- and submarine-based intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and strategic bombers, it capped the number of warheads that were available to launch at 6,000. The fact that this is a staggering number of nuclear weapons should give you some idea of the staggering number in existence prior to START. START I lapsed in 2009, and the new treaty is essentially designed to reinstate it.

It is important to remember that Ronald Reagan first proposed START. His initial proposal focused on reducing the number of ICBMs. Given that the Soviets did not have an effective intercontinental bomber force and the United States had a massive B-52 force and follow-on bombers in the works, the treaty he proposed would have decreased the Soviet quantitative advantage in missile-based systems without meaningfully reducing the U.S. advantage in bombers. The Soviets, of course, objected, and a more balanced treaty emerged.

What is striking is that START was signed just before the Soviet Union collapsed and implemented long after it was gone. It derived from the political realities that existed during the early 1980s. One of the things the signers of both the original START and the New START have ignored is that nuclear weapons by themselves are not the issue. The issue is the geopolitical relationship between the two powers. The number of weapons may affect budgetary considerations and theoretical targeting metrics, but the danger of nuclear war does not derive from the number of weapons but from the political relationship between nations.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20101227-making-sense-start-debate?utm_source=GWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=101228&utm_content=readmore&elq=826dc6086ccb4d649c58e03f4b95a5c7



HOT SPOTS / WARS

4312/2010 -----

Burqa-clad suicide bomber kills 42 in Bajaur Agency

(Daily Times) A female suicide bomber ripped through a gathering of conflict-hit people waiting to receive food in Bajaur Agency, killing at least 42 people, including women and children, and injuring scores of others, officials and locals said.

A political administration official told Daily Times on Saturday that the suicide attack took place at a food distribution centre being run by the World Food Organisation in Khar. He said around 300 people from the Salarzai tribe were gathered to receive food when the bomber struck. A WFP spokesman said the attack took place where people were being screened at a security checkpoint near their centre.

Assistant Political Agent Tariq Khan said the bomber was a woman. He said she appeared in full veil and blew herself up while being searched at the centre. Witnesses said she threw hand grenades at tribesmen before detonating the bomb. Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan spokesman Azam Tariq claimed responsibility for the attack on behalf of the group and said the attack was retaliation for the Salarzai tribe's activities against the Taliban.

Meanwhile, WFP temporarily stopped its food distribution operation in Bajaur after the attack. A spokesman WFP spokesman said a curfew was imposed in the area after the terrorist attack, due to which the WFP halted its operation.

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010%5C12%5C26%5Cstory_26-12-2010_pg1_1

4313/2010 -----

Separating Terror from Terrorism

(Stratfor) On Dec. 15, the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sent a joint bulletin to state and local law enforcement agencies expressing their concern that terrorists may attack a large public gathering in a major U.S. metropolitan area during the 2010 holiday season. That concern was echoed by contacts at the FBI and elsewhere who told STRATFOR they were almost certain there was going to be a terrorist attack launched against the United States over Christmas.

Certainly, attacks during the December holiday season are not unusual. There is a history of such attacks, from the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 on Dec. 21, 1988, and the thwarted millennium attacks in December 1999 and January 2000 to the post-9/11 airliner attacks by shoe bomber Richard Reid on Dec. 22, 2001, and by underwear bomber Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab on Dec. 25, 2009. Some of these plots have even stemmed from the grassroots. In December 2006, Derrick Shareef was arrested while planning an attack he hoped to launch against an Illinois shopping mall on Dec. 22.

Mass gatherings in large metropolitan areas have also been repeatedly targeted by jihadist groups and lone wolves. In addition to past attacks and plots directed against the subway systems in major cities such as

Madrid, London, New York and Washington, 2010 saw failed attacks against the crowds in New York's Times Square on May 1 and in Pioneer Courthouse Square in downtown Portland, Ore., on Nov. 26.

With this history, it is understandable that the FBI and the DHS would be concerned about such an attack this year and issue a warning to local and state law enforcement agencies in the United States. This American warning also comes on the heels of similar alerts in Europe, warnings punctuated by the Dec. 11 suicide attack in Stockholm.

So far, the 2010 holiday season has been free from terrorist attacks, but as evidenced by all the warnings and concern, this season has not been free from the fear of such attacks, the psychological impact known as "terror." In light of these recent developments, it seems appropriate discuss the closely related phenomena of terrorism and terror.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20101229-separating-terror-terrorism?utm_source=SWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=101230&utm_content=readmore&elq=886f1bd79ae04a8b8c74e0c00e3b4f76



4314/2010 -----

US drug agency expands role, learns to spy

(Indian Express) The Drug Enforcement Administration has been transformed into a global intelligence organisation with a reach that extends far beyond narcotics, and an eavesdropping operation so expansive it has to fend off foreign politicians who want to use it against their political enemies, according to secret diplomatic cables.

The cables, from cache obtained by WikiLeaks, offer glimpses of drug agents balancing diplomacy and law enforcement in places where it is hard to tell the politicians from traffickers.

Diplomats recorded unforgettable vignettes from the largely unseen war on drugs: In Panama, an urgent BlackBerry message from the President to the US ambassador demanded that the DEA go after his political enemies: "I need help with tapping phones." President, Ricardo Martinelli, demanded that the agency allow him to use its wiretapping programme – known as Matador – to spy on leftist political enemies he believed were plotting to kill him. Martinelli proposed a law that would have ended the DEA's work with specially vetted police units if it didn't agree.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/us-drug-agency-expands-role-learns-to-spy/729611/0>

4315/2010 -----

Details on CIA officer killed in Afghanistan

(The Washingtonian) An interesting article in The Washingtonian offers an interesting background story on Jennifer Matthews, a CIA deskbound analyst

turned ops officer who was killed nearly a year ago in Afghanistan in a suicide bombing by Taliban double-agent Humam Khalil Abu-Mulal al-Balawi.

In the CIA, there are analysts and there are field operatives. Their trades overlap, but their cultures have historically been distinct.

Robert Baer, an ex-CIA case officer who served in the Middle East, says assigning an analyst to the base-chief job is like putting a hospital administrator in charge of surgery. "Matthews shouldn't have been there."

<http://www.washingtonian.com/articles/people/17683.html>

4316/2010 -----

US Declined to Cooperate with Investigation of Mossad's Dubai hit

(Haaretz) The United States declined a request from the United Arab Emirates to assist an investigation into the assassination of a top Hamas commander.

Dubai suspects Israel's Mossad agency to have been behind the murder of Mahmoud al-Mabhouh in a Dubai hotel in January 2010. Israel has neither confirmed nor denied a role in the killing. The U.S. last year denied reports that it had received a request for assistance from Dubai, but a recently released WikiLeaks cable proves otherwise.

A cable sent from the embassy in Dubai less than a month after the assassination reveals that senior U.A.E. officials asked the American ambassador and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to probe urgently "cardholder details and related information for credit cards reportedly issued by a U.S. bank to several suspects" in the murder.

The WikiLeaks cable not only proved that the request was indeed made but that it was recorded in a secret State Department cable. By not accepting the request, the Obama administration harmed the Dubai investigation efforts and assisted Israel instead.

<http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/u-s-declined-to-cooperate-in-dubai-probe-of-mabhouh-killing-wikileaks-shows-1.333608>

4317/2010 -----

Push for Pollard Supporters see convicted spy's release on horizon

(Washington Jewish Week) Enough is enough, says Rabbi Pesach Lerner. It's time for Jonathan Pollard to be freed from prison.

People are recognizing that Pollard, a Naval intelligence officer convicted of spying for Israel, got a raw deal when he was sentenced in 1987 to life in prison, said Lerner, vice president of the National Council of Young Israel, an umbrella organization for Orthodox synagogues.

Three consecutive presidents have disregarded pleas to grant Pollard clemency on the grounds that his sentence was excessively harsh. But a recent spate of high-profile appeals on the spy's behalf is leading some to speculate that his release could be on the horizon.

"I'm cautiously optimistic" that President Barack Obama could free Pollard, who is said to be seriously ill, Lerner said in an interview Monday. In the past several weeks, a who's who of lawmakers and government heavyweights

have argued that Pollard's crime of passing classified information to Israel doesn't warrant a lifetime in jail. They point out that others convicted of similar crimes have had much shorter sentences.

Pollard, 56, has been eligible for parole since 1995, but has not applied.

<http://washingtonjewishweek.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=4&ArticleID=14082>

4318/2010 -----

Canadian special operations troops train at Roswell

(StrategyPage) Several groups of former American commandos (U.S. Army Special Forces and NAVY SEALs) have set up security and combat training facilities in the United States. One, run by Matrix International, is in Roswell, New Mexico, on part of a deactivated U.S. Air Force base. Here corporate security personnel, police and Special Operations troops from foreign countries, learn new skills and sharpen existing ones.

There is a retired Boeing 747 aircraft there for practicing hostage rescue, and operational aircraft available at all times for parachute exercises. There is terrain and buildings for all sorts of commando training. Canadian special operations troops regularly train at the Roswell facility. One reason the Roswell facility is so busy is because the climate and terrain is very similar to Afghanistan, and Matrix can also bring in Afghan-Americans to act as Afghan civilians in very realistic training exercises.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htsf/articles/20101220.aspx>

4319/2010 -----

The Great Ranger School Rebellion

(StrategyPage) There's a debate going on in the U.S. Army Ranger community over whether combat experience is a suitable substitute for ranger training. In peace time, the army tries to send at least half of its combat NCOs, and most combat officers, to the two month Ranger school. You have to volunteer to go, but having successfully completed the school is a major factor in deciding who will get promoted. If you want to make the army a career, and you are in a combat branch (especially infantry), Ranger School is a must. But not so much anymore.

Since 2003, most veteran combat troops have served multiple combat tours in Iraq or Afghanistan, and have not had time, or the inclination, to attend Ranger School. This has upset many senior army commanders, who believe that the ranger training is essential for maintaining high quality leadership. But many combat veterans believe that Ranger School was mainly a way to find out, in peacetime, who would most likely perform well in combat. With real combat experience available, why waste time on a time consuming and strenuous substitute? Those backing the Ranger School insist that the training covers leadership and other useful skills. The combat vets respond by pointing out that they are always training, when they aren't in combat, and do not have to spend another two months away from their families in order to upgrade their leadership skills.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htinf/articles/20101226.aspx>



FORMER SOVIET UNION

4320/2010 -----

Russia's biggest spy agencies at war

(The Telegraph) Two of Russia's biggest spy agencies are at war with one another as a battle rages to merge them in order to create an intelligence service modelled on the Soviet-era KGB, it has been claimed.

According to Russian experts, the domestic FSB security service is trying to subsume the SVR foreign intelligence service in order to recreate a latter day KGB in all but name. Supporters of the plan are seeking to capitalise on the SVR's worst post-Soviet failure, the deportation of ten of its sleeper agents from the United States this summer, arguing that the debacle proved that the SVR had lost its way, it is claimed.

Pavel Felgenhauer, an intelligence agencies expert, said: "The mass collapse, arrest and subsequent deportation of ten Russian illegal agents from the USA has become a pretext for the FSB to start a campaign," The FSB was deliberately leaking details of the fiasco to the Russian press, he added, while its officers were anonymously heaping unprecedented criticism on the SVR.

"The aim of the leaks is to speed up a decision about the reorganisation of the SVR. We are talking about either a straight merger with the FSB or replacement of the current SVR leadership with 'strong loyalists.'"

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/russia/8225794/Russias-biggest-spy-agencies-at-war.html>

4321/2010 -----

Russia attacks foreign critics over Khodorkovsky guilty verdict

(Telegraph) Russia has angrily denounced criticism of its judiciary after Monday's conviction in a Moscow court of Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the former oil oligarch, for embezzlement and money laundering.

Mr Khodorkovsky and Platon Lebedev, his former business partner, were found guilty and are waiting to hear how many more years they must serve in prison on top of an earlier sentence for tax evasion. Mr Khodorkovsky's imprisonment, which followed a severe falling out with Vladimir Putin, then president and now prime minister of Russia, is widely seen in the West to have gone beyond the bounds of a fair hearing and independent judiciary, and to have infringed Mr Khodorkovsky's human rights. Monday's news was greeted with dismay by politicians in the US, Germany, UK and elsewhere.

But in a statement the Russian foreign ministry accused Western governments of "unacceptable" attempts to influence the courts. "We once again emphasise that this issue falls within the competence of the Russian judicial system. Attempts to exert pressure on the courts are unacceptable. The President of the Russian Federation [Dmitry Medvedev] ... recently said that no one may interfere with the prerogatives of the judiciary."

The ministry emphasised: "We are talking about serious allegations of tax evasion and the laundering of proceeds of crime ... In the US, by the way, they earn life sentences in prison."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/russia/8228204/Russia-attacks-foreign-critics-over-Mikhail-Khodorkovsky-guilty-verdict.html>

4322/2010 -----

Polizei und KGB in Weißrussland durchsuchen unabhängige Zeitung

(Stern) Rund zehn Tage nach der umstrittenen Präsidentschaftswahl in Weißrussland gehen die Behörden weiter gegen die Opposition vor: Am Dienstagabend durchsuchten Polizei und Geheimdienst die Redaktionsräume der unabhängigen Zeitung "Nascha Niwa", wie der Verleger Andrej Skurko am Mittwoch mitteilte. Dabei seien Computer, Speicherkarten, CDs und alte Zeitungsausgaben beschlagnahmt worden. Anschließend hätten sich die Sicherheitskräfte auch seine Privatwohnung vorgenommen und weitere Computerausrüstung mitgenommen, sagte Skurko der Nachrichtenagentur AFP. Besonders interessiert zeigten sich die Beamten nach seinen Angaben an "Videomaterial zu den Ereignissen des 19. Dezember", also dem Tag der Wahl.

<http://www.stern.de/news2/aktuell/polizei-und-kgb-in-weissrussland-durchsuchen-unabhaengige-zeitung-1638387.html>



NEAR / MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA

4323/2010 -----

Officer in charge of Syrian nuclear program was Mossad spy

(Jerusalem Post) Tarek Abdel-Razek, who was arrested in Syria last week for allegedly gathering intelligence for Mossad, revealed while he was undergoing investigation the identity of another alleged spy in Syria, saying he was a senior officer who was in charge of the regime's nuclear project in Damascus, reported the Egyptian newspaper Al-Masry Al-Youm on Wednesday. According to the report, Razek told investigators that the Syrian officer's name is Salah a-Najam, a colonel in Syria's military intelligence. He claimed that Najam served as an agent of Mossad for many years and received a million and a half dollars from the Israelis.

Razek also said he met with Najam several times in Damascus and received information from him on the development of Syria's nuclear program, the location of nuclear facilities and sites where radioactive was was buried. The information, according to Najam, was transferred to an Israeli nuclear expert and contributed to the attack on the nuclear reactors in the Syrian desert in September 2007.

- (a) <http://www.jpost.com/Headlines/Article.aspx?id=201440>
- (b) Israelis Paid Spy \$1.5M for Info on Syrian Nukes:
<http://www.aolnews.com/2010/12/29/report-israelis-paid-spy-1-5m-for-info-on-syrian-nukes/>

4324/2010 -----

The Mossad myth

(Haaretz) By keeping anything and everything under wraps, the agency allows the rumor mill about its activities to grind on.

Before it was permissible to say the words "Mossad" and "Shin Bet," they would publish want-ads using euphemisms such as "a state institution ...". Ostensibly, times have changed. Both the Mossad and the Shin Bet security service have websites; they can be called by name, and the names of the organizations' heads are known. The Shin Bet even has a spokesperson, and she has a few assistants.

It can be assumed that the new Mossad chief, Tamir Pardo, who will officially take the reins next week, will consider appointing a spokesperson for his organization. (His predecessors Efraim Levy and Meir Degan thought about such an appointment, but both dropped the idea.)

But openness in these organizations is an illusion. In essence, the Mossad has remained the same "state institution" that takes pains to classify and guard every shred of information relating to it, even if it is not a matter of operational secrecy or particularly sensitive information. The protection of secret and sensitive information is essential and clearly understood, but what the Mossad seeks to censor is information that could harm its image.

Whatever it does, the Mossad generally enjoys the across-the-board support from nearly all of Israel's government.

<http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/features/the-mossad-myth-1.334175>

4325/2010 -----

Israel sabotaged Egypt's Internet, says alleged Mossad spy

(IntelNews) Israeli sabotage was behind the nationwide crippling of Egypt's Internet in 2008, according to an alleged Mossad agent. The accused agent, Abdel Razeq Hussein Hassan, is an Egyptian businessman who was arrested earlier this year by Egyptian counterintelligence and is accused of working for the Israeli spy agency. Two of his alleged Israeli handlers, Joseph Daymour and Idid Moushay, are reportedly on the run and are wanted by the Egyptian government.

Hassan is due to go on trial next month, but transcripts of his interrogation records have been leaked to Egyptian media. In one instance, Hassan appears to tell his police interrogators that a team of Mossad operatives deliberately cut two undersea cables about 5 miles off the north Egyptian port city of Alexandria, disrupting the country's Internet service for several days. An article in Britain's The Daily Telegraph claims erroneously that the disruptions, occurred in December of 2008 and were "blamed at the time on damage [...] caused by a ship's anchor". In reality, the undersea cables were cut on January 30, 2008, and there was no connection to anchors or anything similar, which does raise suspicions.

Still, the possibility must be considered that Hassan's revelation may have been extracted by his interrogators through torture, or that it may be part of a controlled leak –true, overstated, or downright false– by Egyptian counterintelligence. Whatever the truth behind this is, what is missing is the strategic motive that would have caused the Mossad to sabotage Egypt's nationwide Internet data delivery at a time when the governments of the two countries were entering a period of rapprochement.

<http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/12/29/01-625/>

4326/2010 -----

Enge Kontakte zwischen arabischer Welt und CIA

(Standard) Den letzten Teil des viel beachteten Interviews strahlte Al Jazeera am Mittwochabend aus. Assange berichtete, dass zahlreiche hohe Funktionsträger in der arabischen Welt engste Kontakte zum US-Geheimdienst CIA unterhielten, die sie durch Besuche in den jeweiligen US-Botschaften pflegen würden.

"Diese Funktionsträger sind Spione der USA in ihrem eigenen Land", fügte Assange hinzu. Namen nannte er in der Sendung keine. Einige arabische Länder hätten eigene Folterzentren eingerichtet, um dort von Washington überstellte Gefangene zu verhören und zu "bearbeiten". Auch hier ging Assange auf keine Einzelheiten ein.

<http://derstandard.at/1293369761420/Lebensversicherung-Wikileaks-Gruender-droht-mit-Total-Veroeffentlichung>

4327/2010 -----

Lebanese diversion op

(StrategyPage) Recent news reports of Israeli electronic "spying equipment" being found in Lebanon was not about the equipment, which has been planted, and found, in Lebanon for at least three years. Some Lebanese media are trying to divert attention away from the investigation of political assassinations inside Lebanon, and the involvement of Hezbollah, Syria and Iran. This is working more outside of Lebanon than inside, where the Hariri murder is still a major issue with many Lebanese. Meanwhile, the Lebanese complain of increased Israeli air reconnaissance over Lebanon. These flights are largely to keep an eye on Hezbollah, which has rebuilt its military strength along the Israeli border, despite the presence of UN peacekeepers and Lebanese Army troops.

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/israel/articles/20101228.aspx>



FAR EAST & ASIA

4328/2010 -----

Pakistan officials forced visa agent to spy

(Hindustan Times) Two officials of Pakistan High Commission had rejected several visa applications of Javed Mozawala, nailed for spying for the neighboring country, to force him to conduct recce of vital locations for over two years, a senior police official claimed. If the visa agent Javed Abdul Gafoor Mozawala would not have agreed to the officials' demands, he would have lost his only source of income, the official added.

Mozawala, a resident of Mazgaon in Mumbai, was arrested on December 8 for spying for Pakistan and has been booked under the Official Secrets Act.

"At least for the last four years, Mozawala had been into the visa facilitating job. He had been to Pakistan High Commissioner on several occasions as part of his job," Joint Police Commissioner (Crime) Himanshu Roy said.

- (a) <http://www.hindustantimes.com/Pakistan-officials-forced-visa-agent-to-spy/Article1-642955.aspx>
- (b) http://www.dnaindia.com/mumbai/report_my-husband-is-simple-innocent-alleged-pakistan-spy-s-wife_1487049

4329/2010 -----

Pakistan says it will defend spy chief in US suits

(Wallstreet Journal) Pakistan will strongly contest two U.S lawsuits that link its spy chief and his agency to the deadly 2008 attacks in Mumbai, the government said Thursday.

The statement shows how sensitive Pakistan is to claims that its agents were involved in the assault that killed 166 people in India. It could also be evidence of pressure on the weak civilian government by the powerful spy service. It appeared that the goal of the tough Pakistani stance was to get the lawsuits dismissed. The suits have already caused tensions between the U.S. and Pakistan. The U.S. depends on Pakistani cooperation to fight Taliban fighters in its border area with Afghanistan, and friction over other issues could harm the alliance.

The lawsuits were filed in federal court in Brooklyn in November. The plaintiffs include relatives of victims in the Mumbai attacks. The bloody, coordinated attacks on several sites in Mumbai, including luxury hotels, a cafe, a train station and a Jewish center, have been blamed on the Pakistani Islamic militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba, a defendant in the suits.

The 60-hour siege by 10 Pakistani militants, which has been called India's 9/11, paralyzed India's financial capital and deeply wounded the national psyche.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/AP59f39dab2ed5437f9cd1f7871218b116.html>

4330/2010 -----

South Korean military spy expelled from China

(Korea Times) China expelled a South Korean Army major on charges of espionage this year after more than a year of post-trial detention there for collecting information on North Korea, military sources said Tuesday.

They say Chinese police arrested the South Korean officer in July 2009 in Shenyang, a northeastern Chinese city, and the court sentenced him to a three-year jail term on charges of spying on North Korea's nuclear programs and missiles. The Ministry of National Defense did not confirm nor deny the expulsion of the major, noting that such a matter is classified and highly sensitive. Sources say he was repatriated to South Korea in late September.

North Korea had ratcheted up provocations by test-firing a long-range missile and conducting a second nuclear test at the time of his arrest. They claim that the government had requested Beijing to swiftly free the major, citing a diplomatic protocol between the two nations, but China refused to do so. . They say the Chinese court built a spy case against him because he was allegedly attempting to meet a Chinese military official to obtain intelligence on North Korea.

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2010/12/116_78748.html

4331/2010 -----

Wife can't spy on agent's pay packet, S Korea court rules

(Economic Times) South Korea's Supreme Court has ruled that the salary of an intelligence agent is a state secret even from his wife, court officials said today.

The judges upheld lower court rulings that pay details are confidential, a spokesman said. The woman, whom local media said is aged 46 and surnamed Oh, filed suit against the National Intelligence Service (NIS) in 2008. She demanded that it disclose details of her husband's monthly pay, severance package and pension so that she could seek a divorce settlement.

"Information about NIS employees' pay is part of the agency's budget spending, which is defined as confidential under the National Intelligence Service law," the spokesman quoted the court's ruling as saying.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/et-cetera/wife-cant-spy-on-agents-pay-packet-s-korea-court-rules/articleshow/7189117.cms>

4332/2010 -----

North Korea Downsizes To Remain Competitive

(StrategyPage) In the last year, North Korea has more than doubled the number of training exercises held for its troops. Conspicuously absent from most of these has been large numbers of armoured vehicles or warplanes. That's because these fuel-hungry beasts consume more diesel and jet fuel than North Korea can afford. But there has been more North Korean warplanes in the air, indicating that there is growing concern over the decline in flying skill among North Korean pilots.

All this began four years ago, when North Korea, feeling the strain of maintaining one of the largest military establishments in the world (some one million active forces, plus 600,000 reservists, plus an enormous number of people in the militia), began a downsizing program. As many as 20 percent of the 40 reserve divisions were to be disbanded, with troops and equipment redistributed. This reorganization was also meant to deal with the deterioration of weapons and equipment over the last decade, due to lack of use, and resources for maintenance. With fewer weapons to maintain, the limited resources can be applied to keeping more stuff combat ready.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htlead/articles/20101230.aspx>



EUROPE (GEOGRAPH.)

4333/2010 -----

Rom : Paketbombe vor griechischer Botschaft entdeckt

(Sueddeutsche) Vier Tage nach den beiden Anschlägen mit Briefbomben in Rom ist vor der griechischen Botschaft in der italienischen Hauptstadt eine

weitere Paketbombe gefunden worden. Experten hätten den Sprengsatz entschärft, teilte die Polizei mit.

Nach Angaben des griechischen Außenministeriums wurde niemand verletzt. Das Gelände sei geräumt worden. Italienische Medien berichteten, das Paket sei schon am Freitag in der Botschaft eingetroffen, doch wegen der Weihnachtsfeiertage erst am Montag aufgefallen. Die Paketbombe soll von der Machart und Verpackung her den am Donnerstag detonierten Sprengsätzen ähnlich sein.

Auch aus den Botschaften Venezuelas, Dänemarks und Monacos wurden verdächtige Pakete gemeldet. Diese Berichte stellten sich jedoch als falscher Alarm heraus.

<http://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/rom-paketbombe-vor-griechischer-botschaft-entdeckt-1.1040352>

4334/2010 -----

Holländische Behörden rechtfertigen Festnahme von Somaliern

Welt) Die niederländische Polizei hat zwölf Somalier unter Terrorverdacht festgenommen. Die Verdächtigen wurden am Freitag nach einem Hinweis des Geheimdienstes in der Hafenstadt Rotterdam aufgegriffen, wie die Staatsanwaltschaft mitteilte. Die Polizei durchsuchte demnach ein Internetcafé, vier Häuser und zwei Motelzimmer im Großraum Rotterdam. Waffen oder Sprengstoff wurden nicht gefunden.

Nach Angaben der Staatsanwaltschaft verdächtigte der Geheimdienst die zwölf Männer im Alter zwischen 19 und 48 Jahren, in Kürze einen Anschlag in den Niederlanden geplant zu haben. Über das geplante Anschlagziel wurde nichts mitgeteilt. Sechs der verdächtigen Somalier lebten in Rotterdam, fünf hätten keinen festen Wohnsitz und einer wohne in Dänemark, hieß es. Der nationale Terrorkoordinator der Niederlande ließ die Terrorwarnstufe im Land nach den Festnahmen unverändert. Er ließ durchblicken, die Wahrscheinlichkeit eines Anschlags sei „begrenzt“.

<http://www.welt.de/politik/ausland/article11827571/Behoerden-rechtfertigen-Festnahme-von-Somaliern.html>

4335/2010 -----

Spain-Russia spy row leads to diplomats' expulsion

(BBC) It has emerged that two Russian diplomats were expelled from Spain in November on suspicion of spying.

Russia responded by expelling two Spanish diplomats last week, a Spanish foreign ministry spokesman said. The spokesman would not comment on reports the Russians had engaged in economic espionage. The spat comes before a year of high-profile cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Russia is due to celebrate a "Year of Spain" while Spain is to have a "Year of Russia". Spain's respected newspaper El Pais said the Spanish government had not publicised its expulsions last month because it did not want to spoil the forthcoming events. The Spanish foreign ministry spokesman said the two Russians had been expelled "for activities incompatible with their status as diplomats" - the diplomatic term for spying.

(a) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-12086186>

(b) Spain and Russia in tit-for-tat expulsions:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/spain/8228142/Spain-and-Russia-in-tit-for-tat-expulsions.html>

4336/2010 -----

Dänischer Geheimdienst verhindert Terroranschlag

(Deutsche Welle) Die dänische Zeitung "Jyllands-Posten" ist nur knapp einem Terroranschlag entgangen. Die Geheimdienste in Dänemark und Schweden nahmen fünf militante Islamisten fest, die anscheinend das Hauptstadtbüro in Kopenhagen mit Maschinenpistolen stürmen wollten. Nach Angaben des dänischen Geheimdienstes PET war der Angriff für die nächsten Tage geplant. "Jyllands-Posten" hatte im September 2005 Karikaturen des Propheten Mohammed veröffentlicht und damit in der muslimischen Welt eine Welle der Empörung ausgelöst. Seitdem hatte es immer wieder Drohungen gegen die Zeitung gegeben. Der dänische Kronprinz Frederik besuchte am Abend demonstrativ das Verlagsgebäude, um einen Sportlerpreis zu verleihen.

http://www.dw-world.de/dw/function/0,,12356_cid_14742979,00.html

4337/2010 -----

France's Spy Agency Looking for a Few Good Men

(Daily Mail) France's international spy agency is reportedly looking for a few good men.

The country's secretive spy organization, the DGSE, is recruiting hundreds of people and has received a budget boost despite tight economic times to better thwart increasingly worrisome threats like terrorism and nuclear proliferation, the Daily Mail reports. The agency has also honed its image as well with its first-ever spokesman and a new website, the newspaper reports.

The move follows recent hostage situations abroad, bomb scares at Paris' Eiffel Tower and ongoing fallout from WikiLeaks' publication of secret U.S. diplomatic cables. France is also set to ban face-covering Islamic veils, which has drawn threats from Al Qaeda and Muslim extremists.

The DGSE changes have been long in coming, the newspaper reports, as part of France's efforts to beef up its network of intelligence operatives as called for in a top-to-bottom security review completed in 2008. Over the past decade, while the United States, Britain and Spain have experienced major terrorist attacks, France has not. Experts point to France's moves to strengthen its arsenal of counter terrorism laws following waves of attacks in the 1980s and 1990s.

The DGSE's successes largely go unpublicised, and for good reason, said Alain Chouet, a former 30-year DGSE veteran and its security intelligence chief until he left in 2002.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1342227/Wanted--French-James-Bonds-Sarkozy-begins-recruitment-drive-secretive-international-spy-agency.html>



UNITED KINGDOM

4338/2010 -----

Russian parliamentary 'spy' denies accusations, wants to stay

(RIAN) Katia Zatuliveter officially denied accusations of using her position as a British lawmaker's aide to spy for Russia and said she was going to stay in Britain to clear her name, her lawyers said on Friday.

"I have never worked for the Russian intelligence services. I do not why I was given a deportation order, but I intend to remain in the United Kingdom and fight to restore my reputation," Zatuliveter was quoted as saying in a lawyers' statement. The 25-year-old Russian, an aide to Liberal Democrat MP Mike Hancock who sits on the influential Defense Select Committee, was arrested on December 2. She was released on bail on December 13.

It was initially reported that Zatuliveter was suspected of links to the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR), but later Britain informed Russia that the Dagestan-born parliamentary aide was detained on charges of violating immigration laws.

Britain's secret service, MI5, said Zatuliveter had access to classified documents supplied to the committee. Hancock recently initiated parliamentary questions about Britain's nuclear deterrent and the location of its international submarine bases. Hancock has denied Zatuliveter is a spy.

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20101224/161919743.html>

4339/2010 -----

Dead MI6 spy 'was to assume new identity'

(The Independent) The MI6 spy Gareth Williams was training to take on a new identity eight months before he was found dead, a friend claimed yesterday. Sian Lloyd-Jones, 33, also insisted that he was not gay, after detectives had suggested the 31-year-old may have died at the hands of a mystery bondage sex partner.

Ms Lloyd-Jones told The Mail on Sunday: "He said he was learning his new identity... [One] night he came over with his box file and started going through it. He had two passports." Police have said it would have been impossible for Williams to lock himself in the holdall in which he was found dead in his flat in Pimlico in August.

Evidence indicates other people were in his flat, but detectives have been unable to trace them. An inquest will be held at Westminster Coroner's Court on 15 February.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/dead-mi6-spy-was-to-assume-new-identity-2169869.html>

4340/2010 -----

Nine men remanded in custody charged with terror offences

(Guardian) Nine men were remanded in custody today charged with terrorism offences including conspiracy to cause explosions.

The men, arrested a week ago, appeared at City of Westminster magistrates court today. Gurukanth Desai, 28, Omar Sharif Latif, 26, and Abdul Malik Miah, 24, from Cardiff, and Mohammed Moksudur Rahman Chowdhury, 20, and Shah Mohammed Lutfar Rahman, 28, from London, were remanded to appear at the Old Bailey on 14 January.

Also remanded in custody were Nazam Hussain, 25, Usman Khan, 19, Mohibur Rahman, 26, and Abul Boshier Mohammed Shahjahan, 26, all from Stoke-on-Trent.

They are among 12 men arrested a week ago in raids by counter-terrorism police from forces in London, Cardiff, Stoke-on-Trent and Birmingham. Two men from Cardiff and one from London have since been released without charge, West Midlands police said.

The remaining nine are charged with conspiring to cause an explosion or explosions in the UK "of a nature likely to endanger life or cause serious injury to property" between 1 October and 20 November this year. They are also accused of engaging in conduct in preparation for acts of terrorism between 1 October and 20 December, including downloading and researching materials and methods, carrying out reconnaissance and agreeing potential targets, and igniting and testing incendiary material.

Sue Hemming, the head of the Crown Prosecution Service counter-terrorism division, said: "Lawyers from the CPS counter-terrorism division have been working with the police on this case from an early stage and were on hand to give advice while the men were interviewed.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/dec/27/uksecurity-police>

4341/2010 -----

Mossad-Chef sagt «sorry» für falsche Pässe

(20min)

Der neue Chef des israelischen Geheimdienstes will sich offenbar in London für die Verwendung falscher britischer Pässe bei der Tötung eines Hamas-Führers entschuldigen.

Am 20. Januar war Mahmud al-Mabhuh, ein hochrangiger Funktionär der radikalislamischen Hamas, in seinem Hotelzimmer in Dubai ermordet aufgefunden worden. Der Verdacht fiel rasch auf den israelischen Geheimdienst Mossad, der Erfahrung mit solchen Operationen hat. Die Behörden in Dubai fanden heraus, dass die am Mord beteiligten Personen mit gefälschten britischen, irischen, französischen, australischen und deutschen Pässen eingereist waren. Teilweise hatten sie die Identitäten von tatsächlich existierenden Menschen geklaut.

Dieser Missbrauch sorgte vor allem in Großbritannien für Empörung. Der damalige Außenminister David Miliband bezeichnete ihn als «inakzeptabel» und ließ einen israelischen Diplomaten, bei dem es sich um den Leiter des Mossad-Büros in London gehandelt haben soll, des Landes verweisen. Der damalige Mossad-Direktor Meir Dagan verweigerte jedoch eine Entschuldigung. Sein Nachfolger Tamir Pardo will dies nun offenbar nachholen, wie der britische «Telegraph» mit Berufung auf Mossad-Insider berichtet.

<http://www.20min.ch/news/dossier/nahost/story/17461957>

4342/2010 -----

SAS man to take charge of cyber-warfare defences

(Belfast Telegraph) A former chief of the SAS has been appointed to head the military's cyber-warfare operations amid rising concern about the risk of attacks on official websites endangering Britain's defences.

Major General Jonathan Shaw will lead a unit combating internet assaults on vital strategic installations, including nuclear facilities and communications networks, The Independent has learnt.

The Strategic Defence and Security Review identified cyber-warfare as "tier one" in a league table of threats facing the UK. Last week Sir Peter Ricketts, the National Security Advisor, asked government departments to take precautions over hackers promising revenge attacks over the WikiLeaks affair. The director of GCHQ, Iain Lobban, has stated that cyber warfare, some orchestrated by foreign governments, is one of the biggest challenges faced by the intelligence services.

But it is the WikiLeaks threats which have become the most pressing in the field, according to Whitehall sources. "Hacktivist" supporters of the website have hit companies that withdrew services from WikiLeaks such as Visa, Mastercard and PayPal. Some supporters of WikiLeaks blame the UK for what they see as complicity in a campaign against its founder, Julian Assange.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/lifestyle/technology-gadgets/sas-man-to-take-charge-of-cyberwarfare-defences-15034645.html#ixzz19azfRDsA>



NORTHERN IRELAND

(This section is edited entirely by Oliver PLAUDER)

4343/2010 -----

Campbell presses PM on dissidents

(Londonderry Sentinel) EAST Londonderry MP Gregory Campbell has pressed Prime Minister David Cameron to commit to provide additional resources to combat the threat from violent republicans should the security situation deteriorate in Northern Ireland.

Mr Cameron said he thought decisions were better made in Northern Ireland and that whilst the Government was ready to help it had already made quite a generous settlement through the devolution of Policing and Justice.

Speaking at Westminster Mr Campbell argued: "The dissident terrorist threat is a continuing problem in Northern Ireland, and we have seen some evidence of the terrorists' capabilities in recent months." He asked: "Will the Prime Minister ensure that if additional resources that were not previously

envisaged are deemed necessary by the Chief Constable to deal with such a threat, he will ensure that they are provided without delay?"

Mr Cameron replied: "Of course we keep a very careful eye on the situation in Northern Ireland, and on whether additional resources are required. We stuck to the pledges made by the previous Government about properly funding the devolution of policing and justice. "I think that decisions are better made locally, which is why that was the right step to take. I know how difficult the security situation is in Northern Ireland, and I pay tribute to police on both sides of the border for the brilliant work that they do.

<http://www.londonderrysentinel.co.uk/news/Campbell-presses-PM-on-dissidents.6670424.jp>

4344/2010 -----

Phone 'links accused to bomb'

(Belfast Telegraph) Mobile phone records link a 53-year-old man to a car bomb explosion outside Londonderry police headquarters at Strand Road, a court has been told.

The disclosure was made by a member of the PSNI who was opposing a bail application by Thomas Christopher Nash, a car breaker from Iveagh Park in the Prehen area of the city. The applicant is charged with possessing firearms, imitation firearms, Magnum and Luger ammunition, and a CS gas canister which police allege were found in his home last August 9, six days after dissident republicans exploded the 200lb bomb outside the station.

The detective constable said he was opposing the application because he believed the applicant had links to terrorists. He also believed the applicant would commit further offences if bailed. Nash was remanded in custody until January 20.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/phone-lsquotlinks-accused-to-bomb-squo-15038335.html#ixzz194H9VEAB>



4345/2010 -----

Warnung vor chinesischer und russischer Cyberspionage in Deutschland

(Standard) Rund 1.600 Angriffe auf deutsche Behördenrechner zwischen Jänner und September

Elektronische Spionage-Attacken aus China und Russland gegen Deutschland nehmen seit Jahren zu. Darauf hat das Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz (BfV) am Montag in Köln hingewiesen. Eine Sprecherin des Inlandsgeheimdienstes bestätigte zugleich rund 1.600 Angriffe auf PC und Großrechner von Ministerien und anderen Behörden im Zeitraum von Jänner bis September 2010. Ziel der illegalen Ausspäh-Aktionen ist es, Informationen aus Politik, Wirtschaft, Technik und Militär abzuschöpfen.

Die 1.600 Angriffe bedeuten etwa eine Verdopplung im Vergleich zu den ersten drei Quartalen 2009, sagte die BfV-Sprecherin. Für die

Sicherheitsbehörden sei diese deutliche Zunahme allerdings kein neues Phänomen. Der Bundesverfassungsschutz weist schon seit einigen Jahren auf eine stetig zunehmende elektronische Spionage vor allem von Nachrichtendiensten aus China und Russland hin.

Ziel der Attacken auf Computersysteme sind Regierungsstellen und Behörden, aber auch Forschungsinstitutionen oder Hightech-Unternehmen. "Zu einer besonderen Gefahr haben sich die E-Mail-basierten elektronischen Angriffe auf Netzwerke von Behörden und Unternehmen entwickelt", warnt eine BfV-Publikation.

<http://derstandard.at/1293369556065/Warnung-vor-chinesischer-und-russischer-Cyberspionage-in-Deutschland>

4346/2010 -----

Germany launches probe into poisoning of ex-KGB colonel

(IntelNews) An official government probe into the alleged poisoning of a Russian former KGB colonel and his wife has been launched in Berlin, German officials have announced. Regular intelNews visitors will recall the recent case of Viktor Kalashnikov, a former colonel and authority on military matters for the Soviet KGB, who was taken in critical condition to a Berlin hospital along with his wife, Marina. The two were found to have over ten times the highest permissible level of mercury in their blood, which, according to medical experts, points to a deliberate poisoning attempt.

The case intrigued German officials, since the Kalashnikovs, who moved to Germany last September, are known in Russia as vocal critics of the Putin-Medvedev administration. The two have co-authored scathing critiques accusing Moscow of manipulating the separatist Chechen movement in order to create "a national security state" in Russia. The Kalashnikov case brought back memories of Alexander Litvinenko, another former KGB officer and vocal critic of the Russian government, who was assassinated in 2007 in London. The difference is that the Kalashnikovs survived the alleged assassination attempt. According to European media reports, Viktor has lost a significant amount of weight, while his wife is suffering from acute hair loss. Although both are under constant medical attention, Viktor managed to speak to German newsmagazine Focus, and said he is convinced that the Kremlin is responsible for his and his wife's mercury poisoning.

ACIPSS-newsletter-commentary: Widely unbeknown and hence unreported: Viktor Kalashnikov's career as a KGB officer also included a tour in Austria in the 1980s.

- (a) <http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/12/28/01-623/>
- (b) http://diepresse.com/home/politik/aussenpolitik/621679/Deutschland_0uecksilberattacke-auf-KremlKritiker?_vl_backlink=/home/politik/aussenpolitik/index.do

(Hat tip to Dieter Bacher for this info!)

4347/2010 -----

Bundesnachrichtendienst office building nears completion

(World Architecture news) Germany's Federal Intelligence Service, the Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND), is relocating to Berlin with some 4000 employees. The office's site around the former 'Stadion der Weltjugend' (World Youth Stadium) in Berlin has been chosen by the BND in an effort to

reestablish the urban space and regeneration of the area. The overall project has been divided into three sub-projects - the main building, the school and visitor centre, and the technical and logistics centre. Henn Architekten designed and built the north buildings only (shaded dark grey on the site map), whereas the main building was designed and built by Kleihues+Kleihues architects.



The technical and logistics centre houses various functional areas and incorporates goods and transport handling. It also provides access from the north directly to the central axis of the main building. It is thought that many of the employees on site will use this access which is convenient to the nearby underground station. The complex also includes a power plant and office space for a range of functions. The glass-fronted foyer and the car park above face towards the public street. The car park extends over four levels and a four-storey service building is located south of the logistics yard on the opposite side. The office building at the eastern corner completes the group along the Chausseestraße. A fourth element beneath the logistics yard connects all sections of the buildings below ground level.

http://www.worldarchitecturenews.com/index.php?fuseaction=wanappln.projectview&upload_id=13727



4348/2010 -----

Anklage gegen Nuklearschmuggler : CIA hat schon wieder ein Leck

(Financial Times) Die CIA fürchtet einmal mehr um ihre Geheimnisse. Diesmal ist es nicht eine Enthüllungsplattform, die sie lüften könnte - sondern ein Gericht in der Schweiz.

Vor dem Schweizer Gericht soll nun Anklage gegen Friedrich Tinner und seine beiden Söhne Urs und Marco erhoben werden, wegen Unterstützung für den Bau von Nuklearwaffen. Dies gab Untersuchungsrichter Andreas Müller einen Tag vor Heiligabend in Bern bekannt.

Die Tinners spielten eine wichtige Rolle im Schmuggelnetzwerk des pakistanischen Atomwissenschaftlers Abdul Qadeer Khan - waren aber auch V-Leute der CIA. Seit Jahren versucht der US-Geheimdienst, seine Spuren in dieser Affäre zu verwischen, und riskiert damit, alle offiziellen Bemühungen Washingtons, die Weiterverbreitung von Atomwaffen zu verhindern, als absurdes Doppelspiel erscheinen zu lassen.

- (a) <http://www.ftd.de/politik/international/:anklage-gegen-nuklearschmuggler-cia-hat-schon-wieder-ein-leck/50209240.html>
- (b) C.I.A. Secrets Could Surface in Swiss Nuclear Case:
http://www.nytimes.com/2010/12/24/world/europe/24nukes.html?_r=1
- (c) <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/swiss-men-with-cia-links-face-nuclear-secrets-trial-2168248.html>



AUSTRIA

4349/2010 -----

Bundesheer Neu : SPÖ will Neutralität aufwerten

(Standard) Ein kleines, hochspezialisiertes Heer, das auch im Ausland seinen Mann stehen kann - aber nur ohne irgendwelche Verpflichtungen - Das sieht der Vorschlag der SPÖ zur neuen Sicherheitsstrategie vor.

Früher hat man das "Verteidigungsdoktrin" genannt - aber da hatte man es eben vor allem mit militärischen Gegnern zu tun. Früher, da konnte man sich immerhin vorbereiten.

Heute aber liest sich das Bedrohungsbild so: "Gefahren wie subversive Angriffe auf strategisch bedeutende Infrastrukturen, Terroranschläge oder deren erpresserische Androhung zur Durchsetzung bestimmter politischer Ziele gewinnen in Verbindung mit der Verfügbarkeit neuer Einsatzmittel (insbesondere Massenvernichtungswaffen und Informationstechnologie - Cyber-Risiken) an Bedeutung. Derartige Bedrohungen können sowohl von staatlichen als auch nichtstaatlichen Akteuren, wie zum Beispiel terroristischen Bewegungen, Gruppierungen der organisierten Kriminalität, Sekten, aber auch von Einzeltätern, ausgehen. Kennzeichnend für solche Bedrohungen ist, dass sie meist überraschend und ohne Vorwarnung auftreten."

Diese Lagebeurteilung deckt sich im Wesentlichen mit dem, was von der ÖVP im Oktober vorgelegt wurde. Seither hat die ÖVP gestichelt, dass Verteidigungsminister Norbert Darabos mit seinem Teil des Konzepts säumig sei.

<http://derstandard.at/1293369463254/Bundesheer-Neu-SPÖe-will-Neutralitaet-aufwerten>



AMERICA (CONTINENTAL)

4350/2010 -----

Cuban spymaster Hernandez has broken ranks with the Castro government

(Miami Herald) Imprisoned spymaster Gerardo Hernandez has broken ranks with the Castro government, asserting that Havana's shoot-down of U.S. civilian planes happened in international airspace.

Since Cuban Air Force pilots obliterated two planes ferrying four Miami men in 1996, Cuba's leaders have strongly disputed U.S. and United Nations findings that the fatal shoot-downs happened in international airspace. Aiming to place the controversial killings in Cuban territory was a linchpin of the defense at the trial of five Cuban spies, one of whom was convicted of murder conspiracy. But now, spymaster Gerardo Hernandez, serving a life sentence, has made a startling about-face: In a last-ditch appeal, he suddenly agrees that the Feb. 24, 1996, MiG assaults on two Brothers to the Rescue planes happened over international waters.

With that argument, Hernandez is fundamentally contradicting the stand of the regime he has sworn his loyalty to, and which has declared him a modern-day hero of the revolution. Brothers co-founder Jose Basulto finds the move ironic. Now, he said, Hernandez ``wants to distance himself from the Cuban government -- to save himself.'" In his appeal, Hernandez, 45, contends that his trial attorney, Paul McKenna, mishandled his defense at a 2001 Miami federal trial by focusing so much on the shoot-down location.

That strategy overshadowed evidence that Hernandez purportedly did not know in advance about the deadly Cuban plot over the Florida Straits, the appeal asserts. Evidence of his advance knowledge was crucial to proving his role in the murder conspiracy.

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/12/26/1989507/cuban-spy-master-now-claims-brothers.html>

4351/2010 -----

Mexican request for U.S. help in drug war detailed

(Washington Post) The leader of the Mexican military told U.S. authorities last year that the head of the Sinaloa drug cartel moves among 10 to 15 known locations but that capturing Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was "difficult" because the most wanted man in Mexico surrounds himself with hundreds of armed men and a sophisticated web of snitches, according to a leaked diplomatic cable.

Mexico's defense secretary, Gen. Guillermo Galvan, told Adm. Dennis C. Blair, then the Obama administration's director of national intelligence, that the Mexican army was implementing plans to capture Guzman but that "Chapo commands the support of a large network of informers and has security circles of up to 300 men that make launching capture operations difficult," according to a report sent by U.S. Ambassador Carlos Pascual on Oct 26, 2009, and released by WikiLeaks to news organizations.

Guzman is the boss of Mexico's dominant trafficking organization and an almost legendary drug lord here - the subject of books and songs, a billionaire mastermind who escaped from a Mexican federal prison, reportedly in a laundry basket.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/12/26/AR2010122602253.html>



AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

4352/2010 -----

Australian Federal Police files used in deadly missions

(Canberra Times) Australian police in Afghanistan have helped compile secret intelligence files on insurgent leaders later targeted in secret capture-or-kill missions by special forces soldiers.

The Pentagon has confirmed that Australian Federal Police officers are 'assigned to work with' a joint police task force in Kabul that produces files later used by military commanders to 'shape the battlefield' a term often used to describe the capture-or-kill raids mounted by elite troops in Afghanistan. While Australian police are officially not allowed to contribute intelligence for military purposes, in reality they have little control over who uses the information they help compile once it is shared with the Afghan Government and other forces.

Cables released by WikiLeaks show how the joint police effort in Kabul has been hampered by a lack of staff.

A request from the US embassy in October last year said more officers were needed to help others working in the Afghan Threat Finance Cell in Kabul under joint command of the Afghan Government and NATO.

The cable says the group 'urgently requires access to translators [for] an increasing amount of wire intercept information, including complex technical and financial records' as the police target the informal money networks, which far outnumber formal banks, and which are often used by drug traffickers.

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/news/local/news/general/afp-files-used-in-deadly-missions/2034680.aspx>

4353/2010 -----

Spy fears halt NZ's Mossad probe

(The Australian) FORMER PM Helen Clark feared pursuing allegations two Israelis jailed for passport offences were Mossad spies could expose New Zealand's spooks.

The revelations are contained in the latest leaked US embassy cables released by whistleblower website WikiLeaks. The classified cable, dated July 16, 2004, was written two days after the High Court of New Zealand sentenced the two Israelis to six months' jail each. The two men -- Uriel Kelman, 30, and Eli Cara, 50 -- alleged to have been Mossad spies, were arrested in March 2004.

Cara claimed to be a Sydney-based travel agency operator, although inquiries cast doubt as to whether the company existed. Claims the men were Mossad agents were not pursued in court, the US cable notes. "While prime minister Helen Clark would not confirm which service employed the men, she noted that if one were to lay espionage charges than one would have to be prepared to offer the kind of evidence in court which our intelligence agencies do not like coming forward to display. "We (the US) have very strong grounds for believing these are Israeli intelligence agents," the cable stated.

Meanwhile, responding to the WikiLeaks cables on Australia's diplomatic dealings with China and the US, two nationally respected elder statesmen yesterday advised the Gillard government to adopt a more independent foreign policy.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/spy-fears-halt-nzs-mossad-probe/story-fn59nm2j-1225976832320>



AFRICA (SUB-SAHARA)

4354/2010 -----

Ivory Coast: Gbagbo-controlled TV 'inciting UN hate'

(BBC) The UN has accused Ivory Coast state media - controlled by strongman Laurent Gbagbo - of inciting hatred against foreign peacekeepers.

UN peacekeeping chief Alain Le Roy said state TV channel RTI was pumping out lies, and blamed it for a machete attack on UN personnel on Tuesday. Mr Gbagbo has so far resisted UN calls to step down as president and make way for his rival Alassane Ouattara. Regional leaders are holding talks aimed at breaking the impasse.

The presidents of Benin, Sierra Leone and Cape Verde, sent by regional bloc Ecowas, came away on Wednesday without a deal. Ecowas, which had threatened in a statement to send in troops to force Mr Gbagbo to step down, said the three men would return to the country on 3 January for more talks.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12091043>

4355/2010 -----

French spy hostage 'still alive in Somalia'

(AFP) France has received "proof of life" of one of its secret agents held hostage by Islamists in Somalia since July 2009, the French foreign intelligence service DGSE said on Tuesday.



A DGSE source said the service had received from the kidnapers "a reply to a personal question" to which Denis Alex, a French secret agent kidnapped by an Islamist group, was able to respond, proving he was alive. "No detail was given by his captors on the state of his health nor on his location or the conditions in which he is being held," the source added.

The source declined to give further details "for obvious reasons of discretion" given the "particularly difficult" negotiations under way with the kidnapers. Alex was seized in Mogadishu on July 14, 2009, as was another French agent who was held by a different group, Hezb al-Islam, and freed the following month. In June France's then foreign minister, Bernard Kouchner, said Alex may have been held in the autonomous Puntland region of northern Somalia. France said the two agents were in Somalia to help train local security forces but the Al-Qaeda-inspired Shebab militant group that seized Alex accused them of gathering intelligence for the French government.

It alleged they were working in support of foreign "forces of the crusade" -- an apparent reference to African Union peacekeeping forces currently comprising some 5,000 troops from Uganda and Burundi.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hX8sxAHpifU7-1bd1fodOCgQ3I6A?docId=CNG.553091db146e8c1ff69569af8e19e515.701>



THE CYBER BATTLEFIELD / CIVIL RIGHTS

4356/2010 -----

Mossad brought down Egypt's internet

(TechEye) Israeli intelligence was responsible for bringing down Egypt's internet network two years ago, according to a confession extracted from an arrested businessman in a spy case.

Egypt's internet service went down on December 2008 and the incident was blamed on damage to underwater data cables caused by a ship's anchor.

However, when he was questioned by coppers over a spying case, Tareq Abdul Razzaq Hassan, said that the incident was, in fact, the work of Israel's foreign intelligence agency. A confession, which was leaked to an independent Egyptian newspaper, also had Hassan admitting to receiving money to recruit spies in Syria and Egypt.

Recently Israel has been linked to Stuxnet, a powerful computer worm that caused serious damage to Iran's nuclear programme.

<http://www.techeye.net/security/mossad-brought-down-egypts-internet>

4357/2010 -----

Cyber-Spies to Wage Non-Stop Assaults on Defense Firms in 2011

(Defense companies should expect to come under non-stop attack by countries engaging in cyberespionage in 2011, predicted experts at McAfee Labs, the research-and-development wing of the world's largest dedicated Internet security firm.

January 2010's Operation Aurora helped coin a new term, the advanced persistent threat. Aurora, believed to have originated in China, successfully infiltrated dozens of U.S. companies with the goal of stealing source codes and other data.

The spies used messages sent through emails that appeared to come from close friends or colleagues that asked them to link to photos. The link actually took them to a webpage that installed sophisticated worms that embedded deep within operating systems.

This form of attack is called "spear-phishing" because unlike regular phishing scams that are sent out in mass emails, these are crafted for individual targets.

Once a computer was infected and sent out a message to its creators that it had been enslaved, hackers were standing by 24/7 to exfiltrate data. This went on for several months before Google discovered the plot in January. McAfee defines an advanced persistent threat as one that originates from a nation-state and is carried out for motivations other than financial gain or political protest.

<http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/blog/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=277>

4358/2010 -----

Is the Apple iPhone 5 set to spy on you?

(premiershipnews) Apple who are the creators of the soon to be iPhone 5 has recently applied for patents which are to say the least of it controversial.

These patents will be applied to things like your iPhone 5 and iPad as well as your Apple Mac computer. What does this do? This patent will be able to identify you and actually will be able to spy on you and even record your voice, take photos of where you are and even wipe your phone or device clean. These kinds of patents seem to be interfering with the citizens' rights and one wonders where it will end. Your iPhone 5 and other devices will be able to store data of all kinds about you and your situation including taking photos of your face without you even knowing it is being collected. They say they are doing this to protect you in case of your iPhone 5 being stolen. Personally I would rather have my phone stolen. Especially as this can even be done without the iPhone 5 being in use.

<http://www.premiershipnews.org/is-the-apple-iphone-5-set-to-spy-on-you-982>

4359/2010 -----

Menschenrechtler häufig Ziele im Cyber-Krieg

(Standard) Mit ihren Online-Präsenzen sind Menschenrechtsorganisationen und Aktivisten permanenten Attacken ausgesetzt. Die Offensive gegen Wikileaks ist dabei alles andere als ein Einzelfall. Wie das Berkman Center for Internet and Society an der Harvard University aufzeigt, sind Personen und Organisationen, die kontroverses Material ins Web stellen, besonders starken Angriffen ausgesetzt. Gegenwind bekommen sie in erster Linie von jenen, die anderer Meinung sind als sie.

Die Wikileaks-Affäre hat in den vergangenen Wochen für eine anhaltende und hitzig geführte Debatte über Rede-, Meinungs- und Informationsfreiheit gesorgt.

Sympathisanten wie Gegner von Wikileaks haben sich nach der Enthüllung politisch brisanter Dokumente und der darauf folgenden Vorfälle eine globale Cyber-Schlacht geliefert. Durch Distributed-Denial-of-Service-Attacken (DDoS) war etwa das Wikileaks-Portal vorübergehend nicht abrufbar. Ebenso wurden auf der Gegenseite Websites lahmgelegt. Über Meinungs- und Informationsfreiheit im Web haben somit Hacker bzw. deren Auftraggeber entschieden.

<http://derstandard.at/1292462594994/Menschenrechtler-haeufig-Ziele-im-Cyber-Krieg>

4360/2010 -----

Flaws Spotlighted in Tor Anonymity Network

(Wired) The quest for true digital anonymity is as old as the internet, but seems to remain as elusive as a spam-free world.

At the Chaos Computer Club Congress here Tuesday, researchers from the University of Regensburg delivered a new warning about the Tor anonymizer

network, a system aimed at hiding details of a computer user's online activity from spying eyes.

The attack doesn't quite make a surfer's activity an open book, but offers the ability for someone on the same local network – a Wi-Fi network provider, or an ISP working at law-enforcement (or a regime's) request, for example – to gain a potentially good idea of sites an anonymous surfer is viewing.

"Developers have to be aware of this kind of attack, and develop countermeasures," said Dominik Herrmann, a Regensburg PhD student studying profiling and fingerprinting attacks. "But that proves to be very difficult."

The research, performed by a variety of collaborators in Germany working on anonymity measures, represents a warning for privacy-conscious users wary of spying eyes, whether behind net-unfriendly borders or simply corporate firewalls.

<http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2010/12/flaws-spotlighted-in-tor-anonymity-network/>

4361/2010

Stuxnet-Virus könnte tausend Uran-Zentrifugen zerstört haben

(SPIEGEL) Das Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS) ist eine renommierte Organisation. Sie wird von diversen Stiftungen und sogar der Internationalen Atomenergiebehörde IAEA gefördert. Nun sind drei ISIS-Forscher zu einem Schluss gekommen, der dabei helfen könnte, das Rätsel um den geheimnisvollen Stuxnet-Virus zu lösen. Stuxnet, schreiben die Wissenschaftler David Albright, Paul Brannan und Christina Walrond in ihrem Bericht, hat womöglich tausend oder noch mehr iranische Uran-Zentrifugen in der Anreicherungsanlage Natans, gut 300 Kilometer südlich von Teheran, zerstört.

Die Autoren des Forschungsberichts formulieren vorsichtig: "Wenn das Ziel von Stuxnet war, alle Zentrifugen in der Anreicherungsanlage zu zerstören, ist Stuxnet gescheitert. Wenn das Ziel jedoch war, eine begrenzte Anzahl von Zentrifugen zu zerstören und Irans Fortschritte beim Betrieb der Anlage zu hemmen und gleichzeitig die eigene Entdeckung zu erschweren, war die Malware möglicherweise erfolgreich, jedenfalls eine zeitlang."

- (a) <http://www.spiegel.de/netzwelt/netzpolitik/0,1518,736604,00.html>
- (b) http://isis-online.org/uploads/isis-reports/documents/stuxnet_FEP_22Dec2010.pdf

4362/2010

Handys lassen sich per SMS lahmlegen

(Standard) Viele weit verbreitete Handymodelle lassen sich mit einem Angriff per SMS lahmlegen. Das haben zwei Hacker Montagabend auf dem Chaos Communication Congress (27c3) in Berlin berichtet. Werden bestimmte Kurznachrichten auf ein Gerät geschickt, kann es zum Absturz gebracht werden. In einigen Fällen sei es sogar möglich, das Telefon vollständig außer Gefecht zu setzen. Zu den betroffenen Herstellern gehören unter anderem Nokia, SonyEricsson, Samsung und LG.

Das Tückische: Nutzer sehen diese SMS teils gar nicht

<http://derstandard.at/1293369608364/27c3-Handys-lassen-sich-per-SMS-lahmlegen>

4363/2010 -----

Russian e-Payment Giant ChronoPay Hacked

(Krebs) Criminals this week hijacked ChronoPay.com, the domain name for Russia's largest online payment processor, redirecting hundreds of unsuspecting visitors to a fake ChronoPay page that stole customer financial data.

Reached via phone in Moscow, ChronoPay chief executive Pavel Vrublevsky said the bogus payment page was up for several hours spanning December 25 and 26, during which time the attackers collected roughly 800 credit card numbers from customers visiting the site to make payments for various Russian businesses that rely on ChronoPay for processing.

In the attack, ChronoPay's domain was transferred to Network Solutions, and its domain name system (DNS) servers were changed to "anotherbeast.com," a domain registered at Network Solutions on Dec. 19, 2010.

The hackers also stole and posted online at least nine secret cryptographic keys ChronoPay uses to sign the secure sockets layer (SSL) certificates that encrypt customer transactions at chronopay.com. Vrublevsky said all but one of those certs were issued long ago: One of the certs was issued in September, albeit with an older key, he said.

http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/12/russian-e-payment-giant-chronopay-hacked/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+KrebsOnSecurity+%28Krebs+on+Security%29

4364/2010 -----

Iran's Intelligence Minister Admits Hacking Into Opposition E-Mail

(RFE/RL) Iran's Intelligence Minister Heydar Moslehi has publicly admitted hacking into the e-mail of opposition members.

Moslehi was quoted by Iranian news agencies, including ILNA, as saying that e-mails were the most important tool of communication between opposition members during last year's postelection protests and that the Intelligence Ministry could break into them and defeat "the enemy." "One of the officials, in his speech, out of carelessness, announced that we have access to the e-mails. Within 24 hours, they coded and password-protected their e-mails," Moslehi said. "Of course, we in the Intelligence Ministry broke those passwords within 48 hours."

Moslehi is quoted as saying that e-mails were being exchanged between "foreigners and their elements inside Iran." Moslehi, who was speaking at a December 25 conference on the achievements of Iranian expatriates at Tehran's Shahid Beheshti University, said that Iran managed to control "many dimensions" of the postelection protests by monitoring e-mail.

He was also quoted as accusing the United States of launching online networks against the Islamic republic.

http://www.rferl.org/content/iran_hacking_email/2259973.html

Mobiltelefone abhören? GSM macht's leicht!

(Standard) GSM-Hacker Harald Welte im Gespräch über seit Jahren bekannte, schwerwiegende Lücken in allen Netzen

Die meisten haben in mobile Netzwerke ein viel höheres Vertrauen als in das Internet, dies vollkommen zu unrecht - so attestiert es einer, der mit durchaus ausgiebigem Wissen in diesem Bereich aufwarten kann: Harald Welte war unter anderem am Openmoko-Projekt beteiligt, (b) welches sich zum Ziel gesetzt hatte, eine vollständig freie Softwareplattform für Mobiltelefone zu etablieren. Und auch wenn er dieses Unterfangen zwischenzeitlich hinter sich gelassen hat, bleibt Welte doch der Thematik verbunden. (c)

Er gehört zu einer Gruppe von Entwicklern, die auf grundlegende Sicherheitsprobleme in Mobilfunknetzen aufmerksam machen will. Dies nicht zuletzt, in dem man Open-Source-Tools schreibt, die die diversen Lücken veranschaulichen. Zusätzlich engagiert sich Welte für die Durchsetzung von freien Softwarelizenzen, mit seiner Plattform gpl-violations.org konnte er in den vergangenen Jahren bereits einige Erfolge verbuchen.

Im folgenden Interview geht Welte auf die zentralen Problembereiche rund um GSM ein, und veranschaulicht so auch, dass es keine sonderliche Hexerei ist, Telefongespräche - oder auch Datenübertragungen - abzuhören. Das Gespräch führte Andreas Proschofsky am Rande der jährlich in Wien abgehaltenen Sicherheitskonferenz Deepsec, die sich in diesem Jahr einen besonderen Schwerpunkt auf den Punkt mobile Sicherheit gegeben hat. (d)

ACIPSS-Newsletter-Kommentar: Ein extrem lesenswertes Interview, das einen fundierten Einblick in die mobile Telekommunikation und ihre Schwachstellen bietet. Man erfährt beispielsweise, dass es der griechischen Organisierten Kriminalität gelungen ist, die Handies von Politikern abzuhören.

- (a) <http://derstandard.at/1289609149081/WebStandard-Interview-Mobiltelefone-abhoeren-GSM-machts-leicht>
- (b) <http://www.openmoko.com/>
- (c) <http://gnumonks.org/~laforge/weblog/>
- (d) <https://deepsec.net/>

Nato rüstet sich für den Cyber-Krieg

(Handelsblatt) Der Wurm Stuxnet war nur der erste Vorbote: Die westlichen Staaten rüsten sich längst gegen den Cyber-Krieg. Die chinesische Armee soll für das „Schlachtfeld des 21. Jahrhunderts“ schon bestens gerüstet sein, sagen Geheimdienstkreise. Erste Cyber-Angriffe gab es schon, bisher meist im Verborgenen. Ob eine Hacker-Attacke den Bündnisfall auslöst, bleibt aber ungeklärt.

Der Westen will in den nächsten Jahren massiv gegen einen möglichen "Cyber-Krieg", den virtuellen Krieg im Internet, aufrüsten. Das berichteten Vertreter westlicher Geheimdienste der Nachrichtenagentur dapd am Montag in Berlin und Washington. "Wir sind noch längst nicht gegen Angriffe aus der Cyber-Welt gerüstet", sagte ein Angehöriger der CIA. Die chinesische Armee sei für das "virtuelle Schlachtfeld des 21. Jahrhunderts" schon hochgerüstet. Jüngste Untersuchungen hätten ergeben, dass die chinesischen

Streitkräfte "Tausende von Militärspezialisten für Attacken bei einem Krieg im Netz vorbereitet haben", erläuterten auch deutsche Geheimdienstler.

<http://www.handelsblatt.com/technologie/it-internet/geheimdienst-angaben-nato-ruestet-sich-fuer-den-cyber-krieg;2719604>

4367/2010 -----

Syrische Blogger im Visier des Geheimdienstes

(Tagesschau) Internetnutzer sind in Syrien vielen Schikanen ausgesetzt: In Internet-Cafés werden sie registriert, E-Mails werden gefiltert und Seiten gesperrt. Blogger bekommen Anrufe vom Geheimdienst. Der Regierung geht dies noch nicht weit genug - sie plant schärfere Gesetze.

Es ist ein Katz-und-Maus-Spiel, sagt Abdel Nour, Chefredakteur der syrischen Internetseite all4syria. Ein gefährliches Katz-und-Maus-Spiel. "Das Regime hat alle Blogs gesperrt, also Webseiten, auf denen freier Meinungs-austausch stattfindet. Wer trotzdem einen neuen Blog eröffnet, kommt über kurz oder lang ins Gefängnis - und da sitzen inzwischen viele", klagt er.

All4syria kann man in Syrien nur noch mit computertechnischen Tricks auf den Bildschirm holen. Die Seite wird inzwischen aus Dubai statt aus Syrien ins Netz gestellt, die Beiträge gelangen meist per E-Mail dorthin.

<http://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/syrienmeinungsfreiheit100.html>



SPYCRAFT

4368/2010 -----

Polar bears get the better of spy cameras

(BBC) The cameras used for a documentary on polar bears were designed to be as unobtrusive and resilient as possible.

Polar Bear: Spy on The Ice used hi-tech "spy cams" to get as close as possible to the bears during summer in the Arctic islands of Svalbard. But while they were built to withstand temperatures as low as -40C, in the end most could not cope with the curiosity displayed by their subjects.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-12070732>



INTELL HISTORY

4369/2010 -----

Margaret Thatcher in cover-up after Czech spy exposed John Stonehouse

(Guardian) Prime minister agreed at meeting in 1980 the Labour minister should not be confronted with allegations.



Margaret Thatcher agreed to a cover-up when information from a Czech defector confirmed in 1980 that John Stonehouse, the former Labour minister who "did a Reggie Perrin", had been a spy. At a Downing Street meeting on 6 October 1980 with her home secretary, William Whitelaw, and attorney-general Sir Michael Havers, Thatcher agreed that Stonehouse should not be confronted with the new information nor prosecuted.

The decision to keep secret Stonehouse's espionage followed hard on the heels of the exposure in 1979 of Sir Anthony Blunt, the surveyor of the Queen's pictures, as a Soviet spy.

The confirmation that Stonehouse was a paid spy for the Czechs also makes him the only British politician to have acted as a foreign agent while a minister. He served in Harold Wilson's government in the 1960s. In 1974, faced with serious business problems, he abandoned his wife, faked suicide by leaving his clothes on a beach and disappeared with his mistress to Australia. The Stonehouse affair coincided with the first television series of Reggie Perrin, who also disappeared by running into the sea, and helped the phrase "doing a Reggie Perrin" into the language. Stonehouse was later tracked down and sentenced to seven years for theft and fraud. Downing Street papers show that Havers told Thatcher that "he was sure that Mr Stonehouse had been a spy for the Czechoslovaks but he had no evidence which he could put before the jury". (a)

ACIPSS-newsletter-commentary: *The Guardian's sensational revelations are not that sensational at all, in fact. Both the Stonehouse-affair and then PM Thachtcher's "cover-up" are described in Christopher Andrew's History of MI5.* (b)

- (a) <http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2010/dec/30/margaret-thatcher-spying-john-stonehouse>
- (b) Christopher Andrew, In Defence of The Realm. The Authorized History of MI5 (London, 2009) 707f.

4370/2010 -----

Kim Philby's KGB card on show in Moscow spy display

(AFP) Soviet spy veteran Grigor Vardanyan looked at Kim Philby's immaculately-kept pipe and sighed.



"He was such a cultured man," the former agent said of one of Britain's most notorious turncoats. "So educated. So well prepared. He served our cause until the end." Such fond memories were being murmured through the great halls of Moscow's World War II museum as Russia's foreign intelligence service, in a rare exhibition, revealed the tools it has been using for the past decades to outsmart the West.

There was the British "Cambridge Five" member Philby's Olympia Splendid 99 typewriter and KGB identification card. There was the letter John F. Kennedy signed authorising the exchange of Soviet KGB Colonel Rudolf Abel for the downed US pilot Gary Powers in 1962.

And there was a coded message from Igor Kurchatov, the father of the Soviet atomic bomb, who seemed so desperately unhappy with his team of locally trained scientists. "All the data indicate that the feasibility of solving this problem is much greater than our scientists -- who are unfamiliar with the work ... being done abroad -- think," Kurchatov bravely told Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin in 1943.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iwr6xsNQTwVXAtwR8z0mAvbeEJjw?docId=CNG.b5ael5clb709a1743e2e17c6108aab09.401>

4371/2010 -----

SAS 'for hire' after Iranian embassy siege in 1980

(BBC) The Foreign Office expected countries to ask for the loan of the SAS in a siege or hijack after the London Iranian Embassy rescue, documents show.



Documents from 1980 released by the National Archives reveal a discussion about a legal agreement to cover the use of the SAS by another country. A memo says those countries would have to accept "prior responsibility for any claims for damage or injury". The documents also reveal the government's pride in the SAS mission.

The special forces stormed the embassy on 5 May 1980, and within 15 minutes, the six-day siege by six Iranian Arab separatists was over. Five of the gunmen and two of the 26 hostages were killed during the siege. The rescue operation by black-clad figures was watched by millions of people on television and it brought the SAS and its motto - Who Dares Wins - to the world's attention. An internal memo from the FCO's Middle East department, dated 9 May, considers the "future use of SAS anti-terrorist squads".

It suggests the successful outcome of the Iranian embassy siege will lead to "a fresh wave of requests for SAS training teams to visit well-disposed Middle Eastern countries".

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-12020393>

4372/2010 -----

Surveillance and Censorship in Britain and the EU

(via Cryptome) A covert surveillance and censorship (SAC) program run by Britain's secret service agencies from spy centers in and outside the UK threatens the democratic foundation of Europe and undermines respect for human rights and civil liberties across the Western world.

<http://cryptome.org/0003/great-secret.pdf>

4373/2010 -----

The Shorthand of Experience

(CIA) The true story of an exceptional spy, reconstructed from records of postwar debriefings of participants and witnesses to his adventures.

<http://cryptome.org/0003/cia-shorthand.pdf>



LITERATURE

4374/2010 -----

Journal for Intelligence, Propaganda and Security Studies VOL.4, NR.2/2010



From the contents:

- Editorial: Siegfried Beer, Is Austrian Intelligence Finally Coming out of the Closet?
- Kerstin von Lingen, Abhörung und Anwerbung: Die „SUNRISE-Gruppe“ im Fokus von CIC und CSDIC
- Daniele Ganser/Mats Deland, NATO's Secret Army in Neutral Sweden
- Gerhard Schmid, Wer betreibt wozu und wie Wirtschaftsspionage?
- Othmar Plöckinger, Die antibolschewistische Propaganda der deutschen Obersten Heeresleitung und der Reichswehr 1918-1920, 2. Teil
- Florian Traussnig, Sexbilder als „Büchsenöffner für Gehirne“ - Die subversiven Propaganda-Operationen des österreichischen OSS-Agenten Eddie Linder, 1943-1945
- Martin Moll, Politische Propaganda im 20. Jahrhundert. Essay
- Burkhard von Grafenstein, Vom Putschplan zum militärischen Experiment: Das Unternehmen „Graukopf“
- Mario Mugg, Kosovo - eine Herausforderung für die internationale Staatengemeinschaft
- Oliver Dengg, Dschihad 2.0: Die Aktivitäten der „virtuellen Dschihadisten“ im Social Web

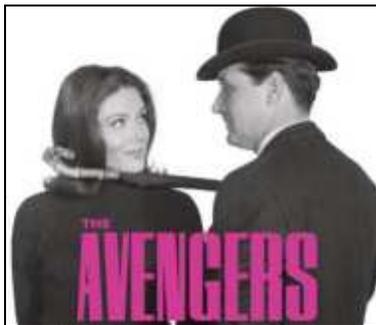
- Interview Martin Haidinger, Investigator und Gentleman: Das abenteuerliche Leben des CIC-Mitarbeiters Jury von Luhovoy im Wien des Kalten Krieges
 - Operator's Page Rastislav Báčora, Operative Kräfte für Anforderungen künftiger Einsätze - Lehren aus dem Irak-Krieg?
 - Book & Film Reviews
- (a) http://acipss.org/newsletter_archiv/JIPSS_extract_8.pdf
 (b) Information and subscription details: <http://acipss.org/journal.htm>

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">MEDIA ALERTS</h2>
---	--

4375/2010 -----

'The Avengers: A Celebration' spies on a memorable mod moment

(LA Times) By the time "The Avengers" premiered in the States on ABC on March 28, 1966, the stylish, mod British spy series had been fixture on television in its native Britain for five years - and it had gone through almost as many permutations as that other British favourite, "Doctor Who."



Oddly enough, "The Avengers" actually was a stepchild of a short-lived British series called "Police Surgeon," which promised "true-life drams from a life few know" and premiered in September 1960 with Ian Hendry holding the scalpel and Ingrid Hafner as his nurse. That show lasted only 13 weeks, but the head of drama at ABC Television, Sydney Newman, wanted to keep the Hendry-Hafner tandem intact, so a new series was launched called "The Avengers." Hendry was on hand as Dr. David Keel, and Hafner was his nurse, Carol Wilson.

Added to their world was Macnee's Steed, the intelligence agent whose investigations pulled the medical duo into encounters with the criminal underworld.

Enter Royal Shakespeare Company actress Diana Rigg, who auditioned with 10 or 12 other actresses. As Hearn describes in the book, Rigg was the "key" to this incarnation of the show's success. Rigg managed to be "both kittenish and capable as the self-assured Emma Peel." And she had the most mod wardrobe with her boots, tight black pants, turtlenecks and lots and lots of leather.

<http://herocomplex.latimes.com/2010/12/27/the-avengers-a-celebration-spies-on-a-memorable-mod-moment/>

4376/2010 -----

Media alerts

am Sa, 01.01. um 01:00 SF 1
James Bond 007 - In tödlicher Mission
 Agententhriллер
 Dauer: 120 min (a)

Beschreibung: Der Lenkwaffencomputer eines britischen Spionageschiffs liegt auf dem Grund des Ionischen Meeres. 007 soll dem feindlichen Geheimdienst das brisante Gerät abjagen.

am So, 02.01. um 12:15 WDR
Spion zwischen zwei Fronten
Agententhruiller

Dauer: 135 min (b)

Beschreibung: James-Bond-Regisseur und Thriller-Spezialist Terence Young hat aus der wahren Geschichte des englischen Meisterspions Eddie Chapman einen spannenden Reißer mit viel "Action" gemacht, der das Spionage-Geschäft nicht unbedingt ernst nimmt, sondern eher witzig parodiert.

am Mo, 03.01. um 18:05 arte
Mit Schirm, Charme und Melone - Schwarze Magie
Original-Titel: Warlock

Krimi-Serie, Folge 20

Dauer: 55 min (c)

Beschreibung: Wer kennt sie nicht, die britische Kultserie aus den 60er Jahren mit Emma Peel und John Steed? Zum 50-jährigen Geburtstag im Jahr 2011 strahlt ARTE erstmals insgesamt 54 im deutschen Fernsehen niemals gezeigte Folgen der Serie aus.

am Mo, 03.01. um 20:15 phoenix
Die Stasi-Zentrale

Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (d)

Beschreibung: Nichts war in der DDR so geheim wie die Zentrale des Ministeriums für Staatssicherheit in Berlin-Lichtenberg. Auf fast zwei Quadratkilometern residierte hier bis 1990 die gefürchtete Geheimpolizei der DDR, die Stasi. Knapp 10.000 MfS-Mitarbeiter hatten hier ihren Arbeitsplatz.

am Mo, 03.01. um 21:00 phoenix
Das Spinnennetz - Stasi-Agenten im Westen

Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (e)

Beschreibung: Seit Bestehen beider deutscher Staaten haben Spionageeinrichtungen der DDR systematisch versucht, die Bundesrepublik mit einem Agentennetz zu überziehen. Ihre Zahl wird auf etwa 6.000 geschätzt. Im Mittelpunkt der Dokumentation steht Lilli Pöttrich, die Jahre lang im Auswärtigen Amt für die DDR spionierte.

am Di, 04.01. um 00:00 phoenix
Schmutziges Gold - Die CIA und die japanische Kriegsbeute

Dokumentation

Dauer: 55 min (f)

Beschreibung: Zwischen 1937 und 1945 plünderte die japanische Armee in China Hunderte Tonnen Gold, Silber und Platin, die nach Kriegsende spurlos verschwunden waren und bis heute nicht wieder aufgetaucht sind. 40 Jahre später, im Frühjahr 1987, sucht eine Gruppe Amerikaner nach dem legendären Kriegsschatz - auf den Philippinen. Dort sollen die Japaner ihre gigantische Beute vor der Kapitulation versteckt haben. Fand der Leiter der amerikanischen Operation, John Singlaub, das Gold auf den Philippinen?

am Di, 04.01. um 20:15 ARD Eins extra
Der andere Blick - Fotografen und der Krieg
Dauer: 45 min (g)

Beschreibung: „Der andere Blick“ zeigt sechs bedeutende Kriegsphotografen, deren Fotografien von Vietnam bis zum aktuellen Krieg im Irak auch unsere Sicht auf Konflikte und die Opfer beeinflusst haben.

- (a) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26748109&tvid=70d3b085ff781796fdc9ef969d1a0b2c>
- (b) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26726359&tvid=70d3b085ff781796fdc9ef969d1a0b2c>
- (c) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26680139&tvid=70d3b085ff781796fdc9ef969d1a0b2c>
- (d) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26746102&tvid=70d3b085ff781796fdc9ef969d1a0b2c>
- (e) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26746103&tvid=70d3b085ff781796fdc9ef969d1a0b2c>
- (f) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26746107&tvid=70d3b085ff781796fdc9ef969d1a0b2c>
- (g) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-26735514&tvid=70d3b085ff781796fdc9ef969d1a0b2c>

Deadline for application: 04 January 2011 2010

This newsletter is EDITED by Verena Klug and published by www.acipss.org

Disclaimer: ACIPSS reserves the right not to be responsible for the topicality, correctness, completeness or quality of the information provided. Liability claims regarding damage caused by the use of any information provided, including any kind of information which is incomplete or incorrect, will therefore be rejected. Likewise ACIPSS is not responsible for any contents linked or referred to from his pages. If any damage occurs by the use of information presented there, only the author of the respective pages might be liable, not ACIPSS who has linked to these pages. (If sections or individual terms of this statement are not legal or correct, the content or validity of the other parts remain uninfluenced by this fact.) The views expressed in commentaries are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the official policy, position, or opinions of ACIPSS.

You receive this newsletter in accordance with § 107 (4) Telekommunikationsgesetz (TKG)

To UNSUBSCRIBE send an email message to:
newsletter@acipss.org
with "unsubscribe" in the reference-line

To SUPPORT our newsletter please send an email to
newsletter@acipss.org

Austrian Center for Intelligence, Propaganda and Security Studies (ACIPSS)
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz
mail: Attemsgasse 8/III, A-8010 Graz, Austria
tel.: (+43) 316 380 8097

fax: (+43) 316 380 9730
web: www.acipss.org
email: newsletter@acipss.org