

Politicians, Prostiticians, and the Ghana-United States Military Base Agreement: What happens when you let the united snakkkes into your home?

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Full paper and extensive footnotes: <https://antiracist.org/the-united-snakes-in-africa/>

Abstract: In this paper, we reject the argument put forward by some stakeholders that the United States is not actually establishing a military base in Ghana by utilizing the U.S. Department of Defense's own definition of "base".

Then, we demonstrate point for point how the agreement fits every aspect of the definition of a base via textual analysis. We then present research on how the u.s. routinely violates treaties, pacts and agreements focusing on two case studies.

We demonstrate that the u.s. does not keep its word and that this tradition continues with Donald Trump, though it certainly did not start with him. We conclude with the significance of u.s. treaty violations as a whole and, in the broader context of bargaining with a demonstrably unilateral rogue nation like the United States, the significance for Ghana, her people and her future using Oscar Brown and Wilson's song "The Snake" as the basis for our conceptual framework introduced here.

Introduction and Background

In this article, we will implement a textual analysis of the Ghana-US Military Base agreement. On March 28, 2018, Ghana's Parliament ratified a military cooperation agreement between Ghana and the USA. This touched off a firestorm where sections of the Ghanaian public took the view that such an agreement is a significant compromise of Ghana's sovereignty and dignity.

Some of the initial questions were related to whether or not what was being proposed was actually a military base. The Communications Bureau of the Presidency also issued an official statement by President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo entitled "No US Military Base In Ghana" stating "the United States of America has not made any request for such consideration and, consistent with our established foreign policy, we will not consider any such request" (Bureau, 2018).

The most accurate and pertinent definition of a military base in the current context is that provided by the dictionary of the US Department of Defense, which specifically provides definitions of military terms.

The dictionary "standardizes military and associated terminology to improve communication and mutual understanding within DOD with other US Government departments and agencies and among the United States and its allies" (Staff, 2018, p.1). We will return to this point on 'allies' because apparently, we Afrikans=Black people do not understand the meaning of 'allies' to the US nor do we fully comprehend how the US treats their allies.

The dictionary of the US Department of Defense is that of September 2018. According to the dictionary of the Department of Defense of the United States, a base is explicated by way of a tripartite definition as

1. A locality from which operations are projected or supported.
2. An area or locality containing installations which provide logistic or other support.
3. Home airfield or home carrier. (Staff, 2018, p. 25)

Using this definition, we will engage in a thorough textual analysis in terms of how the proposed US military base in Ghana fits each of these three criteria as outlined by the Joint Chiefs of Staff/US Department of Defense. We will go into the potential dangers of allowing a criminal organization like the u.s. to gain a foothold in Ghana given their record of acting unilaterally with impunity.

"The Snake": A Novel Conceptual Framework for Understanding Ghana's Acceptance of the US Military Base Deal

Here are the lyrics to "The Snake":

*On her way to work one morning
Down the path alongside the lake
A tender-hearted woman saw a poor half frozen snake
His pretty colored skin had been all frosted with the dew
"Oh well," she cried, "I'll take you in and I'll take care of you"
"Take me in oh tender woman (come on in)
Take me in, for heaven's sake (come on in)
Take me in, for heaven's sake
Take me in tender woman," sighed the snake
She wrapped him up all cozy in a curvature of silk
And then laid him by the fireside with some honey and some milk
Now she hurried home from work that night as soon as she arrived
She found that pretty snake she'd taking in had been revived
(refrain)
Now she clutched him to her bosom, "You're so beautiful," she cried
"But if I hadn't brought you in by now you might have died"
Now she stroked his pretty skin again and then kissed and held him tight
But instead of saying thanks, that snake gave her a vicious bite*

(refrain)

"I saved you," cried that woman, "And you've bit me even, why?"

And you know your bite is poisonous and now I'm gonna die!"

"Oh, shut up, silly woman," said the reptile with a grin

"You knew damn well I was a snake before you brought me in"

(refrain repeats twice)

(O. Brown & Wilson, 1968)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Vjfw7UHI_E

Ghana's apparent ignorance of the nature of "The Snake" or, in this case, the united snakkkes, will inevitably lead to the host being viciously bitten. Approval of this deal is tantamount to inviting a snake into one's home.

The oldest known attestation of the term "United Snakes" dates back to 1902, though the use of snake symbolism to describe what would eventually become known as the United States of America dates back to at least 1754 as used in Benjamin Franklin's "Join, or Die" political cartoon (Corrothers, 1902, p. 73; Franklin, 1754). The earliest known attestation of the stylized variation we are using here, i.e. lowercased and with three k's, an allusion to the ku klux klan, dates to 2007 (Otto, 2007).

Ancestor Baba Qmówálé (a.k.a. Malcolm X) stated "Of all our studies, history is best qualified to reward our research" (X, 1963).

This history of unilateralism and impunity of the united snakkkes is not new. Indeed, "The U.S. federal government entered into more than 500 treaties with Indian nations from 1778 to 1871; every one of them was 'broken, changed or nullified when it served the government's interests'" (Deloria Jr, 2010; Egan, 2000; Toensing, 2013).

What does this tell us about Ghana's chances if and when the united snakkkes decides to bite? Those making these decisions are either obtuse to these historical precedents or simply do not care about their people being "bitten".

Consider the rhetorical ethic which the united snakkkes has always operated on. Mama Marimba Ani defines the rhetorical ethic as follows: "Culturally structured European hypocrisy. It is a statement framed in terms of acceptable moral behavior towards others that is meant for rhetorical purposes only. Its purpose is to disarm intended victims of European cultural and political imperialism. It is meant for "export" only. ...Its essence is its deceptive effect in the service of European power (Ani, 1994, pp. xxv-xxvi)

Succinctly, they say one thing and do otherwise. The rhetorical ethic is the core of the united snakkkes hypocrisy not as deviation, but as a fundamental way of life whereby one can say that all are equal but at the same time enslave Afrikan=Black people.

The Terms of the Agreement are Consistent with the US DoD Definition of a Military Base

In the preamble to this Military Base Agreement (MBA), it says the "United States forces may be present in Ghana in pursuit of common defence efforts, as well as to provide support to the security of United States Government personnel and facilities in the regions" (Graphic.com.gh, 2018). This clearly speaks directly to definition (1) whereby Ghana would be used for projecting or supporting US operations as well as (2) in which Ghanaian soil will serve as the area or locality containing installations providing logistic or other support (Staff, 2018).

In article 2 of the MBA, points (2) and (3) states that: "2. This Agreement clarifies access to and use of agreed facilities and areas by United States forces, thereby facilitating training, including to maintain unit readiness, combined exercises and other military engagement opportunities.
"3. United States forces may undertake the following types



of activities in Ghana: training, transit, support and related activities; refueling of aircraft, landing and recovery of aircraft, accommodation of personnel, communications, staging and deploying of forces and materiel; exercises, humanitarian and disaster relief and other activities as mutually agreed."

These points are unambiguous in terms of their relation to definitions (1) and (2) as they directly address the operations and logistic support role to which Ghana would be bound. Along the same lines, the MBA also unequivocally states in Article 7 that:

"United States forces are authorised to preposition and store defence equipment, supplies and materiel at agreed facilities and areas. ...United States forces shall retain title to and control over the use of prepositioned material and shall have the right to remove such items from the territory of Ghana." (Graphic.com.gh, 2018)

The u.s. can bring in materiel and take it out of Ghana unilaterally while Ghana cannot do anything about it. This is driven home in Article 6, which states that although buildings constructed will be regarded as Ghanaian property formally, they "[...] shall be used by United States forces until no longer needed by United States forces" (Graphic.com.gh, 2018).

If you own a car, but I have taken it from you and can use it for however many years I want until I decide that I do not want it anymore, what does it matter whether I allow you to hold onto ownership papers? In Article 14 of the MBA, we find that Ghana is beholden to allow the US military "...Use of the radio spectrum" which "shall be free of cost to United States forces" (Graphic.com.gh, 2018).

Home airfield or home carrier

The third part of the definition of a military base is given as "a home airfield or home carrier" (Staff, 2018). According to Article 12 of the MBA, it states that: "Aircraft, vehicles and vessels operated by or, at the time, exclusively for United States forces may enter, exit and move freely within the territory and territorial waters of Ghana" (Graphic.com.gh, 2018).

This clause is the clearest abdication of Ghana's sovereignty discussed thus far. Indeed, as worded, there is absolutely no limit upon this free movement stated implicitly or explicitly. Article 12 further states that: "United States Government aircraft, vehicles and vessels shall be free from boarding and inspection without the consent of United States forces authorities." (Graphic.com.gh, 2018)

Further, it is stated that: "Ghana hereby provides unimpeded access to and use of agreed facilities and areas to United States forces, United States contractors and others as mutually agreed....Ghana shall also provide access to and use of a runway that meets the requirements of United States forces." (Graphic.com.gh, 2018)

In other words, essentially anything the u.s. would be able to do with "a home airfield or home carrier" on mainland u.s. soil is what they will be able to do on erstwhile Ghanaian soil.

Ghana's president Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo stated, "Ghana has not offered a military base, and will not offer a military base to the USA" (AFP, 2018). He further stated that "I will never be the president that will compromise or sell the sovereignty of our country." (AFP, 2018).

However, perhaps due to his misunderstanding of what constitutes a military base, he may not be aware that this is exactly what he has done. Further, in addressing the question of sovereignty with regard to territorial integrity and self-defense, Article 5 states that:

"United States forces are hereby authorized to exercise all rights and authorities that are necessary for the use,

Continued on next page...

The united snakkkes in Africa

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operation, defense, or control of agreed facilities and areas, including taking appropriate measures to protect United States forces. United States forces intend to coordinate such measures with the appropriate authorities of Ghana” (Graphic.com.gh, 2018).

The united snakkkes has a Military Base in Ghana: So What?

Why should anyone, specifically a Ghanaian, care about the united snakkkes military base? In this section, we will provide a background on the u.s. track record for acting unilaterally and with impunity.

Unilateralism has been the de facto policy of the united snakkkes since before the time of George Washington to the present. The U.S. entered into over 500 still-legally-binding treaties with its indigenous people and breached each one of them. Unilateralism refers to doctrinal adherence to one-sided action in disregard for other parties. In this instance, it refers to the united snakkkes’ tendency to move in its own interest without consulting Ghana or any other party.

In the 1796 farewell address of George Washington (the first President of the United States), he stated unequivocally that; “It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world” (Washington, 1796).

A similar sentiment was echoed by Thomas Jefferson who stated in his first inauguration speech of 4 March 1801, “peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none”.

Henry Kissinger, a u.s. war criminal, who served as US Secretary of State and National Security Advisor is noted to have quipped that “America has no permanent friends or enemies, only interests.”

This means if we think we are entering into a genuine bilateral alliance with the united snakkkes, we are dreaming, as their articulated thoughts, words, and deeds tell us that they are going to act unilaterally in their own interests even if that goes against the interest of Afrikan=Black people.

In the case of Ghana, we may sign the treaty, but if the U.S. decides unilaterally they have no interest in honoring their word, we have no recourse – whether legal, military, or anything else to get these united snakkkes off of our soil; indeed, that soil is not our soil anymore because according to the agreement they can use it as long they deem necessary.

What will Ghana be able to do that not even the International Court of Justice, the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council are able to accomplish whenever the u.s. decides to act with the unilateral impunity? If the united snakkkes unilaterally decides to foment a coup d’etat against the President of Ghana, as the CIA did in 1966, who will we be able to call for help; The UN? The UN cannot even get the u.s. to pay their dues, much less can they do anything if the united snakkkes decides to act unilaterally and arbitrarily against Ghana.

Case Studies of united snakkkes Unilateralism

A few recent historical precedents are articulated in “Indisputable Violations: What Happens When the United States Unambiguously Breaches a Treaty” (Koplow, 2013). In the article, it states that:

“On multiple occasions, the United States has joined a valid treaty, helped bring it into legal force, accepted the obligations and the benefits that come with it, and then unarguably and ostentatiously violated the treaty. As detailed in the two cases below, the United States has a history of flatly breaching commitments and, when challenged, having nothing to assert in its defense.” (Koplow, 2013)

The Chemical Weapons Convention

We will begin with the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). The treaty states that parties to the CWC will commit to “never develop, produce, acquire, retain, transfer, or use chemical weapons and to destroy their existing stockpiles. The treaty lays out a timetable for the elimination of existing weapons called the “order of destruction” with interim benchmarks until the tenth year. By then, each party must have incinerated, chemically neutralized, or otherwise destroyed 100 percent of its declared chemical weapon inventory.” (Koplow, 2013, p. 56).

The CWC entered into force on April 29, 1997 and made April 29, 2012, the absolute final deadline for completing the complete destruction of all chemical weapons built up during the cold war; this period made provisions for a single allowable five-year extension (Koplow, 2013, p. 57).

With regard to the Chemical Weapons Conventions, not only did the united snakkkes fail to accomplish the destruction of their stockpiles of chemical weapons, but

it will take until the fourth quarter of 2023 – some eleven and a half years beyond the supposedly “final” date to eliminate the remainder of the chemical weapons.

The Vienna Convention on Consular Relations

In the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (VCCR), Article 36 stipulates that “when a party arrests, imprisons, or detains a foreign citizen, it must inform him without delay’ of his right to have his consul notified of the adverse action and to communicate with his home authorities” (Koplow, 2013, p. 59). The united snakkkes exercises its right emanating from the Vienna Convention on a daily basis. In 2010 alone, amerikkkan consular officers conducted 9,500 prison visits throughout the world and assisted 3,500 u.s. citizens arrested abroad (Koplow, 2013). Most notably, “the VCCR formed a critical part of the U.S. legal action against Iran after the seizure and detention of American embassy personnel in Tehran during the hostage crisis of 1979-1981” (Koplow, 2013, p. 60). However, snakkkes that they are, they do not show reciprocity when it comes to VCCR rights.

According to Koplow, “When U.S. law enforcement authorities arrest or detain foreign nationals, they fail dozens of times annually, to advise them of their rights and to notify the appropriate consuls” (Koplow, 2013, p. 60). Often, the foreigner is tried, convicted, sentenced, and incarcerated or executed before anyone notices or even cares that the VCCR may be relevant. On numerous occasions, the ICJ ruled that the united snakkkes had clearly violated the treaty. However, punishment for these violations is never forthcoming. After all, what can one expect after a bite from the united snakkkes other than an admission that “It’s my nature”?

Other Recent Unilateral Treaty Violations and/or Withdrawals

This same unilateral nature was evinced when the U.S. put its unilateral interests before multilateral consideration when it withdrew from the International Coffee Agreement of 2007 in alignment with amerikkka’s [white] nationalist agenda put forward by Donald Trump (N. Brown, 2018; TeaandCoffee.com, 2018). Another BBC news article of June 20th 2018, states that the “US quits ‘biased’ UN human rights council”. We can see an earlier instance of this type of behavior when Trump pulled out of the Global Climate Change Pact, also known as the Paris Accord (Geggel, 2018).

So why does it all matter anyway? As Koplow (2013) writes: “Why does it matter that the United States violates treaties, and occasionally ... without a shred of legal cover? Perhaps that is the realpolitik privilege of the global hegemon: to be able to sustain hypocrisy[...] to welch on its debts, fudge on its obligations, and adopt a “do as we say, not as we do” approach with other countries. (pp. 68-69)

In other words, the united snakkkes wants to hold others to terms to which it does not submit. So why would someone enter into an agreement on those types of terms? In our view, there are several Vectors of Compromise that may play a role, including, but not limited to the following:

Vectors of Compromise of anti-Black=anti-Afrikan Prostitutionists/Pimp-liticians

1. The Financial - Created Tastes and Desires Vector

Someone simply pays the sell-out in cash or in kind and in exchange they treasonably sell out Afrikan=Black causes, aspirations, and lives. The oldest book in the world, the instructions of Ptahhotep says: “(One who) listens to his belly belongs to the enemy. This sentiment was echoed later by Nana Thomas Sankara who said “He who feeds you, controls you”.

2. The Biogenetic Vector - The Mulattofication of Afrikan=Black interests

Nana Dr. Chancellor Williams refers to as the mulatto problem whereby one has a non-Afrikan=non-Black parent and in protecting and serving their interests, they sacrifice the interests of the Afrikan=Black race,

3. The Employment vector (closely related to the financial vector).

4. **The Self-preservation vector:** linked to violence against Afrikans=Black people, who are assassinated for staying true to Afrikaness=Blackness. Others who see this precedent have been manipulated into anti-Afrikan=anti-Black positions.

5. **The Miseducation Vector** relates to incorrect behavior emanating from false premises engendered by being taught the wrong thing.

6. **The Ideological Vector:** For pale white eurasians, the creation of an ideology is akin to breeding and raising an attack dog. The intended result is for the dog to serve its master. White ideologies are designed to serve the ultimate

goal of pale white Eurasians – their continued survival. No matter what the -ism is, it is to serve this function.

7. **The Religious vector** is related to Afrikan=Black people who are compromised by praying to an imaginary white boy on a stick or praying to a rock in the desert five times a day.

8. **The anti-Black identity vector** pertains to a sense of self that despises being Black. The idea behind anti-Black identity and its origin is summed up by Baba Omówálé: “Who taught you to hate the texture of your hair? Who taught you to hate the color of your skin? ... Who taught you to hate yourself from the top of your head to the soles of your feet? Who taught you to hate your own kind? Who taught ...to hate being what God made you? (Malcolm, 1962)

The singular answer to these questions is that the pale white Eurasian teaches Afrikan=Black people all of these things to engender compromise and selling out.

Again, this is an abridged list and these vectors are not mutually exclusive, but rather work in tandem with each other. These are some of the vectors that may be at work in the acceptance of the united snakkkes military base on Afrikan=Black soil.

What about the u.s. Self-Appointed Role in Policing the World?

At this juncture, it is important that we debunk the white savior industrial complex narrative in which, in this instance, the united snakkkes comes to save the West Afrikan sub-region from terrorism fomented by either they themselves or their pale white Eurasian cousins – the arabs (Cole, 2012). When one analyzes cases like Liberia/Sierra Leone, Mali and Eastern Congo, the u.s. or the white eurasian powers have a vested interest in destabilization in other to get blood diamonds, blood coltan and blood uranium in these places. The united snakkkes does not act on altruism according to their words but, more importantly, given their rhetorical ethic, according to their track record of observed behavior.

Lack of Reciprocity: Can Ghana set up a Military Base in the united snakkkes?

There is a fundamental lack of reciprocity in terms of military presences. The united snakkkes of amerikkka claimed all of North amerikkka as its sphere of influence (Jones, 2000). Not only could Ghana not have a base in the united snakkkes proper, but also not in North amerikkka whatsoever.

Conclusion

We would like people to understand that united snakkkes unilateral “interests” can supersede and/or go against those of Ghana and her people. For our part, we must act in the interest of Afrikan=Black people our children yet unborn.

Every so often in the midst of the eurasian rhetorical ethic, they make statements consistent with their observed behavior such as the idea of “the strong do what they can and the weak suffer what they must” (Thucydides, 431 BCE). This is the idea, which survives in expressions of “might makes right”.

Contrast that worldview with the over 3850-year-old attestation of the fundamentally Afrikan worldview as expressed in Kemet ‘land of Black people’, which states “Do unto another so that he might do likewise” from which other iterations of the so-called golden rule, quite ironically, are plagiarized (Bak, 2016, p. 160).

This is a starkly different worldview from the snakkke-like worldview of the pale white Eurasian. So what happens with a tender woman invites a snakkke into her home? When it bites her, it will simply say “You knew damn well I was a snake before you brought me in.”

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[Ed. note: Although this survey relies too heavily on a governmental focus, and not enough on extra-parliamentary left forces, popular resistance, indigenous resistance and mass feminist movements, we are printing excerpts, along with some brief additions because of its value as a regional survey of the devastation caused by US imperialism and the need for international solidarity as Biden-Harris take over from Trump at the helm of the empire. Lessons may be drawn from the right turn of elected officials previously associated with left parties in El Salvador and Ecuador.]

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN YEAR-END REVIEW

By Roger D. Harris [Excerpts]

<https://taskforceamericas.org/latin-america-caribbean-end-of-year-review/>

The balance between the US drive to dominate Latin America and the Caribbean and its counter, the Bolivarian cause of regional independence and integration, tipped to the left by year's end with major popular victories, including reversal of the coup in Bolivia and a constitutional referendum in Chile. Venezuela's Bolivarian Revolution persists against the US blockade, while Cuba and Nicaragua defy US regime-change measures.

The struggle plays out amid the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, impacting countries differently depending on their political economies. Venezuela, Nicaragua and Cuba had COVID death rates per million of 35, 25, and 12, respectively. The death rates in right-leaning neoliberal states of Peru, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Panama, Honduras, and Guatemala were respectively 1123, 888, 849, 805, 843, 306, and 263. The lower rates on the left reflected better public health and social welfare practices.

Andean Nations

Venezuela's resistance to the US "maximum pressure" hybrid warfare campaign is a triumph in itself. Hybrid warfare – a diplomatic, propaganda, and financial offensive along with an illegal blockade and attack on Venezuela's currency – kills as effectively as open warfare. "It bleeds the country slowly and is more devastating than direct bombardment," observes Vijay Prashad of the Tricontinental Institute.

Venezuela featured prominently in the campaign speeches of Trump and Biden, with both promoting regime change, as they vied for the votes of the right-leaning Venezuelan émigré community in Florida.

In March, the US falsely charged Venezuela of narco-terrorism, placing multi-million-dollar bounties on the heads of Venezuela's President Nicolás Maduro and other officials. A naval armada was sent off the coast of Venezuela under the pretext of interdicting drugs. US government data, however, show the source of the drugs are US client regimes such as Colombia and Honduras.

In May, mercenaries launched an attack from Colombia but were captured, including two US ex-Green Berets. The US seized Iranian tankers in international waters, having a devastating impact on transport, agriculture, water treatment and electricity generation in Venezuela.

In October, Venezuela adopted controversial anti-blockade measures aimed at facilitating private investment and circumventing the US blockade. The unrelenting US regime-change campaign has had a corrosive effect on Venezuela's attempt to build socialism. With the economy de facto dollarized, among those hardest hit are government workers, the informal sector, and those without access to dollar remittances from abroad who continue to be paid in the bolivar, now grossly inflated.

Turnout was low for the Dec 6 National Assembly election, but the ruling Socialist Party enjoyed a landslide victory. Opposition leader Guaidó (who obeyed Trump's order to boycott the election, and has become an embarrassment) may be dropped by the US. Biden is expected to "keep using sanctions ... but with sharper aim," as reported by Reuters.

Colombia is the chief regional US client state, the largest recipient of US military aid in the hemisphere and the largest source of cocaine. With seven US military bases, it's a staging point for paramilitary attacks on Venezuela. Pres Duque disregards the 2016 peace agreement with the FARC amid rightwing violence, with a social movement leader murdered every other day. In Oct, the largely indigenous Minga mobilization converged on Bogotá to protest rampant killings. A national strike followed, called by a broad coalition led by the teachers' union.

Ecuador achieved international notoriety with the streets of Guayaquil littered with dead bodies attributed to mismanagement of the pandemic by Pres Moreno. A vp under leftist Rafael Correa, Moreno turned sharp right after his election in 2017. Moreno is prosecuting his former allies and privatizing the state-owned electric and oil companies, while poverty has worsened. Moreno's popularity rating plummeted to an abysmal 8%. Polls for the election, scheduled for February 7, give progressive Andrés Arauz a lead as the Pink Tide may again rise in Ecuador. [Ed. note: Indigenous Ecuadorian Amazonians are successfully using traditional herbal remedies to treat cases of COVID that threatened to decimate their population.]

The crises in Peru, which saw a succession of corrupt presidents replacing former ones, were repeated this year. Pres Vizcarra was dismissed in Dec, followed by the Merino presidency of less than a week, followed by the appointment of Pres Sagasti. COVID raged, while the youth took to the streets in protest. A left current is building with the candidacy of Verónica Mendoza in the April 2021 presidential contest.

Evo Morales returned to Bolivia less than a year after a US-backed coup forced him to flee. Morales had won his reelection bid in October 2019, but the OAS gave a patina of legitimacy to the ensuing putsch. Rightwing Sen Jeanine Añez was installed as "interim-president" after Morales was forced to resign by the military and police hierarchy. She presided over two massacres and a campaign of repression against the majority indigenous



Cuban health care workers nominated for Nobel Peace Prize for fighting COVID.

population and activists of Morales's party, the Movement Towards Socialism (MAS). A heroic resistance based on strong grassroots organizing by social movements, unions, and the MAS, forced Añez to call a new presidential election, postponed three times. In Oct, MAS candidate Luis Arce won with a landslide 55%. The new government has returned to ALBA, CELAC, and UNASUR – regional bodies founded by Hugo Chávez – but is saddled with a \$300M loan from the IMF, made by Añez though not authorized by the Senate. As the year closed the Constitution Court overruled a domestic law that banned same-sex union, permitting the first legal same-sex marriage in Bolivia.

The Southern Cone

Jair Bolsonaro's 2nd year in office in Brazil was like the first: dismantle social welfare measures and reward multinational corporations, while the Amazon burned and popular sectors protested. His belief in coronavirus herd immunity contributed to excessive deaths in Brazil, especially impacting indigenous peoples. [Ed. note: Social movements like the Movimento Sem Terra (Landless Rural Workers) resisted state repression and mercenary murders.]

Chile has been in turmoil for most of the year with protests against corrupt Pres. Sebastian Piñera, the richest person in the country. [Ed note: Chilean women launched an international campaign against impunity for rape with mass public chanting protests against the president and police that were taken up by women worldwide. Mapuche and other protesters exposed police attacks that blinded many protesters.] In October, a plebiscite passed by 78% to replace the constitution by dictator Pinochet. The vote was preceded massive demonstrations commemorating the first anniversary of the popular struggle against the neoliberal order. Elections for Constituent Assembly members are scheduled for April and presidential elections are scheduled for November, with Communist Eduardo Artés now leading in the polls.

Argentina's Pres Alberto Fernández and VP Cristina Fernández took office after four years of rightwing governance. On October 17, crowds celebrated Peronist loyalty day in support of the center-left government. Emilio Pésico said their movement is revolutionary because "it gave power to those who had no power and incorporated the workers into politics." [Ed. note: In Dec, Argentine women celebrated with huge rallies as the country became the first in the region to legalize abortion.]

Caribbean

Cuba's Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for medical missions combating the global pandemic. Cuba is producing COVID-19 treatments and vaccines and distributing them to needy countries, while suffering under an intensified US blockade. Trump funded some 54 regime-change groups in Cuba through USAID and the National Endowment for Democracy. The economy has been impacted by the pandemic and tightened US sanctions, forcing Cuba to take pragmatic economic adjustments. [Ed. note: Cuban resilience enabled the government to engage with and embrace arts communities the US was seeking to use as a base for opposition.]

Puerto Rico, which the US empire conquered in the Spanish-American War of 1898, is one of the few outright remaining colonies in the world. Emblematic of US neglect was the Dec collapse of the Arecibo Observatory's giant radio telescope, once the largest in the world. Nearly 60% of the island's children live in poverty. [Ed. note: Although the pro-statehood party narrowly won the election to replace the discredited governor with a minority vote, new parties emerged to break the duopoly of pro-US parties, abstentionism led in a phony plebiscite, and the pro-independence social-democratic PIP scored its best results. Grassroots mutual aid efforts and labor militance grew.]

Haiti has been in nearly continuous popular revolt against US-backed President Jovenal Moïse, who has ruled by decree after cancelling elections. Repression, ignored in the western press, has been violent and intense.

Central America and Mexico

Central America was battered by the pandemic and two devastating hurricanes just ten days apart in Oct. As conditions further deteriorate, migrants, especially from US client states El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, continue to flee to the US. Migrants and asylum seekers deported back from the US have been killed, raped, or tortured upon return, according to human rights groups.

El Salvador Pres Bukele sent the military in Feb into the Legislative Assembly to influence a vote on his proposed security program. Bukele, formerly associated with the left FMLN party, has now turned right, militarizing the border with Honduras to enforce the "safe third country [immigration] agreements" and joining the pro-US interventionist Lima Group.

Angry citizens burned down Guatemala's congress in Nov, after a budget gave legislators substantial raises and rewarded multinational corporations but cut social welfare. A national strike followed demanding the resignation of rightist Pres Giammattei, former director of the prison system.

Costa Rican workers staged a week-long national strike against Pres Alvarado, who ignored the people and resumed negotiations with the IMF, sparking more popular demonstrations. Despite intervention by the Catholic Church to diffuse the protests, the rebellion against destructive tax increases, cuts to public services, and privatizations "has changed the political dynamics in a country."

Under the Sandinista government of Pres Ortega, Nicaragua enjoys "reduction of poverty and extreme poverty, eradication of illiteracy, the highest economic growth in the region for a decade, free quality education, change of the energy matrix to 77% renewable energy, [and moved] from 90th place to number 5 worldwide...in reducing the gender inequality gap."

Given this "threat of a good example," US efforts to isolate Nicaragua to achieve regime change continued. US media reports of alleged abuses to indigenous and Afro-descendant communities provided support to boycott "conflict beef," which would have had a major impact on the Nicaraguan economy. After the allegations were exposed as unsubstantiated, the accusers hypocritically claimed their actions resulted in the government correcting itself. After Venezuela and Cuba, Nicaragua is hardest hit by US sanctions.

Mexico, 2nd largest economy in Latin America, 11th in the world, is the top US trade partner. After decades of right-wing rule, left-of-center Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO) and his new MORENA party have been in office for two years. [Ed note: AMLO has been condemned by the EZLN and other indigenous forces for genocidal "development" policies in Chiapas and elsewhere.]

Mexico flew Evo Morales out of Bolivia, when his life was threatened by a rightwing coup, and gave asylum in the Mexican Embassy in La Paz to other deposed Bolivian officials. Mexico has also defied the US blockade of Venezuela, and AMLO has called for the release of whistleblower Julian Assange. [Ed note: This follows a Mexican pattern of a certain independence from US "foreign policy" as a sop to domestic opposition.]

AMLO closed factories in response to the pandemic except for those supplying essential services. Workers went on strike when some factory owners defied the government closures. The US intervened forcing border *maquiladoras* that produce goods for the US military to reopen.

With high COVID rates, AMLO has been criticized for a lax and delayed handling of the health crisis. He was also confronted by protests from the extreme right nationalist coalition FRENDA, demanding that the "Bolivarian Dictator" must resign, while a rightist plan called Project BOA outlined a strategy for ousting him from office.

UN Secretary General Guterres's plea for a "global ceasefire," necessitated by "the fury of the virus," has been ignored by the US. Meanwhile, some 30 nations including Venezuela, Nicaragua and Cuba, are suffering under suffocating US sanctions, which are a form of hybrid warfare. These unilateral, coercive measures, impacting a third of humanity, are illegal under the UN Charter. As the "liberator" Simón Bolívar presciently observed in 1829: "The US appears to be destined by providence to plague the Americas with misery in the name of freedom."

Roger Harris is with Task Force on the Americas, a 35-year-old human rights organization, and the Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA), a research and information organization, based in Washington DC. TFA is a grassroots human rights organization dedicated to supporting social justice movements in Latin America, also known as the Marin Interfaith Task Force on the Americas (MITF).

COLD DAYS ON DEATH ROW

[col. writ. 12/23/20 (c) '20 Mumia Abu-Jamal

the mental wages of Covid-19 in winter.

Every place where a Death Row stands, is, by its very nature, a cold place, for what is colder than a government killing its own citizens, especially after years of psychological and mental torture and the isolation of solitary confinement.

But now I speak not of psychological coldness, but of the physiological.

Cold air blowing into Pennsylvania's Death Row, where men, imprisoned by Covid-19, spend 23 and a half hours in a chilly cell, around the sounds of coughs and depression -

According to a source on the Row, the minds of men are on pretty girls these days given the grip of Covid.

Several years ago, a civil suit changed the conditions dramatically, granting men hours of out of cell time weekly.

Then Covid 19 struck.

And a cold wind blows through the cells of PA's Death Row.

— (c) 20 maj



Political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal

Mumia Gets a New Chance to Challenge His Murder Conviction

By Dave Lindorff [Excerpts]

<https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/12/25/mumia-gets-a-new-chance-to-challenge-his-murder-conviction/>

Mumia Abu-Jamal moved a step closer to reconsideration of his earliest appeal of his conviction — a flawed Post-Conviction Relief Act hearing in 1995, as well as three other later PCRA appeals of aspects his case, all ignored and their findings rejected by Pennsylvania's appellate courts under spurious conditions.

The opening comes in the form of dismissal by the state's Supreme Court of an attempt by Maureen Faulkner, widow of slain Philadelphia Police Officer Daniel Faulkner, to use an obscure legal gambit called a King's Bench petition, to have DA Larry Krasner's office removed as the legal entity defending against Abu-Jamal's appeals. That effort, filed last February, had blocked any forward action on those appeals.

Abu-Jamal's attorneys had filed an appeal years ago, claiming that the handling of those four PCRA hearings were all constitutionally flawed because Justice and eventual Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille had refused Abu-Jamal's requests that he recuse himself, having been Philadelphia's DA and overseeing the DA Office's effort to oppose Abu-Jamal's appeals. This was based on a 2016 US Supreme Court ruling on *Williams v. Pennsylvania*, which granted a defendant a new penalty phase trial because the same Justice Castille had as DA approved seeking the death penalty, and then later did not agree to recuse himself.

Abu-Jamal's effort gained urgency when in late Dec 2018, newly elected progressive DA Krasner reported discovering, in a storeroom of the DA's office, six file boxes containing documents relating to Abu-Jamal's case.

Many of these were dated from the time of his 1982 trial, including material that should've been disclosed by to Abu-Jamal and his defense team at the time of the trial or before his 1995 PCRA hearing.

Among them a letter from a key prosecution witness, a young white taxi driver Robert Chobert, asking prosecuting attorney Joseph McGill, "Where is my money?" As journalist Linn Washington has noted, Chobert, as a prosecution witness, was unlikely to have been asking for reimbursement for travel or meals, "Because as a key prosecution witness he would have been brought to and from court by police officers, and would have been provided with his meals and hotel room by the DA's office, not get reimbursed."

Chobert was a critical prosecution witness, who claimed to have parked his taxi directly behind Faulkner's patrol car, and from that position to have witnessed Abu-Jamal allegedly firing multiple times at the prone Faulkner. But photos of the crime scene don't show a taxi behind Faulkner's squad car. Many find it hard to believe that Chobert, driving his cab illegally because his license had been revoked following a DWI conviction, and on probation on a five-year sentence for felony arson of a school, would have pulled up and parked directly behind a cop car.

A letter from Chobert asking the DA for "my money" that was not provided to the defense is appalling. It appears to be a serious case of prosecutorial misconduct, or the type of evidence that, if known to a jury, could've led to a different outcome.

Other documents found suggested Judge Castille, while DA, was directly monitoring the disposition of his office's

death penalty cases, and how his felony appeals unit was handling the legal effort to oppose Abu-Jamal's appeals.

As a result, Common Pleas Judge Leon Tucker supported Abu-Jamal's motion to have four of his rejected PCRA hearings re-considered, or reopened, because of Justice Castille's failure to recuse. It was this favorable ruling that Faulkner's widow motion had prevented Mumia from acting on, and the new state Supreme Court dismissal of her gambit clears the way for Mumia's attorneys to seek a new Post Conviction Relief Act hearing.

Abu-Jamal attorney Judy Ritter said, "The King's Bench petition has been dismissed, and that decision cannot be appealed. Now our case involving the four rejected PCRA hearings can go forward." So too will the long-delayed evidentiary hearing into the contents of the six boxes of prosecutorial documents relating to the case — documents that prior DAs had illegally kept undeclared and hidden away from Abu-Jamal and his lawyers for four decades.

Next will be a hearing before a superior court panel into whether the newly discovered documents pose a Brady violation in his initial trial or later during his PCRA hearings. That panel can make a determination, refer the case to a Superior Court judge, or move everything directly to the PA Supreme Court, that will no longer have retired Justice Castille sitting on it. Several other Justices have recused themselves.

Ed. note: Mumia has steadfastly maintained his innocence, though he has used his media platform as a Prison Radio commentator to call attention to other injustices in prison and in society rather than his own case.

Behind the Gates at Connecticut's Women's Prison Facility

I am writing because people do not understand the corruption, unethicalness, and abuse that goes on behind these gates at Connecticut's only female facility. I want to be the voice not only for myself but for all the women whose voices are not being listened to.

In 2017-2018, I was mentally, emotionally and physically abused while in the mental health unit of the DOC. I was told I was faking an illness, and nothing was wrong with me, as I would scream and cry for help because of the severe pain. DOC employees would walk by my cell laughing, ignoring me, or telling me that I was crazy. A little after a month of suffering, I was finally brought to a hospital, where it was determined that my gall bladder would need to be removed. I have all documentations proving these things.

In 2018, a marshal and I were having intimate contact for months when I went to court (for bribes),

which ended with him forcefully sexually assaulting me. The DOC has not followed the PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) guidelines; they refused me counseling as well as other things to deal with the trauma. This is currently under investigation with Troop E Montville CT state police as I intend to pursue charges. I have experienced retaliation for filing the assault charges.

Besides my own issues with the justice system in CT, others have been affected too -- like the young woman who gave birth to her baby in the toilet here a few years back due to neglectful staff, or how the whole O-Unit had to be evacuated twice in the summer of 2020 due to fire and sparks coming out of the wall outlets, I would assume due to poor electrical wiring.

I would also like to add that only some DOC officials wear a mask while around us; whereas many others do not, despite the state mandate, and the agreement put into place with the ACLU. It is putting our lives in jeopardy.

People have suffered and died here due to DOC negligence. I will not sit around and watch as others suffer, or allow myself to suffer any more without trying to put a stop to it.

There is SO much more that I could add, but really what I want is for inmates to be treated fairly, in a safe, healthy environment, and justice for all those whose rights have been violated.

Please contact me by mail if you would like, or you may call my attorney, Alexander Taubes at 203-909-0048.

Feel free to share this letter and/or my contact information.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Kristal Lis #365845
York Correctional Facility
201 W. Main Street
Niantic CT 06357

100X100 Campaign to Increase Publication Frequency of Turning the Tide

Over its 30+ year publishing history, *TTT* has been published in magazine format, as a 24-page tabloid, and from time to time on a bi-monthly basis, six issues a year. For the last few years, economic necessity has dictated that we guarantee four 8-page issues a year. To restore bi-monthly publication, we launched a fund-raising campaign we've dubbed "100X100."

We are still looking for one hundred people who will donate \$100 a year, or \$10/mo, to make it possible for *TTT* to resume publishing six issues a year, and continue mailing about 1700 copies of each issue into the prisons. You can donate online at <http://gofundme.com/eugzgg>. Help it go viral!

Turning the Tide doesn't print itself, or mail itself. Some prisoners who get the paper contribute a few stamps. Often, they pass the copy of *TTT* that they received from hand to hand, cell to cell, or they send in the names and addresses of half-a-dozen or more other prisoners. **Prisoners, if you can find donors or subscribers outside prison to subsidize your sub, that would help a lot!**

If you'd like to see *Turning the Tide* more frequently, if you want to contribute to breaking down the walls of isolation and separation imposed by the prison system, please contribute. If you can't manage \$100 all at once, you could donate \$10 a month. But any donation you make can help. Postage costs for a single issue of *TTT* are \$1000 and climbing. If you can't donate yourself, please help spread the campaign via your social media, to your Facebook friends, Twitter followers, and email contacts. Everything helps. Nobody makes a dime from working on *TTT*.

If the campaign is successful, we will resume publishing every other month in 2021. Postage is our biggest expense. Nobody gets paid at *TTT*. But the Postal Service is not so generous. We have a handful of people who are sustainers, making a monthly donation, a larger number of people who subscribe once a year or so. Right now, we are at about 10% of our goal. LA area supporters could set up house meetings, where the editor will pitch to your friends for support. The future of *Turning the Tide* is in your hands. Now, while you're thinking about it, go to:

<http://gofundme.com/eugzgg> and donate, or use paypal to antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com if you prefer. Then share it with your contacts. With your help, *Turning the Tide* can step up to the "urgency of now" -- the necessity for radical organizing, educating and analyzing to respond to the growing crisis of the Empire -- endless war, police terror with impunity, mass incarceration, colonialism, ecological devastation that will shortly become irreversible.

If you think *TTT* is a useful tool in the struggle for people's power and a new world, please donate today. If you wish, you can also just send cash, check or money order to

Anti-Racist Action, PO Box 1055, Culver City CA 90232.

Facing Reality - The Past is Not Past, But the Future is Now

by Michael Novick, *Anti-Racist Action-LA/People Against Racist Terror (ARA-LA/PART)*

The convergence of the federal elections, the decennial census, and the global pandemic in 2020 have given us an unprecedented ability to accurately and realistically see the size, scope, mental and physical health, class and national formation and consciousness, and revolutionary prospects of the entire population of the US. What the experience has taught us is sobering. The ugly realities and consequences of settler colonial, patriarchal, white supremacist capitalism and empire have been laid bare in the thinking and practice of the US state, society and individuals.

There are about 247,000,000 people in the US age 18 and over and potentially able to vote. 158,240,239 voted in the 2020 election from about 213 million registered voters. About 81 million voted for Biden-Harris, and 74 million for Trump-Pence, with about 3 million scattered across states among Libertarian and various other third-party candidates (Greens, Peace & Freedom, etc). So the 89 million adults who did not vote exceed Biden's record tally; some percentage of them were victims of voter suppression, a significant number are probably non-citizens with or without papers, and perhaps 2 million were incarcerated. Still, about 65 million registered voters did not cast a ballot. Given the hundreds of millions of dollars and person-hours spent on getting out the vote in what was with some basis in fact labeled the "most consequential election ever," was that abstention a measure of disgust, disengagement, apathy, or despair?

What else have we learned? Given the nature of the choice presented, and the persistence of Trump's claim and his followers' faith that the election was a fraud, stolen by Biden and the Democrats, it's safe to say that the size of forces on the right, their intensity and willingness to subvert bourgeois democracy, is far greater than many believed. Trump appears to be on a course to convert the GOP into a nakedly fascist party, or at least build such a wing within it on an ongoing basis. Electoral defeat has only deepened their sense of grievance and white racial nationalism (augmented by reactionary elements among people of Cuban, Venezuelan, Korean, Vietnamese and even Mexican origin or descent, and some men of all nationalities and class backgrounds who resonated with Trump's tough guy demeanor).

On the "left," on the other hand, masses of Black, indigenous and other people of color, as well as a sector of white working and professional people were so disgusted by and fearful of Trump and his base, that they are still contained by the machinery and propaganda of liberalism and neo-liberalism and the constraints and limits of the corporate Democratic Party. Although there were hundreds, perhaps thousands of wildcat and grassroots labor actions in workplaces in response to the threat of COVID, and actions by workers in the IT sector to challenge the worst practices of their bosses, this has not translated into a sustained labor movement in the streets of massive proportions. The unprecedented and widespread street protests for racial justice sparked by the police murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and too, too many others have also not transformed themselves into a permanent liberatory movement with the power to dictate terms and define the political agenda on a national level, either inside or outside the electoral arena.

These realities on the right and 'left' reflect the continuing capacity of settler colonial, patriarchal, white supremacist capitalism and empire to shape mass consciousness. Imperialism is still able to deflect and deter the development of class consciousness and recomposition, or of liberatory anti-colonial struggle. This remains so even in the face of the grotesque incapacity of the system and its rulers to provide the most elementary safeguards of people's health, safety, or financial well-being.

Which leads to the question, what will it take to break people's identification with the empire and the oppressor, to build people's sense of their power as an exploited class or oppressed community? What are the contradictions facing the empire and its political and military agents that the forces of liberation can identify and exploit to weaken their grip on mass consciousness and practice?

We can identify several material and cultural or social factors. Materially, the continuing inability of capitalism to produce stable economic and public health conditions, decent housing, safe, satisfying and remunerative work or freedom from debt must ultimately weaken the system's grip on the thinking and allegiance of the people it exploits and disposes of. The widening inequality in wealth and income, in which the vast increases for the centi-billionaires is clearly derived from the impoverishment of millions has to unmask the class enemy for significant numbers of people. How will people respond to mass evictions, new rounds of layoffs, cutbacks in public

services like transportation, and persistent daily hunger?

Secondly, the incapacity of US imperialism in particular to handle the pandemic, compared not only to planned-economy societies but even to other industrialized and European countries, must begin to penetrate even minds clouded by imperial privileges.

Third, the ecological devastation caused by capitalism, which underpins the health crises of virulent pathogens -- whatever the origin of SARS-CoV2 AKA COVID-19 -- is incapable of a solution by or under capitalism. Fires, floods and plagues of beyond-biblical proportions are already waking up people, particularly younger people, to the need for concerted action for system change. This will only intensify in 2021 and beyond. In a just published study (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-020-00955-x>), climate scientists Chen Zhou, Mark D. Zelinka, Andrew E. Dessler and Minghui Wang analyze the consequences of carbon gases already in the atmosphere on global heating. They write: "After the pattern effect is accounted for, the best-estimate value of committed global warming at present-day forcing rises from 1.31°K ... to over 2°K, ... although the magnitude is sensitive to [the] sea surface temperature dataset." The range of temperatures possible around the "best-estimate" go substantially higher. (°Kelvin are identical to °Celsius (aka centigrade) except that the Kelvin scale starts at absolute zero.)

According to an Associated Press account of the findings and interview with the scientists, "International climate agreements set goals of limiting warming to 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) since pre-industrial times, with the more ambitious goal of limiting it to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) added in Paris in 2015."

The world has already warmed about 2°F on a global level compared to times before capitalist industrialization and widespread fossil fuel use, and the projections from the new study, which take into account the impact of regional warming in areas currently cooler, give projections for "baked-in" warming from greenhouse gases already in the atmosphere that will blow past those upper limits. The best case scenario the scientists foresee at this point is a kind of "flattening the curve" of the warming, extending by 100 years or so the time it takes to reach the elevated temps, but only if drastic measures to get off fossil fuel use are undertaken rapidly. "You've got some ... global warming inertia that's going to cause the climate system to keep warming, and that's essentially what we're calculating," study co-author Andrew Dessler, a climate scientist at Texas A&M University, told the AP. "Think about the climate system like the Titanic. It's hard to turn the ship when you see the icebergs."

Places such as the Southern Ocean surrounding Antarctica, are a bit cooler, and that difference creates low-lying clouds that reflect more sun away from earth, keeping these places cooler. But this situation can't keep going indefinitely, because physics dictates that cooler locations will warm up more. When they do, the clouds will dwindle and more heating will occur, Dessler said.

The impact of these realities is already being felt in devastating wildfires, rising sea levels, and intense and prolonged storms. They will require measures far beyond the social-democratic Green New Deal that the incoming Biden-Harris administration specifically disavowed. It will be up to an eco-communist left to propose and build a fight for that kind of social, political and economic

transformation that centers decolonization, indigenous sovereignty, environmental justice, and social control of production for the public good.

Similarly, the economic and social conditions of the system of necrotic capitalism and settler colonialism are producing unsustainable and unresolvable contradictions in the minds and hearts of the people it privileges as well as those it exploits and oppresses. Although I don't generally agree with analyses of racism as an illness or mental disorder, these irreconcilable contradictions between false belief systems and reality have reached a fever pitch with the Trump phenomenon and with the continued acceptance of the biggest lie, of white so-called "supremacy" or superiority. Any president of the US, certainly since at least the 20th Century advent of the national security state, nuclear weapons and chemical-biological warfare, is by definition a sociopath and probably a psychopath (particularly the more charming ones, like Obama and Bill Clinton). But Trump and his true believers are no so totally unmoored from reality, so delusional, that mass mental illness becomes an increasingly feasible phenomenon.

The general ill-health of so much of the US population, not only among oppressed and colonized people, the widespread drug addiction, the growing suicides, domestic violence, retreat into fantasy and distraction, the widening gap between perception and reality and between professed moral, religious and ethical beliefs and actual practice represent a cumulative crisis on the personal, psychological and spiritual level that is so profound that only a cataclysmic social, economic and emotional transformation can overcome it. If the left fails to step up to this task, the fascist right is already seeking, with some success, to transform such contradictions into a paroxysm of racist and anti-social violence. The head of the Proud Boys was just busted in DC for vandalizing a Black church and burning their Black Lives Matter banner. A believer in David Icke's bizarre antisemitic transdimensional lizard people theory about the so-called "Illuminati" just blew himself up along with his RV full of improvised explosives in Nashville, taking out most of a city block, destroying an AT&T transmission facility, and damaging 911 and cell-phone communications in a wide area for a protracted period. A pharmacist convinced of the veracity of conspiratorial claims that messenger RNA vaccines like Moderna's will cause genetic mutation in humans just tried to destroy 500 doses.

These contradictions will not be resolved whatever the result of the two US Senate races in GA, finalizing as this issue goes to press, which will decide the US Senate majority. Even controlled by the Democrats, the Senate is inherently and irremediably un- and anti-democratic. We need to build an extra-parliamentary left, capable of exerting curative power in its own right, culturally, economically and politically. We need to struggle for anti-racism and democracy at institutions like free-speech listener-sponsored Pacifica radio, which is in danger of dooming itself to irrelevance or even extinction by trying to be a gatekeeper in favor of corporate liberal politics on its airwaves (see <https://pacificafightback.org> for more information). We need to build community, solidarity, resistance and the capacity to feed, defend and sustain ourselves, block by block, workplace by workplace, from the base of congregations, temples, mosques, parishes and free-thinkers' circles.

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Editor's Note: We are sharing this analysis of the need to stay vigilant against Trump even, or especially, in defeat, just as we cannot surrender to pandemic fatigue and allow the pandemic to worsen further through inaction or frustration with necessary personal and public health efforts to prevent or slow transmission. To this analysis of the appeal and efficacy of Trump's "big lie", we would add that it is rooted in the biggest lie which has always been at root of settler colonial capitalism and its grip on much of the US populace: the lie of "white supremacy", that white people are superior to and entitled to conquer and dominate "non-white" others. In that regard, we also need to maintain simultaneous vigilance against the impending crimes and deceit of the incoming administration, and its efforts to use a differing social base to maintain the empire and the wealth and power of the elites who run it.

Trump's Big Lie

by Matthew Guldin

In this last month, much has happened as Trump's grip on power lessens, his neglect of the health and security of people in the US increases exponentially and his abuses of power flourish. I'm sure that for most of us, Jan 20th can't arrive soon enough. We long to be rid of this profoundly insecure would be dictator. Unfortunately, it may well not be over at noon on 1/20/21. I'll recap the last 30 days and issue us a collective heads up.

Trump has lost all his legal challenges to the voting tallies and processes in the swing states. In 38 of those losses, the judges were Republicans appointed by Trump! His team's arguments brought allegations, but no evidence. Even the appeal to the Supreme Court, was not even taken up because it had no merit.

- He's fired Chris Krebs, the head of cybersecurity at Homeland Security for saying that this year's election was very secure. He pushed out AG Barr (his main man!) for finally admitting 3 weeks ago that there was no massive fraud in the election.

- He's surrounded himself with right wing extremist advisers like Michael Flynn who were counseling him to stay in power by declaring 'Martial Law', declaring the vote in six swing states void!

- Clearly, Donny is devolving and grasping at any and all options to stay in power and avoid being branded as 'A Loser' demonstrated by his hour-long call to Georgia officials to find him votes.

- He's not said a word about the full effect of the COVID second wave which is claiming up to 3700+ lives a day these past weeks and maxing out hospital ICU availability across the country! No concern, no condolences, not a peep about anyone's pain but his own. Remember when he was willfully lying to us in October, saying that "we're rounding the corner on COVID"?

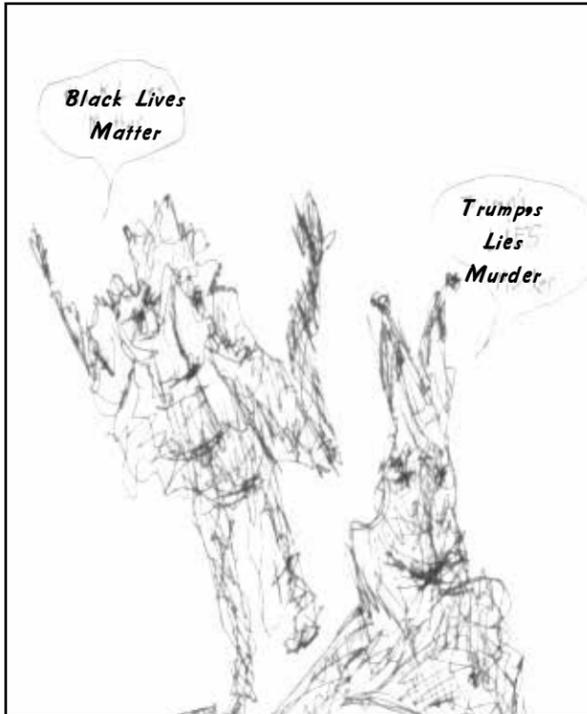
- There's his pardoning of corrupt Republican politicians who have supported him from the git go, his political cronies in the Russian collusion during the 2016 election and mercenary soldiers convicted of murdering civilians during the Iraq War!

But if you think that thankfully, it will be over soon.... think again -- because it won't be. He has built a movement (a beginning fascist movement) loyal to him and in case of the politicians fearful of him/his clout. Let's recognize that:

- 74 million people voted for him and that a great percentage believe the bullspit that he and his minions spout about him being cheated out of the Presidency by a vast Democratic conspiracy. Many fully believe he is their savior, in spite of his callous disregard for their lives.

- Followers have contributed upwards of \$250 million to his 'election defense', but most of that cash is earmarked for a Trump Super PAC (political action committee). This loot can be used to finance a future run in 2024, starting a media empire, paying off his debts, etc.

- Trump had 18 state Attorneys General sign on to his bogus Supreme Court challenge and 126 Republican



members of the House back it up as well. It is these Representatives that he's pushing, along with some 11 GOP Senators to stand with him on January 6, when Congress is slated to accept the Electoral College tallies showing Biden won. His ability to get them to go along with his false claims of election fraud are a sign he's succeeding in an effort to permanently remold the Republicans into a nakedly fascist party.

- The Jan. 6 Congressional tally is final step in the convoluted Electoral College process and is always merely a proforma validation of the wishes determined by the voters in each state. But, not now. It will be a 'litmus test' for these politicians. If they vote to back him in this effort to overturn the democratic outcome of the 2020 election, he will pat them on the head and let them know how much he appreciates their loyalty. If they vote to certify the electoral vote, they will likely face a primary challenge by a Trump loyalist. Many are scared shitless to stand for democracy and jeopardize the privilege that they each have from the money and position that they have already secured.

So, Donny's got a loyal group of politicians and millions of adoring followers throughout the country. Now, we can see what's in it for the politicians, but why do millions of people follow him? He clearly doesn't care about them, as holding superspreader rallies, delaying the COVID relief package and not even addressing the 2nd surge of the virus should make plain to anyone in their right mind.

It's because, like any demagogue, he molded his followers' thinking and belief system through the use of "THE BIG LIE". Say something over and over, with conviction, even if it is detached from reality, and little by

little, over time, people start to believe it. He did this with the claims of being cheated out of the election. During the campaign, he told the adoring faithful in advance, "the only way I can lose the election, is if it's rigged!" At every rally, he repeated this mantra and it began to sink in to their brains as truth. He was setting them up to support him in these wild claims and it worked.

He's been doing this all along. On the 2016 campaign trail, the BIG LIE was that he and his tight circle were the only ones telling people the truth. The media, except for Fox, were labeled as purveyors of FAKE NEWS over and over and the crowds began to buy it, no matter how outlandish the claims. He, Kelly Anne Conway and others possessed "alternative facts" which were the truth as opposed to fake news reported by the mainstream and left wing branches of the media. It's like George Orwell's "1984", where "War is Peace, Freedom is Slavery and Ignorance is Strength". Now, we may not be all the way there yet, but we certainly have attained the 'Facts Are Lies and Alternative Facts Are Truth' stage!!

Lie often enough, with conviction, and even intelligent people start to buy it. This is what Hitler did in Germany. Identify internal and external enemies as the causes of Germany's economic and social problems - the Jews, the Communists, the Gypsies, the homosexuals, the Socialists, the unions within The Fatherland and England and France (who had defeated them in WWI) externally. If the German people could only live up to their superior Aryan potential and heritage and defeat or eradicate the vermin, then 'Germany Could, (hmm, how should I say this?) Be Great Again!!'

History, it seems to me, is unfolding in a somewhat different, but eerily similar way as to what played out in Germany in the late 1920s and early 1930s. An anti-democratic, pro authoritarian party has been built by an egocentric, sociopath (who cares nothing about anyone but himself) and those adoring millions seem ready to follow him to some pretty scary places. That's why I'm urging everyone of us to not let our guard down after the inauguration.

We must stay vigilant and counter every move of his and his followers to subvert voting rights, abridge individual rights, promote white supremacy and misogyny, demonize immigrants and more. Trump's quest for power and his need for adoration will fuel the ultra-right wing movement long after Inauguration Day. Even if he is jailed for a few of his crimes, he will still be followed or, another, less obviously deranged would be dictator will step forward to lead the battle to keep the rich and powerful....rich and powerful!

Now, I know that this isn't the usual cheery New Year's message, but just as we have to stay vigilant against the spread of COVID even as vaccines are arriving, we will hopefully be able to stand strong against 'the new strain of an authoritarian movement' just as the new administration takes power.

The Attack on Julian Assange and Press Freedom

By Jonathan Cook [Excerpts]

<https://www.counterpunch.org/2021/01/04/assange-wins-the-cost-the-crushing-of-press-freedom/>

The decision by UK Judge Vanessa Baraitser to deny a US demand to extradite Julian Assange, foiling efforts to send him to a US super-max jail for the rest of his life, is a welcome legal victory, but one swamped by larger lessons that should disturb us deeply. [Ed. note: As the US intends to appeal, pressure to free Assange must be redoubled, to call for either a Trump pardon or a Biden order to drop the charges.]

Those who campaigned to keep Assange's case in the spotlight, even as the US and UK corporate media worked to keep it in darkness, are the heroes of the day. They made the price too steep for Baraitser or the British establishment to agree to lock Assange away indefinitely in the US for exposing its war crimes and its crimes against humanity in Iraq and Afghanistan. But we must not downplay the price for this victory.

We have contributed collectively in our various small ways to win back for Assange some degree of freedom, and hopefully a reprieve from what could be a death sentence as his health continues to deteriorate in an overcrowded Belmarsh high-security prison in London that has become a breeding ground for Covid-19.

But Assange is not out of the woods yet. The US has said it will appeal the decision. And it is not yet clear whether Assange will remain jailed in the UK - possibly in Belmarsh - while many

months of further legal argument about his future take place.

What has been most important to the US and UK establishment is that he continues to be locked out of sight in a cell somewhere, where his physical and mental fortitude can be destroyed and where he is effectively silenced, encouraging others to draw the lesson that there is too high a price to pay for dissent.

The personal battle for Assange won't be over till he is properly free. He will be lucky if the last decade of incarceration and torture do not leave him permanently traumatised, emotionally and mentally damaged.

That alone will be a victory for the British and US establishments who were so embarrassed by, and fearful of, Wikileaks' revelations of their crimes.

We should be deeply worried by the legal arguments Baraitser advanced in **denying** extradition. The US demand was rejected on effectively a technicality. The US mass incarceration system is so obviously barbaric and depraved that, it was shown conclusively by experts at the hearings, Assange would be at risk of suicide should he become another victim of its super-max jails. [Ed.: The UK judge did not dismiss any of the US arguments for criminalizing Assange, nor accept any of the defense arguments that the US should be considered guilty of war crimes on the basis of the material leaked to and published by Assange.]

One should not also discard another of the British establishment's likely considerations: that in a few days Donald Trump will be

gone from the White House and a new US administration will take his place. Biden probably doesn't need the Assange case hanging over his head, becoming a rallying cry against him, an uncomfortable residue of the Trump administration that his own officials would be forced to defend.

It would be nice to imagine that the British legal, judicial and political establishments grew a backbone in ruling against extradition. The far more likely truth is that they sounded out the incoming Biden team and received permission to forgo an immediate ruling in favor of extradition - on a technicality.

Keep an eye on whether the new Biden administration decides to drop the appeal case. More likely his officials will let it rumble on, largely below the media's radar, for many months more.

Significantly, Judge Baraitser backed the Trump administration's legal arguments for extradition, even though they were comprehensively demolished by Assange's lawyers.

Baraitser accepted the US government's dangerous new definition of investigative journalism as "espionage", and implied that Assange had also broken Britain's draconian Official Secrets Act in exposing government war crimes.

She agreed that the 2007 Extradition Treaty applies in Assange's case, ignoring the treaty's actual words that exempt political cases like his. She thereby opened the door for other journalists to be seized in their home countries and renditioned to the US.

On-Line Resources for Turning the Tide & ARA-LA/PART:

You can find archives of *Turning the Tide* at www.antiracist.org that go back more than 30 years.

In addition, there are several Facebook pages, such as facebook.com/tideturning, and facebook.com/intercommunalsolidarity.

You can follow @ara_losangeles on Twitter, and the De-Colonize LA! blog at ara-la.tumblr.com.

WAS 9/11 AN INSIDE JOB?

(A Reply To Mike Novick Of *Turning The Tide* Newspaper)

By Kevin “Rashid” Johnson, Minister of Defense,
Revolutionary Intercommunal BPP

INTRODUCTION

I recently posted and circulated an exchange I had with a patriotic prison guard, which included my discussion of 9/11 and the obvious evidence that the 3, not 2, World Trade Center (WTC) towers were not destroyed by planes crashing into them, but rather by controlled demolitions.

Mike Novick, a longtime comrade who publishes *Turning The Tide* newspaper emailed a response to my 9/11 comments. While he agrees with the evidence that WTC Tower 7, which was not struck by any planes yet collapsed a few hours after the Twin Towers, was demolished, he expressed that he wasn’t convinced about Towers 1 and 2. which were hit by planes.

Mike notes the construction of the Twin Towers, unlike Tower 7, was like a suspension bridge, not a “normal building.” So, upper story damage could have damaged their suspension causing the floors below to collapse one on top of the other, allowing the buildings to collapse straight down, instead of toppling over to the side. Mike’s theory concerning the Twin Towers sounds plausible, but it doesn’t fit the science.

THE TWIN TOWERS WERE PULVERIZED

To begin with, the Twin Towers didn’t fall by the floors pancaking all the way down. If they had, the debris pile would have been a pile of concrete floors stacked on top of each other like a pile of pancakes. This was not the case, which can be seen in photos and videos of rubble. In fact, New York governor George Pataki, upon first visiting the site, remarked in surprise, “There’s no concrete...it was pulverized.” “Pulverized” is apt. The Twin Towers were clearly demolished. Beginning around the center of the buildings the tower floors were blown out, which is what caused the upper floors to collapse straight down at extraordinary speeds. Numerous witnesses attest to this. In a Nov 7, 2001 interview, EMT Captain Karin Deshore described it. “Somewhere around the middle of the World Trade Center, there was this orange and red flash coming out. Initially, it was just one flash. Then this flash just kept popping all the way around the building and that building had started to explode. The popping sound, and with each popping sound, it was initially an orange and then a red flash that came out of the building, and then it would just go all around the building on both sides as far as I could see. These popping sounds and the explosions were getting bigger, going both up and down and then all around the building.”

There is a series of oral recordings of many similar accounts collected by the NYC Fire Commissioner Thomas Von Essen, that were concealed by the city of NY until the *New York Times* won a federal appeals court order to have the recordings released to the paper.

There were also videos and photos showing jets of exploded material shooting from the sides of the buildings below the “crush zone,” which are known as “squibs” in the demolition industry. These are explosives used to cut through structural steel so a building will collapse with minimal to no resistance. Videos of the rubble debris show only a 7-story pile of debris. Missing are the 110 acre-sized floors of both towers.

THE STEEL SUPPORT STRUCTURE WAS BLOWN OUT

The concrete floors were disintegrated. There was actually 80,000 tons of steel framing in the buildings, designed to prevent the buildings from collapsing as they did. Which physicists and other experts agree couldn’t happen unless these support structures were removed to allow the upper building to collapse down at nearly 2/3 the rate of free-fall. Many NYC firefighters described the scene as defying all their prior experience. In the oral history of 118 first responders, Sgt James Canham expressed, “This changed all the rules. This went from a structure to a wafer in seconds, in seconds. I couldn’t believe the speed of the tower coming down. I heard a rumble. I looked up. Debris was already 50 feet from the ground...”

As for the steel framing, what was also found was sections of it weighing 4-9 tons were blown out the sides of the buildings, landing up to 600 feet away, which resulted from an explosive force so powerful that it blew out entire wall units as if from a cannon.

These explosions disintegrated over 90,000 tons of concrete and metal decking, generated expanding hot gases with solids in them (pyroclastic-like flows) like that observed in volcanic explosions.

ADVANCED EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL FOUND IN WTC DUST

These pulverized buildings are what produced the massive amount of dust that blanketed Lower Manhattan as much as a foot deep in many places. What distinguished this dust from other regular office building dust, as the EPA explained, were significant components of red/grey spheres in diameters ranging from about one micron (0.001mm) to 1.5mm. Which could only have formed at temperatures above the 2700°F melting point of iron. Jet fuel and office fires burn no hotter than 1800°F. There were billions of these chips in the WTC dust.

As pointed out in my prior discussion, only thermite (an incendiary that burns at 4000-4500°F) burns hot enough to produce this effect. Thermite is a compound composed of iron oxide and aluminum powder. Steven Jones and other scientists revealed in two articles published in 2007 and 2008 that there were significant amounts of aluminum in the chemical signature of several of the spheres. Not just this, but that they also contained sulfur but no calcium. Which means the sulfur couldn’t have come from the buildings’ gypsum wallboards.

There is a special variety of thermite, called thermate, that is produced only by the U.S. military that contains sulfur, which is added to allow the compound to burn less violently and to

melt steel at a lower temperature. In April 2009, a team of 9 scientists, including former BYU physicist Steven Jones, BYU physicist Jeffrey Farrer, and University of Copenhagen chemist Niels Harrit, published a report on their findings upon testing samples of the red/grey chips found in the WTC dust, titled, “Active Thermite Material Discovered in the Dust From the 9/11 World Trade Center Catastrophe,” in THE OPEN CHEMICAL PHYSICS JOURNAL (2009) 2, 7-31, available online. Those tests found the red layer contained iron oxide and aluminum.

When they heated the chips to about 806°F, they ignited quickly giving off huge amounts of energy. Results that matched “fairly closely an independent observation in a known super-thermite sample.” From those tests, they concluded that the red layer of the red/grey chips, “is active, unreacted thermite material, incorporating nanotechnology,” and that it “is a highly energetic pyrotechnic or explosive material.” They also found that the chemical signature of the tested chips, “strongly matches the chemical signature of the spheres produced by igniting commercial thermite, and also matches the signature of many of the microspheres found in the WTC dust.”

As for the sulfur, FEMA did a brief, cursory, preliminary investigation on the WTC towers and wrote a Building Performance Assessment Report. In Appendix C to that report, FEMA discussed its findings from steel samples from the towers. It stated, there was “evidence of a severe high-temperature corrosion attack on the steel, including rapid oxidation and sulfidation with subsequent inter-granular melting...” “A sulfur-rich liquid penetrated” into the steel. “A liquid eutectic mixture containing primarily iron, oxygen, and sulfur formed during this hot corrosion attack on the steel...No clear explanation for the source of this sulfur has been identified.” The *New York Times* said this was “perhaps the deepest mystery uncovered in the investigation.”

Again, even under the worst fire conditions, neither jet fuel nor office fires reach temperatures anywhere near the melting point of iron, and certainly not its evaporating point. More telling is the scientists’ study finding the red layers of the red/grey chips to be unreacted thermite “incorporating nanotechnology.” Nano-thermic compounds have been researched since the 1990s. Writings on the studies explain that their value is in their ability to increase the destructive effects of high explosives, and they can be used as igniters that don’t leave behind evidence of the use of traditional igniters like lead azide. They are also more stable than other materials and can be customized for different uses. But nano-thermic compounds, which consist of an intimate mixture of ultra-fine grain (UFG) aluminum and nano-sized iron oxide in a carbon matrix, weren’t widely available in 2001.

In fact, in 2002, the process of producing just the UFG aluminum, which was produced at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, required 14 high tech machines. As a report on the subject noted, “The current state of UFG aluminum production is that this is an area that still requires considerable effort.” (See, AMPTIAC Quarterly, Special Issue, “DOD Researchers Provide A Look Inside Nanotechnology,” 2002) As Niels Harrit, the lead author of the study and report stated, “These new findings confirm and extend the earlier finding of previously molten, iron-rich microspheres in the World Trade Center dust. They provide strong forensic evidence that the official explanation of the WTC’s destruction is wrong.”

POOLS OF MOLTEN STEEL BENEATH WTC RUBBLE

In a 2010 article, “High Temperatures, Persistent Heat & ‘Molten Steel’ Challenge Official Story,” architect Richard Gage and Andrea Dreger, cite numerous official sources evidencing extremely hot temperatures before and during the WTC destruction and pools of molten steel beneath the rubble for a long period afterward.

First there was the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) that conducted the official investigation (coverup) of the destruction of the WTC, which noted several flows of molten metal seven minutes before the destruction of the South Tower, ranging from white-hot at the beginning to yellow-orange further down. As Gage and Dreger reported:

“The high-temperature phenomena at Ground Zero are documented by various sources.

“Bechtel engineers, responsible for safety at Ground Zero wrote in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS: ‘The debris pile at Ground Zero was always tremendously hot. Thermal measurements taken by helicopter each day showed underground temperatures ranging from 400°F to more than 2,800°F.’ “A publication of the Department of Labor states: ‘HOT STEEL - Even as the steel cooled, there was concern that the girders had become so hot they could crumble when lifted by overhead cranes.’ “How serious the heat phenomena was is also shown by the large number of thermal images that were acquired from Ground Zero (images by SPOT, MTI, AVIRIS/NASA, ‘Twin Otter’/U.S. Army and at least 25 images by EarthData taken between Sept 16 and Oct 25).

“In addition, temperature measurements by helicopter were taken each day, and the firefighters used onsite sensors too. Many witnesses, including rescue personnel and firefighters working on the piles, described the phenomenon of ‘molten steel.’ Terms used in witness statements are, for example, ‘molten steel,’ beams ‘dripping from molten steel,’ ‘molten steel...like you’re in a foundry. Like lava, from a volcano.’ “A photograph by a Ground Zero worker shows an excavation machine lifting debris from the WTC wreckage dripping yellow/orange molten metal. “WTC clean-up workers and 9/11 artifacts architect Bart Voorsanger, of the video ‘Relics in the Rubble,’ found several pieces: ‘fused elements of steel...molten steel and concrete and all of these things...all fused by the heat,’ weighing several tons each. These foreign objects came to be known as “meteorites”.’

“The heat at Ground Zero was not only extreme, it was also

persistent, as proven not only by witness statements, and photographs of orange-red glowing steel as late as October but also by thermal images taken by NASA and EarthData satellites. The EarthData thermal images show that the ‘hot spots’ remained at the same locations, the phenomenon did not ‘move’ across the site, as one would expect from fire.” University of California professor Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl, the first structural engineer given access to the WTC steel at Fresh Kills Landfill notes, ‘I saw melting of girders at the World Trade Center.’ Astaneh also ‘describes the connections [between supporting columns] as being smoothly warped: “If you remember the Salvador Dali paintings with the clocks that are kind of melted-it’s kind of like that. That could only happen if you get steel yellow hot or white hot-perhaps around 2,000 degrees.”

“Others pointed out that huge columns that were bent without that the flanges of the columns showed any cracks or buckling must have been at very high temperatures.

“The extremely high temperatures evident contradict the official story. Office and hydrocarbon content fires cannot reach temperatures in the range that iron or structural steel melts. This was acknowledged by NIST’s John Gross in the same talk where he said regarding molten steel, ‘I know of absolutely nobody, no eyewitnesses that said so, nobody that’s produced it.’ NIST itself performed extensive fire tests to establish the temperatures reached by WTC office and jet fuel fires. The temperatures established are far below the temperatures required to produce all of the above phenomena-which occurred both before and during the destruction and at Ground Zero.”

As the article went on to point out, NIST solved the problem of melted steel by excluding it from its examinations. Also by excluding Appendix C of the FEMA report from consideration.

THE TWIN TOWERS DID NOT FALL FROM ABOVE

As I pointed out, witnesses observed the Towers being exploded causing the top section to drop. Without seeing the explosions one might believe the top sections of the towers collapsed down onto the lower sections causing them to fall under the weight, as Mike Novick erroneously believes happened. A physics teacher, David Chandler, corroborated the witness accounts applying simple physics to existing videos of the falling towers and proving that the theory Mike believes cannot be true.

Chandler first pointed out a series of “demolition waves” going up and down the side of the North Tower at speeds faster than materials falling outside the tower at some points. He posted these videos online in video clips titled, “Race with Gravity,” “Acceleration and Serendipity,” and “North Tower Exploding,” which clearly show rapid waves of timed explosions. These waves show huge pieces of metal being blown out from multiple floors simultaneously and horizontally at speeds exceeding 70 mph (squibs), racing ahead of the building’s collapse. Steel from sections traveled as far as 600 feet embedding themselves in neighboring buildings. In the video, “Downward Acceleration of the North Tower,” Chandler shows that the top section of the WTC Tower 1 fell at an accelerating rate of about 2/3 of free fall, which, applying physics, demonstrated that the top was not impacting floors below it, which would have slowed down not accelerated the speed at which it fell.

As already pointed out, first responders were stunned by the speed at which the towers fell, defying anything they had seen before. In another video, “Cutting Charges in the North Tower of the World Trade Center,” Chandler shows evidence of two actual columns being cut by explosions. When publicly confronted with Chandler’s evidence related to Tower 7, NIST was forced to change its claim in its Aug 2008 Final Draft Report, where it claimed that Tower 7 fell 40% slower than it would if it had been in free fall. NIST had to admit in a modified Nov 2008 Final Draft that the building actually fell for 2.25 seconds in free fall. This proving also in Tower 7’s case that there was no resistance to its falling, which should have been caused by the internal steel structure.

CONCLUSION

Scientific evidence shows the WTC Towers did not fall as the official account claims, that they were destroyed not by planes and fires but by controlled demolitions. That THREE steel-reinforced buildings could collapse instantly and completely, in perfect symmetry, with minimal damage to surrounding structures, and in manners that demolition companies require expert specialists and are paid hefty sums to achieve, cannot be chance nor coincidence. Which, as said, I recognized when I first saw footage of the Twin Towers collapsing nearly two decades ago. Somebody made the call to murder thousands of Americans on 9/11. For what purpose? Was it to win broad public support for military invasions of Afghanistan and other Arab countries, using a global declaration of an abstract “War on Terror,” that would give U.S. politicians and corporations carte blanche to go after those countries having large fossil fuel deposits that Amerika’s powerful interests have been angling to capture and control for decades, but could not before because of strong public aversion to military adventures abroad because of the losses and crimes of the genocidal war against Vietnam?

As noted in my earlier discussion of 9/11, U.S. officials admitted to creating the Taliban decades ago to “stabilize” Afghanistan, so they safely could run a natural gas pipeline through the country and region from the Caspian Sea. But this obviously backfired when the Taliban turned against Amerika. Then in 1998 UNOCAL made a bid before Congress to build that pipeline, calling for the removal of the Taliban and replacing it with an “internationally accepted” government, again to stabilize the region so the pipeline could be built. Three years later 9/11 happened, giving the U.S. the needed pretext and broad public support to justify militarily invading Afghanistan to overthrow the Taliban. Conspiracy theory? That’s a term used by the establishment to discredit inquiries into and exposures of official deviances, by equating such inquiries with unprovable and fantastic stories concocted by mythmakers and fantasy buffs.

The science behind the controlled demolitions of the WTC Towers (like global warming and the COVID-19 pandemic) is no theory. From that, we can deduce the whos and whys, which in any case demonstrates that Amerikan lives really don’t matter to the powers that be. In fact, the U.S. ‘founding fathers’ dismissed the common people as a “bewildered herd” whose perceptions and aspirations to control the government should be manipulated and controlled. Democracy in Amerika applies only to the wealthy. The rest of the people are nothing to them but the means by which they acquire their wealth and achieve their power. Which is why we need a SCIENTIFIC socialist revolution to seize power and control of socially produced wealth from the oppressive non-laboring wealthy and deliver it into the hands of the working people and poor.

Otherwise, the people will continue to be manipulated into serving as cannon fodder and the backers of a political-economic system that cares nothing about them or their future survival.

Dare to Struggle - Dare to Win! All Power to the People!

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- ★ Sat Jan 9: PacificaFightback.org Virtual National Town Hall, 3:30 pm PST
- ★ Mon Jan 11: Close Guantanamo Now virtual vigil - <https://ICUJP.org>
- ★ Jan 18, 10:30a: Community Caravan For Justice on MLK Day, McArthur Park
- ★ February is Black History Month
- ★ Sun Feb 14: Virtual Valentine's Day FB Live fundraiser for TTT
- ★ March 8: International Women's Day - Global Women's Strike

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