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NOVEMBER 2014
MASSSES

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AND WHO SHOULD WE BELIEVE?**

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SLOW IS SMOOTH, SMOOTH IS FAST

Time is precious we're told, so why be in such a rush all the time? Because, it seems, we can't help it. With ADD, consumerism, addiction, adrenaline, and advertising it's hard not to be in such a rush. The rush is addictive, but dangerous - shortened timeframes don't allow for quality growth and development. Just channel watch, flip, flip, flip, watch.

At what point should we say productivity and efficiency are more important than quality? With food? The tech industry? Housing? It's admirable that some foundations and philanthropists take the time to use their money, which is earned off other people's time, in order to provide resources to communities in need, but the majority of these communities are often

broken because of the time they're denied - the time they need to build quality family and community relationships and social development. Maria Konnikova tells us in her article "No Money, No Time" that, *"Efficiency is always the more exhausting and demanding alternative. Attention is finite. For a while I may be more focused, but I can run on all cylinders for only so long. If I'm forced to operate under constraint all the time, my performance will suffer - and I may not even be capable of recognizing the deficit."*

So what's the lesson learned? Well, you know - remember the tortoise and the hare story when you were growing up? Yeah, it's simple - slow is smooth, smooth is fast. So for this issue we decided to slow it down a bit, and hopefully the result is of a higher quality.



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ELECTROMAGNETIC WARFARE, GAS-LIGHTING, OR MIND CONTROL?

Electromagnetic Weapons, Nonconsensual Experimentation, and Targeted Individuals

By Scott Albright

The question of whether electromagnetic weapons exist or not no longer belongs to the tin foil hat wearing conspiracy theorist weirdos. It's science non-fiction. Yes, electromagnetic weapons do exist and they are being used on humans. That's a known fact. What is unknown is how many different types of people have access to these weapons, how frequently these weapons are being used, the power and capability of the weapons they have access to, and who these weapons are being used against.

According to the organization for Freedom From Covert Harassment and Surveillance (FFCHS), there are thousands of people across the planet who claim to have had electromagnetic weapons used against them outside the normal bounds of the law. Posts on the organization's website list comments from people claiming to be targets who have had electronic signals sent to their bodies and brains as a means of manipulating, controlling, and causing otherwise abnormal or unusual behavior in them. Some of the claims seem farfetched and from just a brief analysis one might think these are just patterns of mental illness and that the alleged "targets" only need proper treatment to be cured. Many psychiatrists will even

prescribe pharmaceuticals, many of which may have derived from experiments during MK Ultra, a Cold War-era CIA mind control operation, to help "cure" those victims claiming to be targets. On closer examination however, these patterns are beyond that of normal mental illness and seem to be interconnected to the defense and communications industries, which some of these "targets" have worked for in the past.

But before we get into the strange and unusual let's talk about the facts. How do I know electromagnetic weapons exist? Because I've used them and have had them used on me. While serving in the United States Marine Corps I was issued an AN/PEQ-2, an infrared aimer and illuminator which attaches to a service rifle and is only visible when wearing night vision goggles. The infrared beam shot out of the PEQ-2 is a pulsed energy frequency which lies on the electromagnetic spectrum in between the visible and microwave regions. An article in *Nature* shows that pulsed infrared energy can increase the electrical capacitance in cells, depolarizing the cells and thus changing their corresponding magnetic properties.¹ The effects on the human body from focused infrared energy are also electrical and magnetic, making the PEQ-2 an electromagnetic infrared flashlight.

There's more. The PEQ-2 has a lock on it which prevents soldiers from using the higher powered settings on the illuminator. The lock can easily be

broken with the hands or a small pair of pliers and allows for the infrared beam to be concentrated at a higher power on subjects. The known effects that we were told by our higher ups is that on these settings and at close range the PEQ-2 can cause a burning sensation on the skin and even cause permanent blindness if pointed at the eyes for a long enough period of time.² In effect, everyone who was issued a PEQ-2 had an electromagnetic weapon to use at their disposal. And yes, I did witness Marines breaking the lock and using their PEQ-2s on higher power settings, and yes, I did witness them pointing the beam at unsuspecting Iraqis while their PEQ-2s were on these higher settings. No, I was not one of those participating in these acts, but I have had the beam pointed at me on the lower settings, and have had a more obvious type of electromagnetic weapon used on me - a taser.



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MIND CONTROL CONT.

Tasers are electromagnetic weapons because when the electric current carried by the line from the gun into the skin-piercing hooks is shot into the body not only is the central nervous system affected, but also the heart, through the electrical currents and their corresponding magnetic properties.³ Research shows that these tasers do indeed have an electromagnetic effect on humans, including that of causing disruptions to the heart and medical devices such as pacemakers.⁴ When I was tasered with a total of 12 different hooks at a distance of about five meters by two different cops serving on the Albuquerque Police Department I immediately fell to the floor. My whole central nervous system had been paralyzed, with the electric currents causing me to lose all control of my muscles. I was able to sit up and assist the officers in removing the hooks from my body and face after they were done zapping me, but they had taken me out all the same. The after effects of the shocks include permanent scars on my face, neck, and back, as well as the feeling of having extreme amounts of anxiety every time I'm around police officers. For the following two weeks after the cops tasered me there was a consistent, intense, and uncontrollable shaking of my arms and hands. To this day I still feel as though my nerves don't function the same way they did before I was tasered.

As for the higher powered military electromagnetic weapons, there are a whole assortment of these listed in the 2006 paper titled "US Electromagnetic Weapons and Human Rights," by Peter Phillips, Lew Brown and Bridget Thornton.⁵ The report lists crowd control weapons such as the U.S. military's Project Sheriff active denial weapon, which heats the skin up to intense levels causing instant pain and in some cases heart problems and even death. The active denial system works in much the same way as the AN/PEQ-2, shooting out a white infrared laser beam that can only be seen while wearing night vision goggles. The active denial system is more powerful though, allowing for an immediate effect to be felt by the targets, with the purpose of causing them to alter their course of direction or to be incapacitated completely.

Other EM weapons listed in the report include pulsed energy projectiles, directed acoustics, and neurological technology used for augmented cognition. Augmented cognition is used by the Air Force to monitor the brain functions of pilots and to send them commands directly to their head. In the wrong hands such a device could potentially be used to enter a person's mind without their knowledge or consent. This sounds very similar to the type of technology "targets" from the FFSCCH website claim are being used on them.

I spoke to one of those targets over the phone who asked that I not identify her by her last name even though she has been very active in discussing the matter on different internet websites, including a whithouse.gov page where I found her email address. All the email addresses on the page were redacted on the government site, however a quick copy and paste into a new document proved the security measure to be ineffective, making me question the government's ability to protect citizens privacy, also giving some credence to targets claims that their mental and bodily privacy has not been sufficiently protected.

Dorothy is the name of the so-called "target" I talked to. Although I had never spoken with Dorothy before and was unable to meet her in person, she was still willing to divulge a lot of information about her personal life and the torment she has gone through because of what she suspects to be an electromagnetic attack on her by people working with or for her former boss at the telecommunications company she used to work for, Ameritech Mobile.

"It was only an issue of opportunity," Dorothy explained. "Most targets are chosen because they have very little family. This is a crime of opportunity for people that you think you can depend on and share with. And that's why I believe she did what she did, and also I think money was involved."

Dorothy said things started getting bad when she left the company in 1993, but it wasn't until after her godmother died in 2004 "that all hell broke loose." According to Dorothy, the neighborhood she was living in had been infiltrated by whoever was conducting the experiments in order to isolate her and send electronic signals into her body and mind.



Image credit: Wikimedia Commons

Dorothy said she had contacted the police regarding her concerns after she recorded one of her neighbors blocking her from going into the street. Despite Dorothy's complaints, she says the police did very little to investigate her claims.

"The crime escalates to the point - I know this hard to believe - they either kill you because they put so much stress on your body and heart, or intentionally try to drive you crazy,"⁶ Dorothy said. After becoming totally isolated following the death of her mother and godmother, this is exactly what this group that was harassing her kept trying to do, Dorothy claims.

"On January 2, 2005 they started the voice to skull," she said. "By May or June of 2005 during the day three people would be talking in my head trying to upset me. There is a woman who is about forty. She does 80-90 percent of the transmissions. There's a boy, about 30, who's always next to her or in the background assisting her in the transmission torture. Another man who sounds about 50ish, doesn't do too much. He sits there and I can hear him some time."

"Everything is played out in front of you through your head," Dorothy continued. "They want you aware of certain things. Always want to keep you in a state of anxiety. Keep you with as much fear as possible, on high alert."

Dorothy said that from "2005 until this very day" the woman she hears will keep saying the word "ray" directly into her head over and over. "She will say 'ray' at least 150 times in a day," Dorothy said. "Sometimes it is a recording where it will go over and over, but they're the one's playing the recording. She does it with viciousness. All day they don't stop with the transmissions."

Sometimes, Dorothy says, the transmissions will go on throughout the night, causing her to have extreme sleep deprivation.

She says often times she is followed in her car or in the supermarket and that everything is coordinated through some type of telecommunication device, an operation she calls gang stalking. When asked if she ever tried to find the people she thought were stalking her or sending the transmissions she said no, but explained that it is possible by tracing the phone numbers of her neighbors. "All these neighbors' numbers are going back to three or four numbers," she said. "These criminals are in constant contact with my neighbors. It's all done by telephone."

Dorothy digressed a bit, explaining the Ameritech Mobile - AT&T connection and her former boss's dealings with other telecommunications companies including ALCATEL, a French cell phone company. "She knew all that mobile phone stuff," Dorothy said of her former boss. "All the inner workings, all the functioning's of the technology."

Dorothy thinks her boss was co-opted into the operation by someone else who was offering money to bring in "specimens" for experimentation. Dorothy says she was chosen because of her vulnerability to isolation and because of her finances. She said when she was working at Ameritech her boss walked by her desk and said "I wish I had your money."

"I haven't really quite figured it out," Dorothy said. "What I do know is everybody thinks something different. Most targets feel that they want them to be killed. I feel that they are capable of killing me." She said other targets think it's a way "to lighten up the population" while others think "they're targets because they're going after their inheritance."

Dorothy theorized the reason there are so many people being targeted is there were some engineers or "highly intellectual"

types who obtained the EM voice to skull technology through research contracts at various universities. She says this group has gone rogue, experimenting on their own for whatever purposes they deem necessary. She said the technology they use is so powerful that they can see through her eyes and have some type of sensory technology that allows them to pick up visual images of her body. We discussed Google's acquisition of Nest Labs, a company that builds smart thermostats and smoke detectors, and agreed that it would be easy for the company to secretly place video cameras or other surveillance technologies into the detectors for this purpose. In fact, a quick Google search for spy smoke detectors returned several results, including smoke detectors with built in spy cameras available on Amazon. Further searches reveal that Nest Labs purchased Dropcam earlier this year. According to the Nest Labs website, "Dropcam lets you check in on your home, no matter where you are in the world."⁷

"I think it's conceivable that some college kids went off on their own," Dorothy said. "They could be in the porn business. I don't know that I ever read a target ever consider it. I considered it right away. Because they know they can see your whole body like I said," she explained. "If your having sex with somebody they can see everything that your doing. When you take a bath they know exactly where your hand is, where your soap is. It's an ideal situation for a bunch of sickos to buy into this. To subscribe and all day watch you take your bath. People who are married - watch them have sex. I think it's a possibility."

Some might say Dorothy's claims are just delusional fantasies and that it's unreasonable to think a rogue group of intellectuals would go through such great lengths to torture her, but true or not, the possibility is still there, and



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it poses real problems for the future of individual liberty, free cognition, creativity, psychological development, and a whole host of other moral, ethical, and social issues very few people are willing to discuss. Peter Phillips, co-author of the EM & Human Rights report, is one person who is willing to bring the discussion to the forefront.

I contacted Phillips through a social networking site to see if he had any suggestions on how one can verify claims of electromagnetic weapons targeting and electronic transmissions to the brain. In his reply he wrote, "WE have had many people call regarding electromagnetic weapons. We have yet been able to verify scientifically the facts of the claims." Despite not being able to verify claims, Phillips and the co-authors of the EM Weapons & Human Rights report do suggest that such claims are of a real concern, especially when it comes to thought intrusion technologies. One paragraph of the report is worth repeating in it's entirety:

Freedom of thought or cognitive liberty is the natural human right of each person to be secure in their ability to perceive the world to the best of their ability. To have true cognitive liberty in a world as complex as ours would mean that first we must have access to truthful and unbiased information about the actions of others and the general state of the world. The Center for Cognitive Liberties defines this as "the right of each individual to think independently and autonomously, to use the full spectrum of his or her mind, and to engage in multiple modes of thought." Without accurate representations we cannot make independently informed choices. It is imperative that the human body and mind be considered sacrosanct. To invade a person's body without their consent is an egregious human rights crime.⁸

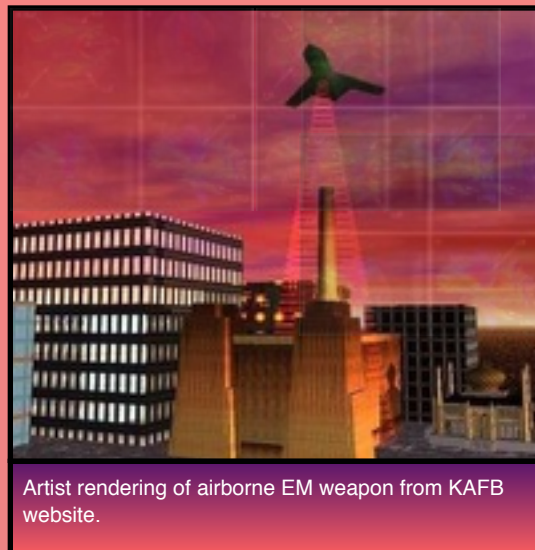
So if electromagnetic weapons are real, and mind control technologies have been researched in the past, how can we be sure they aren't being used on us by say a foreign government or a rogue group of intellectuals as Dorothy theorizes? Unfortunately, the answer to that question remains unknown. In my

email exchange with Phillips he wrote, "Secret EM testing is unproven, there is a large body of circumstantial evidence and personal testimonies but nothing approaching scientific fact. So I do not have an answer to your specific question." In the email with Phillips I had told him about my suspicions regarding electromagnetic and other strange technology research programs at Sandia Labs and Kirtland Air Force Base near where I live. I said I was a little intimidated to start asking questions to random officials, but figured it would be the best way to learn more. Phillips' reply was, "Asking questions is very patriotic and you should feel free to ask away in your locale."

So ask away I did, via the Kirtland Air Force Base website contact page. I asked why a link to a base EM weapons & technology fact sheet I had found while doing previous research no longer worked, and I asked how I could get in to see the technologies discussed on the fact sheet first-hand. So far I have yet to receive a reply, but I did find the fact sheet using a different url, which sent me to the KAFB website. What exactly is this fact sheet you ask? It's a U.S. Air Force report titled "High-Power Microwaves." It outlines some of the features of the facility being used for the microwave weapons technology research at the base of the Manzano

Mountains, only a few miles from where I live. The report reads, "This \$9 million, 26,827 square-foot, facility provides a unique capability for the development of high-power microwaves, high-energy advanced pulsed-power (including explosive devices), and very-high-energy plasmas. It also provides a research environment for exploring a variety of related technologies."⁹ The report continues, "The facility's remote location in the Manzano Mountains on Kirtland Air Force Base is coupled with a unique construction, which is designed to withstand blasts and intense radiation from a variety of sources, including big-energy microwaves and x-rays."¹⁰

One of the chief scientists involved in the directed energy programs at Kirtland AFB is Dr. William L. Baker. In an online version of an Air Force



Artist rendering of airborne EM weapon from KAFB website.

Horizons magazine article co-written by Baker, the controlled effects of high energy weapons are explored. Besides research in using microwaves and other direct energy sources to take over and control adversary's intelligence, command, control, communications, and computer systems (IC4), scientists like Baker are also exploring the ability to take over and control the body and mind of individual human beings. In the *Horizons* article it states:

For the Controlled Personnel Effects capability, the S&T panel explored the potential for targeting individuals with nonlethal force, from a militarily useful range, to make selected adversaries think or act according to our needs. Through the application of nonlethal force, it is possible to physically influence or incapacitate personnel. Advanced technologies could enable the warfighter to remotely create physical sensations such as pressure or temperature changes. A current example of this technology is Active Denial, a nonlethal counterpersonnel millimeter wave system that creates a skin heating sensation to repel an individual or group of people without harm. By studying and modeling the human brain and nervous system, the ability to mentally influence or confuse personnel is also possible. Through sensory deception, it may be possible to create synthetic images, or holograms, to confuse an individual's visual sense or, in a similar manner, confuse his senses of sound, taste, touch, or smell. Through cognitive engineering, scientists can develop a better understanding of how an individual's cognitive processes (pattern recognition, visual conditioning, and difference detection) affect his decision making processes. Once understood, scientists could use these cognitive models to predict a person's behavior under a variety of conditions with the potential to affect an adversary's mission accomplishment via a wide range of personnel effects.¹¹

Unfortunately I haven't had the time to learn more about what goes on at Kirtland AFB's high energy research facility, but I did sign a petition asking the U.S. government to investigate the claims of illegal electromagnetic experiments on unsuspecting Americans, based on the assumption that Cold War style mind control experiments are still in effect and ongoing. Such an assumption is not out of line based on the information that is available to the public regarding high energy electromagnetic

weapons research, and because of the government's history of being unable to pass any legally enforceable ban on nonconsensual experimentation.¹²

Of the three New Mexico representatives my petition was sent to, only one responded - Senator Martin Heinrich, a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence who formerly filled the U.S. House representative seat for district 1, an area which includes Kirtland AFB and Sandia Labs. Running up against incumbent Michelle Lujan Grisham for that seat in the November 2014 mid-term elections is Michael Frese, whose website states that he and his wife "started NumerEx, a small business that does computer modeling of high energy pulsed power experiments, where we continue to work today."¹³ Frese also has a 401K investment in Northrop Grumman, with the value of this asset listed as between \$50,001-\$100,000 for the NG US Equity, the same value for his Northrop Grumman NGSP Balanced Fund 401K asset, and \$1,001-\$15,000 for the value of his NGSP Small Cap Northrop Grumman 401K asset.¹⁴ A financial disclosure lists his salary for the current year to the 2014 filing date to be \$118,900 and \$90,000 for his wife. I'm not quite sure what Frese would say about EM experimentation in the district he is vying to represent, but we do have some clue as to how Heinrich feels about such weaponry. In response to the petition sent to him regarding EM weapons, Heinrich wrote an email which says:

As technology continues to advance, and as the ability of government and businesses to know increasingly more personal details of our lives expands, we must take appropriate steps to protect Americans' privacy. Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have consistently asked whether legislation under consideration - such as cybersecurity bills and foreign surveillance policies - provide for meaningful oversight of information collection and sharing and sufficiently protect individuals' privacy. I have also supported legislation to protect employees and job applicants from unreasonable intrusions into their personal computers or online accounts, as well as to protect consumers in the market place against the exploitation of their private information.¹⁵

Although the response doesn't seem to address illegal experimentation and electromagnetic weapons attacks specifically, Heinrich does hit on the privacy issue involved in voice-to-skull, augmented cognition technologies, and nueroweapons. What I don't get though is

how any of the privacy protection bills Congress passes are going to help if they aren't specifically addressing EM technologies like the ones listed above. The bills should include clauses which allow for the provision of shielding materials from unwanted transmissions, information manuals about the various EM technologies and the different protective measures available, lists of companies or individuals suspected of illegally having EM technologies, as well as a list of where EM experimentations have taken and/or are taking place.

So the question remains, how exactly is our privacy being protected if someone can just point a device at you and put thoughts in your head? What real protective measures is the U.S. government providing to truly ensure this protection of our mental privacy? Remember Aaron Alexis, the D.C. Naval Shipyard shooter and former information security specialist who claimed he could hear voices talking about him through walls, and that microwave transmissions were being sent to his body before going on the bloody September 16, 2013 shooting rampage? His job had everything to do with protecting information and ensuring privacy, yet nothing was in place to protect those working at the shipyard from the very person who was supposed to be providing their information protection. Nor was anything in place to protect the sanctity of Mr. Alexis' mental privacy, if EM weapons were indeed being used on him. According to a post at the FFCHS website, Alexis was in close proximity to people in the U.S. military who had access to some of the electromagnetic technologies being discussed here, making it reasonable to think that maybe more was going on with him than just some type of mental illness, as the mainstream media proclaimed. Alexis had allegedly contacted FFCHS to explain what was going on with him before the shooting occurred. Below is a copy of the email sent to me by a member of FFCHS. I wrote an email to the president of the organization who this email was supposedly sent to in order to confirm the authenticity of it, however I have yet to receive a reply to my request. This of course begs the question of whether this email is real or not and if the information available online about EM weapons is part of a larger disinformation campaign. Never the less I think it is worth examining the alleged email to get a better idea of what type of possibilities actually exist.

Subject: Need assistance on dealing with the direct energy attacks!! September 1

Hello,

My name is Aaron. I am ex-navy, and have been working as a contractor for the DoD. I have recently come under attack after blowing up at Norfolk airport in Virginia.

The first attack started coming when I was on assignment in Rhode Island. I was hearing what I thought was people next door telling lies about me. In truth I didn't know that I was under attack and thought I could escape what I was experiencing, by leaving the hotel I was in. It wasn't until it almost cost me my job that I realized that one, I wasn't crazy, and that two that I had to figure out what was going on.

I am glad I found this site, however I need assistance because, I have not allowed them to scare me off my job, but I fear the constant bombardment from the ELF weapon is starting to take it's toll on my body. I am currently in DC now near the pentagon. I think I know the specific group in the military that is responsible for developing and assisting the military with.[sic]

Any assistance you can give me and at the same time whatever info I can give you on what I know please contact me ASAP.

Aaron Alexis

Scribed into one side of the shotgun Alexis used during the Sept. 16 shooting were the words "My ELF weapon!" The acronym ELF stands for extremely low frequency. According to an FBI press release, a document acquired from Alexis' electronic media states, "Ultra low frequency attack is what I've been subject to for the last 3 months, and to be perfectly honest that is what has driven me to this."¹⁶ According to the International Telecommunication Union, the ELF frequency range is between .03 hertz (Hz) and 300 Hz, while the Ultra Low Frequency (ULF) range is between 300 Hz and 3,000 Hz.¹⁷ These frequency ranges are at the lower end of the radio spectrum. Wavelengths are much longer at this end

of the spectrum and get shorter as the frequency increases before crossing over into the optical spectrum.¹⁸ The FBI press release states that “ELF technology was a legitimate program for naval sub-tonal submarine communications; however, conspiracy theories exist which misinterpret its application as the weaponization of remote neural frequencies for government monitoring and manipulation of unsuspecting citizens.”¹⁹

The DC Naval Shipyard is home to the Naval Sea Systems Command submarine program executive office. Besides work on sonar and acoustic sensors, the submarine office also “designs, develops and oversees the construction of Electronic Warfare Systems, periscopes, and the Photonics Mast,” under the guidance of the Submarine Combat System Program Office.²⁰

Despite previous and current research done on ELF, ULF, and other frequency ranges for submarine communications systems on or near the DC shipyard, there were few news reports showing that Alexis did indeed have a right to suspect electromagnetic weapons or communications technology testing was going on at his workplace. The FBI press release dismisses all connections, making Alexis sound like he was mentally ill rather than someone who may have known something he wasn't supposed to. The press release states, “There are multiple

indicators that Alexis held a delusional belief that he was being controlled or influenced by extremely low frequency (ELF) electromagnetic waves.”²¹ But perhaps he wasn't quite as delusional as the FBI or those in the mainstream media pushed so hard to make Alexis sound.

Unlike infra red or microwave pulsed energies, which are in the optical spectrum, ELF



Can radio towers like these do more than just transmit signals to our cars and homes? Are our brains able to pick up these signals?

energies lie along the radio wave lines of the electromagnetic spectrum. ELF technologies are especially useful for deep-sea communications. Billions of dollars and many classified experiments took place using various designs of ELF submarine communications systems during the Cold War.

According to Gerry Vassilatos, author of *Secrets of Cold War Technology*, conspiracy theories about ELF technologies ran rampant when the public first began to hear of it's capabilities during the 1960s Naval communications operation codenamed SANGUINE, then renamed SEAFARER in 1973.

Vassilatos disproves many wrong assumptions about ELF technology, showing that it was impossible to focus or triangulate ELF or to use it for neurological entrainment under the Navy's submarine SANGUINE and SEAFARER communications experiments. He does explain though that researchers recognized certain biological effects from exposure to ELF. In his book it states, “Numerous university researchers discovered the effects of ELF electrostatic and ELF magnetic potentials on test subjects. Potent emotional and mental derangements were observed when the EM vectors were slightly modified (Hunt). Numerous individuals began “hearing” a strange and penetrating “hum” which could not be recorded acoustically.”²²

Vassilatos explains further that “ELF cannot produce the neurological effects of ULF at 7, 8, 9 or 10 cycles per second,” yet he does not go into further detail about these ultra low frequencies or whether ELF propagation can have the same or similar effects as ULF at a different cyclic rate. But even if ELF or ULF Cold War experimentation has led to neurological entrainment technologies it would be very difficult for a person like Aaron Alexis to receive any type of compensation for experimental uses of these technologies by the military, even if the experiments were done on him against his will.

According to Cheryl Welsh, J.D., author of the research paper “Cold War Nonconsensual Experiments: The Threat of Neuroweapons and the Danger it will happen again,” there is no enforceable legal recourse for victims of nonconsensual experimentation in the U.S.²³ She explains how Nazi scientists were prosecuted for crimes against humanity because of the nonconsensual experiments they performed on victims during World War II. The Nuremberg “Doctors’ Trial” included testimony from eye witnesses who helped to bring about the Nuremberg Code, a common code which states that “certain basic principles must be observed in order to satisfy moral, ethical and legal concepts.”²⁴ The first rule of the code is that “The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential.”²⁵ Despite this, the U.S. still does not have a criminal statute banning nonconsensual experimentation. Welsh explains that time after time the U.S. government has sidestepped any legislation that would make it illegal to conduct nonconsensual experiments for classified research. Welsh writes:

*The disturbing legacy of the Cold War experiments is that the U.S. government has never implemented the one reform essential for providing fundamental human subject protections - a ban on nonconsensual experiments, thus significantly increasing the danger that such experiments could happen again. As with any criminal statute, a ban would go far in preventing the act criminalised within the statute - in this case, nonconsensual experiments in classified research. Many experts agree that small unethical medical studies like the Guatemalan experiments could occur again but few believe that today's ethics would allow for widespread unethical nonconsensual experiments. However, it can be argued that widespread experiments may be possible if not likely given the right circumstances.*²⁶

Since at least 2001 the U.S. has been in a constant state of war. What better circumstances could a sadistic experimentalist ask for? It’s not hard to imagine people with access to EM technologies using them for their own sick personal pleasures. But are nonconsensual experiments using neuroweapons actually taking place on wide scales across the globe by more than just a couple of demented individuals here and there? My guess is that it’s possible, but because we are in a constant state of war the other possibility is that it’s not just nonconsensual experimentation, but rather electromagnetic warfare. In a world where mass murder can be termed collateral damage, it can be assumed that electromagnetic weapons torture victims can just as easily be minimized and deemed mentally ill by the mainstream media. But perhaps the media are part of a larger weapon, or weapon system, into which neuroweapons also fall. Nonlethal, psychological, information, cyber, and directed energy counter-personnel weapons could all be used by foreign adversaries, rogue groups, or sociopathic power brokers in systematic and destructive ways not easily visible to the average onlooker. These type of individuals are indeed already using electromagnetic warfare as part of a larger geopolitical battle between corporate elites, criminal syndicates, military & intelligence operatives, and even entire nation-states. The U.S. military’s use of the Project Sheriff active denial system in Iraq is a case in point, as is Russia’s use of cyber warfare against Georgia in 2008. China, Russia, the U.S., and other countries continue to test and probe each other’s IC4 defenses in pursuit of their publicly announced goal of controlling the electromagnetic spectrum. The ongoing wars and so-called “managed conflicts” these countries engage in provide their leaders with further justification for enhancing, refining, testing, and using EM weapons at home and abroad. It’s likely that EM weapons are being used on Americans without their knowledge, even on a daily basis, given the surreptitiousness of EM attack capabilities and the popular support among government officials, nationalists, and other factions and organizations for more regular use of the conventionally lethal types of weapons in the ongoing conflicts, wars, and uprisings around the globe. If the Obama administration is willing to bomb Libya, Iraq, or Syria because its an easier method than putting troops on the ground, than why wouldn’t U.S. adversaries also use similar methods of killing and torturing Americans from a distance? If Putin can deny sending troops into Ukraine, than why think he wouldn’t also deny using EM weapons on Americans or western Europeans? No-touch-torture weapons are exactly what people who use plausible deniability methods for attacking their enemies want. In their line of work it would be the weapon of choice.

So the real problem is more about defense, not legal recourse or fact finding, whether the attacks are coming from a domestic or foreign source. As when in war, rules don’t apply. And at war we are, despite U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry’s announcement that the U.S. is not at war with ISIS/ISIL/The Islamic State. It’s just a counterterrorism operation, he says, apparently not part of the U.S.’ **WAR** on terrorism. But using war-

-planes to drop bombs and shoot missiles at people on the ground in a foreign country *is* an act of warfare, and Iraq and Syria are just two places where the U.S. is engaged in military conflicts as part of their larger geopolitical wars. So what defense is available against EM attack for the average individual in these wars that supposedly don't exist? The best defense is to know your enemy of course. If the enemy chooses to remain anonymous that could be a difficult task, but in the case of EM warfare one can at least study their methods of attack.

For supposed targeted individuals like Dorothy it makes sense to learn as much about EM weapons as possible so she can better find a solution to whatever pain she's enduring. I personally don't know if individuals are really being targeted to the degree people claim or not, but I say it's better to be prepared than to become a victim without any defenses at all. As these threats are real, and could come from either foreign or domestic sources, it would be in the best interest of government to provide defense measures, or at least easily attainable access to information explaining these measures, for all individuals they are meant to serve. It seems though that government and corporate officials would rather suppress the knowledge about EM weapons needed for better individual defense, while at the same time looking to profit from research and production of both offensive and defensive EM weapons technologies. For instance, the research done at the directed energy lab at Kirtland AFB is experimenting with EM weapons for the purpose of learning how to better protect military equipment and personnel from EM attacks. Millions of dollars worth of contracts have already been spent for this purpose, yet little has been done to provide the public with the protective measures they need in case there ever is a large scale high powered electromagnetic attack. And because EM weapons facilities like the one at Kirtland AFB are publicly known and located near urban areas, it increases the chance that these very areas will be targeted by foreign adversaries, so it would make perfect sense to provide at least the local population with the knowledge and tools needed to protect themselves in case of the many different types of possible EM attacks that could be launched against them. When the Israeli people were under the threat of chemical attack from the ongoing rocket attacks there the Israeli government sent and handed out gas masks house to house. Perhaps the situation is not as urgent in the U.S., but it doesn't hurt to be prepared.

On the site [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov), a FEMA website, there are some protective measures listed for both nuclear and electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attacks, but those measures are very limited, and there are no protective measures listed for other types of EM attacks such as the one's outlined in this article. An EMP attack is when a nuclear detonation goes off above or in the Earth's atmosphere and creates a high energy density field. Those protective measures listed for nuclear attacks and nuclear fallout include getting as much distance from the attack as possible, finding shielding such as thick walls, concrete, bricks, and earth to place between "you and the fallout particles," and to just wait it out, as radiation diminishes over time. For an EMP attack the site says "Although an EMP is unlikely to harm most people, it could harm those with pacemakers or other implanted electronic devices," however no defensive measures are listed other than preparing for damage to electrical equipment and possible power outages. Similarly, the site only lists measures of protection for loss of power during a space weather event, which the site says "can produce electromagnetic fields that induce extreme currents in wires, disrupting power lines, and even causing wide-spread blackouts." If such an event can induce currents in wires, I wonder, can't it also induce currents in humans?

A quick search on the internet found very little government documents listing protective measures for the types of attacks being discussed in this article such as voice to skull technology. The FFCHS, however, has taken it into their own hands to advise the public as how to better defend oneself against electromagnetic attacks. Dr. Duncan Shielding provides a table on the FFCHS website explaining the mechanisms of attack, the weapon capability, effectiveness of the attack, and defense measures to protect against an attack. Some of those defensive measures include: positive hypnosis against audio cortex mapping, language bots, and computer generated conversations known as mind viruses; aspirin against unidentified waveforms of bio-signaling mechanisms to human cells that increase platelets and red blood cell count; valium and meditation against CIA spooking and scaring scripts as well as from beta-wave enhancers, brain entrainments, and cyclotron heating techniques; and shielding and jamming against addictive brain entrainments, stress, and negative subliminal and hypnotic suggestion using silent sound programming. For microwave frequencies it states that no defenses are known "other than superconductor shielding."²⁷

Other defensive measures are also listed on the FFCHS website.

To get government to list the different forms of electromagnetic attack humans could face as well as the proper defense mechanisms may be as futile as trying to get government to admit to the human experimentations they have conducted in the first place. Welsh tells us that even if the government did admit that the U.S. military was conducting nonconsensual EM experiments on it's own forces, the military could call it a "training exercise" and that there is no legal recourse for victims to receive compensation when these "exercises" are the cause of failing or ill health. Veterans who became sick from nuclear testing, agent orange, or other similar military endeavors will tell you it's hard enough to receive compensation for those claims through the Veterans' Affairs, much less to receive compensation for something the government won't even admit to doing. If history tells us anything there will be a day when the U.S. government does come clean about some of the human EM experiments and so-called training exercises different agencies, organizations, and businesses have conducted in recent times, but those revelations will come far too late for some, will eventually be pushed out of view of the collective memory, and will not provide the right type of resources for everyone affected to receive compensation. That's just one reason why I believe it is pertinent for those who believe themselves to be victims of nonconsensual EM experiments or training exercises to come forth now, so that they can speed up the delayed process. They will still have to wait in line though, and those who were exposed to radiation from the high altitude nuclear testing in the 50s and 60s or from the Fukushima Daichi nuclear plant meltdown during Operation Tomodachi will tell you it's a long line indeed.

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LOVE

What happened to love?
To destruction at first sight?
What happened to lust?
To the freaks in
the night?

Not just a party,
A rager, a
destroyer,
An earthquake
from each touch
of our souls,
A heart pumping
and connecting,
Who know's
what it means to
be in control?

A frenzy of hate, sadistic rage,
pleasant surprises await.
Smashing between the tectonic plates.
And always feeling great.

Love or lust or psycho dynamic,
I'm calm in the panic,
Balancing act of my drastic, fantastic,
egotistical plastic.

Love is something my mind aint
crackin.
It's real pure emotion, gut feeling -
more than just mind.
You're the one in the seven billion that
I find. My Go, I'm lucky, I climb into
bed to feel our comfort,
But so blind and dumb to not know
that it would be so short.

DRUNK

Relentless monkeys in the back of my
mind,
Trusting me with their lies,

Spinning through life,
Highways and waves crashing in
nuclear tides,
I'm fine.

Drinking and typing again.
Strontium beneath my skin.
In my bones,
King not on his throne,
Rebellion in mind.

Overthrow, the broken pieces won't
restore.

Humpty Dumpty fell again and again.
The devil had the drunken holograph
stuck in some kind of spin.

Moon reflection, alien
d i s s e c t i o n ,
Franciscan deception
for the lying fool.
Sin for the confused
and meager looks for
the spies.
Drunk again in the
blur of life as the
wounded women cry.

ANGRY

Love money more than me?
To hell with family?
At least I'm just another statistic now.
In the American dream we drown.

What a waste.
You left such an awful taste.
Now we're all stuck in this nasty place.
Somewhere between blind rage and
depression.
What's the lesson?

Don't trust or tell the truth.
That's ammunition for em. Might as
well just yank your own tooth.
It's just as painful.
But leaving me this way helps no one
but yourself.
G r e e d y ,
narcissistic,
psycho, cold
h e a r t e d ,
w o m a n I
t h o u g h t I
loved.

Now I'm just
angry.
Thanks.
Thanks for the
buzz.
Far less painful than love.

FISHING

Searching for something,
I'm not really quite sure.
I'm on the tail of something hot,
But it's still not the cure.

I just want an answer,
A truth of some sort.
But all of my searches,
Well, they keep falling short.

So I look for inspiration in the books.
They'll tell me where to look.
Carl Jung says it's synchronicity,
But academics say I'm just fishing.

Hook, line, and sinker.
I've fallen for the bait.
More deception and disinfo.
But wait!

The answer is here,
I found it within.
It was always there,
But still they won't listen.

So, to hell with it.
I've gone fishing.

DRASTIC

It's time to take those measures now.
We can win somehow.
In the end we're more than just slaves
to them.
We're their backbone,
Their function,
Their vital statistic.
They can't be that sadistic.

Or are they? I think they are.
Let's mobilize, make
movement.
Action of some sort is
the best plan.
Don't wait around to
get snatched in the
government rapist van.
Or get splattered by
that corporate
Yuzhmash fan.
It's time to take a stand.

Measures are drastic.
We can't sit and do nothing.
Or can you? Will you?
Come on. Get up and do something!
Or, do whatever you choose to.



MIL/CIV SATS

ASAT Test complete!
Never will we retreat.
Asymmetrical warfare,
String theory,
Delivery of the big scare.

Info ops.
To get them to hate the cops.
Divide and conquer.
It's the same routine.
Signal down the mind control beam.

Please. Military don't scare me.
In the end we all die.
That's why there's martyrs,
Celebrated worldwide.
That's why we all cried.

For the death of a friend,
A loved one, a country,
A community down to the
end.
Control our airspace and our
frequency,
But you don't control our souls.

I don't need your satellite or
broadcast news,
Why should we emit heat waste,
Or leave that bitter after taste?
So many more options for our civilization to
use.

Not convinced of the purpose of these tales,
Information, space station, off to Mars we sail.
Your lies don't sell.

Give me a real mission for launching these rockets,
Our population needs collaboration and a plan for the
future generations.

Don't want to be remembered in some kids lost locket.
Or end up dead from a nuke that got dropped. . . Ah shit.

VISIBLE SPECTRUM OF EMF

By Rick Albright

colors harmonizing
rounding off my thoughts
encircling and oblong
patches of reflected light
soothe my senses
in a soft cocoon of brown
swirling and singing
and moving around
It's a comfortable world
Where I like to be
softly laying down
and floating away
without a care
not knowing what's next
it doesn't matter to me
when I'm here inside
my mind

Am I still here?

Alone in my head
floating thoughts
wonder at my mind's
information overload,
myelination deprivation,
synapses collapses,
& data displacement.
Existing as a spectrum
of electromagnetic radiation
defining my individuality,
creating uncertainty about reality.
Maybe I am only my imagination.

I hope I am not being erased.



VETERAN'S NOTES
vetnotes.weebly.com
TECHNIPOEMS
lulu.com/spotlight/albright





(Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons) - Article by Scott Albright

Two of this year's scariest events are probably the Fukushima nuclear plant meltdown and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Both deal with the horrors associated with loss of life, disinformation, and the threat of nuclear destruction and/or annihilation of humans and their environment. Unfortunately very few people pay any attention to these events nor put in the energy needed to find the solutions and repair the damage that's already been done. In Ukraine a full scale east-west military confrontation may have already been avoided. As for Fukushima, well, things are already out of control. Although some things can still be done to mitigate the problems, it will probably take decades before anything is even close to normal again, and right now nobody has the technology or capacity to fully resolve the environmental and health problems associated with the meltdown. And that's just one reason why I've decided to only focus on the Ukraine issue here, but that's not to say the two events aren't interrelated. In fact there are quite a few similarities between these events, particularly when it comes to the disinformation and lies being circulated throughout the media regarding the two calamities.¹ The intent of this article is to give readers an idea of the types of problems the oligarchs and authoritarians are orchestrating or participating in without the consent of the people they rule or govern. Ukraine is but just one place in the world where these types of confrontations and conflicts are created, but currently it seems as though the conflict in Ukraine is much more likely

The conflict in Ukraine is much more likely to lead to the needless and immediate loss of innocent and unwitting lives by other oblivious pawns in this game of billionaires and brutes than anywhere else in the world.

to lead to the needless and immediate loss of innocent and unwitting lives by other oblivious pawns in this game of billionaires and brutes than anywhere else in the world, which is why I am going to outline some of the issues involved and propose what I believe to be a broad and far reaching solution that could work for both the short and the long terms.

First lets get the nuclear stuff out of the way. There's no doubt in my mind that further escalations of the fighting in Ukraine could lead to a nuclear catastrophe. Remember Chernobyl is in Ukraine. Nuclear materials and nuclear expertise is quite available in the eastern European former Soviet state. For example, not too long ago, in March 2007, the U.S. announced it would commit \$14 million to provide the South Ukraine Nuclear Power Plant with 42 nuclear fuel assemblies manufactured by the former CBS Corporation parent company Westinghouse Electric, a group company of the Toshiba Corporation.² These are the same guys responsible for providing components to the Fukushima Daichi nuclear reactors that went into total meltdown following the massive 2011 earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan. Of course you'd probably never think there was a problem if you watch CBS news though. Ha! Ha!

But seriously, the problem goes far beyond the nuclear energy waste and release of radioactive materials into the environment. When the Soviet Union broke apart in

1991 Ukraine inherited the third largest nuclear stockpile in the world, only behind the United States and the Russian Federation.³ Although a 1994 agreement to transfer those nuclear weapons over to Russia was officially deemed a success, the problem of “loose nukes” and the nuclear black market in Ukraine has been a serious problem for the years before and after the supposed transfer of those weapons and materials.⁴ A 2012 article in the journal *Perspective on Terrorism* by Alex P. Schmid & Charlotte Spencer-Smith lists more than two dozen incidents of illegal smuggling and/or selling of nuclear materials from Ukraine or by persons from Ukraine between 1991 and 2011.⁵ According to the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) website, all nuclear weapons grade material was officially removed from Ukraine and either shipped to the U.S. or Russia in March 2012.⁶ The U.S. Department of Energy’s Global Threat Initiative and Russia’s State Corporation for Atomic Energy (Rosatom) partnered with Ukraine in the removal process.⁷ Despite this progress, loose nuclear materials and nuclear smuggling continue to be a concern for the international community and a point of contention for the U.S. and Russia. For example, a May 5, 2014 Security Service of Ukraine press release on the Ukrainian government website sbu.gov.ua, states that the Counterintelligence Security Service of Ukraine detained nine people on April 30, 2014 in the Chernivtsi region in connection to 1.5 kg of radioactive uranium-235 seized by authorities, who said they could not rule out the possibility of it being used as a dirty bomb.⁸ And in what appears to be a disinformation article on *The Voice of Russia* website, it states that members of the so-called Right Sector, which Russian media portrays as Nazi collaborators, were arrested for attempting to seize the Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant, Ukraine’s largest nuclear power plant, and according to the Energoatom website, also the largest in Europe.⁹ So now that eastern Ukraine is a war zone, it’s easy to see why the nuclear stakes could be much higher than what is regularly being reported.

On May 14, 2014, just days after two Ukrainian military helicopters were allegedly shot down by pro-Russian separatists, *The Diplomat* reported that both Russia and the United States were conducting large scale nuclear deployment and deterrent drills within an unusually close timespan of each other.¹⁰ According to *The Diplomat*, officials from both countries said the drills were planned well in advance and both claimed they had nothing to do with the situation in Ukraine or any other “real world event.”¹¹ Contradicting this is a quote in the *Free Beacon* by former Pentagon nuclear strategist Mark Schneider who said “the Russian exercises appeared intended as a political message to the west.”¹² In the *Free Beacon* article Schneider also says Russia usually holds their nuclear drills in the fall and that to him the intent of the drills “was nuclear intimidation against NATO over Ukraine.”¹³

Despite the fact that these drills, and their intended purpose, pose a very real threat to species survival and to the future of humanity as a whole, there was very little coverage of the drills themselves, and even less interest among readers who may have stumbled upon an article about the exercises on the internet. According to data displayed on *The Diplomat’s* website, the nuclear drill article only received 1,800 shares and a total of two comments.¹⁴ One of those commenters who uses the handle Сибирь, which means Siberia in Russian, uploaded a *Russia Today* YouTube video to the comment section. The video shows footage of mass surface to air missile launches and various other long range missile launches during Russia’s May 2014 nuclear drill. The other commenter who went by the handle Lavrenti, apparently in reference to the chief of Soviet security under Joseph Stalin Lavrentiy Beriya, wrote, “Russia capable destroy China three four times.” Lavrenti’s user info includes the title Москва, or Moscow, and has a link to the Pravda website. Pravda means truth in Russian, and is an old state controlled news agency notoriously known for altering the truth, history, and reality as a whole. Such commenters makes one question how large of a *dezinformatsiya*, or disinformation, campaign Russia is partaking in, particularly in regard to their nuclear ambitions and military actions around the Russia-Ukraine border.¹⁵

As it is with war, the truth has become harder and harder to recognize. For example, on July 17, 2014 a Malaysian civilian airliner was allegedly shot down over the eastern region of Ukraine. According to the new Ukrainian government, headed by chocolate magnate and oligarch Petro Poroshenko, the attack was carried out by pro-Russian separatists or Russian nationals using a modern Russian surface to air missile. But both the separatists and Russian authorities are denying any involvement, with rumors circulating on the internet that it was a false flag operation done in order to expand the EU/NATO sphere of influence, reset the international economic order, and possibly to justify war with Russia for the benefit of the billionaires and their corporate interests.¹⁶ Other theories state the shoot down was staged in order to distract the world’s attention from the Israeli military ground campaign in Gaza that started just three days after the plane went down. Still, others say the shoot down was a false flag operation carried out by Zionists in order to strengthen their power grip on the world’s political and economic order, which is reminiscent of the anti-Zionist campaigns conducted by KGB operatives in earlier times, including operation Zarathustra and other similar disinformation operations used to discredit the so-called enemies of the Russian state.¹⁷

It seemed strange to me though that it wasn’t until after the alleged shoot down of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 that the media seemed to really begin paying attention to the problems going on in Ukraine. A quick Go-

-ogle News search using the term “nuclear drill” only turned out a few thousand results, but the search term “Malaysia Airlines shot down Ukraine” returns several million results. Although many online news reports do discuss the nuclear connection between the current Ukraine conflict, very few provide any significant background or detail to provide viewers with a realistic picture of the threat the world faces from nuclear related conflicts. This is dangerous.

No, we shouldn't all panic and hide under our desks every ten minutes, but the general public does need to be aware of the reality of the dangers we face from nuclear accidents and war. If the people are not informed than they will not have the information needed to take the appropriate action in order to help reduce the risk level they face over conflicts like the one in Ukraine. It is my belief, along with many others, that it was because of the lack of attention paid to the nuclear industry by the media and antinuclear organizations after the end of the Cold War that the nuclear industry became so powerful and such a problem for the world that it is today. By the early 1980s the world peace and anti-nuclear movements were already on the decline, and the large anti-nuclear organizations that thrived specifically because of the nuclear threat humanity faced during the Cold War became but splinter groups, many of which would disintegrate completely by the time the U.S.-Soviet conflict had come to an end. Although there has been some rekindling of interest in nuclear pacifism among global peace groups following the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, there were virtually no protests in the United States, Russia, or elsewhere regarding the recent nuclear drills and even fewer reports in the media of how activists were pressuring leaders to put an end to the juvenile-like nuclear tit-for-tat games that continue to put the world's population in peril. According to nuclear pacifists and scholars of the anti-nuclear movement James Downtown and Paul Wehr, “Where they exist together, opportunity and hope can help to keep activists involved over the long term. But threat, such as that of nuclear war, can also be a crucial determinant of activist commitment.”¹⁸ This is but one good reason why the media should better report the nuclear threats we actually face in the world today.

I agree with Downtown and Wehr completely and believe that the mainstream media, nuclear power company owned or not, has an obligation to make the public aware of the real threats we face from nuclear wars and accidents, and that the media should be using their efforts to not just inform us of these nuclear events, but to also encourage the public to pressure their leaders to take the type of actions that will prevent and reduce the risks associated with these threats. According to Lawrence Wittner, professor of history and scholar of the the anti-nuclear movement, if it wasn't for the global protests against nuclear weapons testing in the 1960s and 70s, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty may have never been signed and the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site in

Kazakhstan never closed down.¹⁹ I agree with this assessment as well and personally believe the media have an obligation to help revive the antinuclear movement and that they should place an equal amount of emphasis on the risks associated with the continued threat of nuclear war and nuclear accidents in every country they have a presence in. It is the information and knowledge the media bring to the world's citizens that can lead to the type of large scale social and political actions which bring about reductions in nuclear inventories, better verification methods, more transparency, citizen oversight, and stronger implementation methods of laws and treaties. It is in the interest of the media to help do this, not only for moral reasons, but also because the media industry is made up of real human beings who have real families and friends who need cared for and who deserve the same basic right to live without fear of their own annihilation through nuclear war as do the rest of humanity, to include the CEOs and board of directors of the largest of these media companies.²⁰ But perhaps this is the problem - people just aren't thinking about humanity, but rather just their own personal survival and the future of their wealth, which of course brings us to the Ukraine oligarch issue.

It's clear that we love our billionaires and oligarchs - in Ukraine, Russia, and yes, the United States as well. The one per center billionaire club seems to be so popular that we can't help but to keep putting them in power. Viktor Yanukovich, Ukraine's former president who was ousted by popular protest earlier this year, was himself a bit of an oligarch, due much in part to his ability to swindle state funds.²¹ Allegations of Yanukovich's corruption include a personal takeover of the state owned Mezhyhirya, a 340 acre piece of land near the Dnieper river formerly used as a dacha for leaders of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.²² More than \$9 million was spent on fittings and additions to Yanukovich's Mezhyhirya residence alone.²³ Despite Ukrainians disapproval of Yanukovich's corruption, they had no problem electing Petro Poroshenko as Yanukovich's replacement, an oligarch listed as the “seventh richest man in Ukraine today.”²⁴

Petro Poroshenko, Ukraine's 7th richest person, has fought to secure a financial deal with the EU which set events into motion that could've started a nuclear war.

Photo Credit:
Wikimedia
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As of July 22, 2014 Petro Poroshenko's net worth was valued at \$1.4 billion by *Forbes*, placing him at number 1,283 among *Forbes* list of the world's billionaires.²⁵ He is the owner of the chocolate company Roshen, has interests in a holding company called UkPromInvest, and is the owner of the former government opposition television channel 5 that helped oust Yanukovich from power.²⁶ Like Yanukovich, Poroshenko also has a large mansion along the Dnieper. And like Yanukovich, Poroshenko has fitted his mansion with expensive amenities and additions, while out on the streets thousands of poverty stricken Ukrainians can barely afford to buy one of Poroshenko's chocolates.

It's not that Poroshenko is all that popular though. The Maidan protests were in part about getting people like him out of power, but like many people in the U.S., Ukrainians weren't necessarily voting for Poroshenko when they elected him president, they just thought he was the least threatening of the scoundrels they had to choose from. Besides, if the oligarchs were saying it was better to obtain their credit or pay their debts to EU banks rather than Russian ones, than what could the common person do about it? Everyone knows the billionaires will do what they want anyway, no matter what the financially average population thinks. When oligarchs like Poroshenko came out against Yanukovich it was pretty much over for the Moscow-leaning president, just as the Obama administration hopes will happen to Russian president Vladimir Putin after his billionaire inner-circle friends become isolated from the global market through tougher economic sanctions and international political pressure, something I'm not so confident will happen anytime soon. But just like Yanukovich, Putin can't survive politically without the help of the oligarchs who keep Russia's economy rolling from the top down. Because the sanctions are aimed specifically at these people and the financial institutions they run, it is possible that Putin could lose the support he needs if Russia's largest banks and richest businessmen are closed off from the rest of the western world, but Russia has a lot of friends outside the western world and Putin's oligarchs won't stop doing business with those friends any time soon. Important economic allies to Russia include Brazil, India, China, and South Africa, collectively known as BRICS. Since the U.S. and Europe imposed sanctions on Russian officials, businessmen, and enterprises all of the BRICS countries have continued to do business with Russia, including China whose officials recently signed off on a huge oil deal with Putin and his oligarch friends.

One of the first hit with U.S. sanctions was Gazprombank, a bank which has interests or holds assets in the defense, energy, mining, machine building, and media sectors, among others. A 2010 Gazprombank report states, "The Bank is the support bank for the **nuclear power sector of the Russian Federation** and holds leading positions with cash flow processing for a number of enterprises of the State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM."²⁷ According to ROSATOM's 2012 annual

report, "Due to the operating specifics of Rosatom business and the need to protect classified information, information on current activities of the Russian nuclear weapons complex is not disclosed."²⁸ The report does say though that the company fulfilled 100 percent of state orders by the nuclear weapons complex.

Gazprombank is undeterred by U.S. sanctions though and has its own army of spin doctors to ease any anxiety among investors, making it difficult to determine what type of real effect sanctions will have on Putin's actions in Ukraine, his leadership role at home, or on the energy and weapons industries as a whole. A July 17, 2014 Gazprombank press release headline reads "US Sanctions will not Affect Financial and Operational Stability of Gazprombank."²⁹ Of course with the high level of disinformation being circulated it's impossible to know if anything in the media regarding the Ukraine issue is true or not, but we can at least tell that those hit by sanctions notice them enough to provide some type of reaction so that we know they are at least a bit annoying. However, with economic and information warfare anything can happen. Who knows how deep Gazprombank's investments go into Putin's global disinfo campaign. According to the bank's website, Gazprombank owns 100 percent of Gazprom Media Group, which has holdings or interests in high speed internet, television, publishing, advertising, and radio broadcasting.³⁰ With such close ties to the state and the media, energy, and weapons industries, there's little doubt that the bank's media group directly or indirectly employs hundreds, if not thousands, of the so-called internet trolls hired by Russian public relations firms to spread rumors and lies to legitimize state policy and discredit any opposition.³¹ With such an army of spin doctors Russia can rewrite their own version of history and push it the world over, making the sanctions appear to be more of a bump in the road than a thorn in the side.

One infamous Russian spin doctor hit by U.S. sanctions is Vladislav Surkov, a high dollar businessman and the former Deputy Prime Minister to Putin.³² According to a 2013 Jamestown Foundation article, "Surkov was considered to be a mastermind of the strategy of preempting a revolution by means of sponsoring various pro-Putin youth movements and quasi-non-governmental organizations (NGO), dividing and manipulating the opposition, as well as employing modern technologies of disinformation and deception in the official propaganda."³³ Surkov's sacking by Putin earlier last year came as a bit of surprise considering his close relationship to the president, but perhaps that's because Putin and his former KGB colleagues have another job for him in Crimea or Donetsk that requires some type of anonymity, but then again speculating about the reasons he was sacked only adds to the entropic mix of propaganda, rumors, half truths, and lies being digitally spewed out across the cyber world. Of course that's exactly what people like Surkov want, but by now most know the Russians aren't alone in this disinfo-

information war. U.S. media groups are just as engaged in the muckraking, framing, and finger pointing propaganda as Russia's billionaire media barons.³⁴

On July 24, 2014 CNN reported that one of their freelance reporters, Anton Skiba, was captured outside a hotel in Donetsk, Ukraine and being held by pro-Russian militants.³⁵ In the same article CNN reported that the U.S. State Department had issued a statement saying they had evidence Russia was firing artillery at Ukrainian military posts from across the border. When using the term "Russia fires artillery Ukraine," in CNN's website search box, several relevant articles are populated in the results list. Interestingly, a search on CNN's website for any stories on either Russia or the U.S.' May 2014 nuclear drills returned no related results. That's strange, as CNN was initially launched in 1980 by Ted Turner, the multi-billionaire media magnate who took time out from building his Turner Broadcasting System empire in 2001 to establish the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI).³⁶ Part of NTI's mission is to build trust and transparency to help fulfill the goals of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and to reduce the risk of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons use and proliferation, something CNN failed to do by not reporting on the May nuclear drills.³⁷

Another donor to NTI whose work seems to contradict the initiative's mission includes Fred Iseman, former features editor for Hearst and founder of CI Capital Partners, a private equity company which invests in government services and defense, military armored vehicles, logistics, aerospace, manufacturing, businesses services, and other similar ventures.³⁸ Like most of the other NTI donors, such as Peter G. Peterson, chairman and co-founder of The Blackstone Group, Iseman is also a member of the Council of Foreign Relations.³⁹ Another interesting fact is that under the umbrella of Peterson's Black Stone Group, the world's largest investor and asset manager BlackRock was founded. According to the BlackRock website, the company manages \$4.32 trillion in assets.⁴⁰ Some of those assets include the iShares Global Nuclear Energy ETF, which "seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of global equities in the nuclear energy sector."⁴¹ None of the iShare Global Nuclear Energy ETF holdings were in Russian or Ukrainian companies, but Tokyo Electric Power Co. Inc. did make the list.⁴² Billionaire created foundations such as the Carnegie Corporation, The Rockefeller Foundation, and the Google Foundation are also donors to the NTI, a "non-profit" whose donors seem to profit more from the production of nuclear related products than they do from the reduction of them.

But we won't even go into the details of all the media baron billionaires' inner workings in the U.S. There simply isn't enough room here to outline the muck and hypocrisy in its entirety. So let's go back to Ukraine for a minute. Besides Poroshenko, there are a number of other

important Ukrainian oligarchs who've used their financial holdings to push a political agenda by means of media acquisition and information dissemination. One such oligarch is Jewish banker Ihor Kolomoisky, the regional governor of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, an area with a population of 3.3 million. Kolomoisky is a controlling shareholder and supervisory board member of PrivatBank and a major shareholder and board member of Ukrnafta, the largest oil and natural gas extracting, processing and supplying company in Ukraine.⁴³ He's also held interests in Ukrainian media, having controlled UNIAN news agency while also purchasing several TV channels in 2010.⁴⁴ According to *Forbes*, Kolomoisky's net worth was valued at \$1.7 billion in July 2014.⁴⁵ Like Poroshenko, Kolomoisky is outspoken in his opposition to the pro-Russian separatists in the east.⁴⁶ The *Wall Street Journal* reports that Kolomoisky has even vowed to take on the separatists by offering "a \$10,000 bounty for any pro-Russian militant captured with a gun."⁴⁷

Within Kolomoisky's region is Yuzhmash, an old Soviet era nuclear, space research, and machine building facility turned Ukrainian missile & rocket production site. The rocket producer's biggest customer is, you guessed it, Russia, but because of the fighting and recent defense and technology related export bans related to the Ukraine conflict the company has cut back on employees, significantly reducing their output.⁴⁸ But a 2013 *Bloomberg* article reports that Kolomoisky's PrivatBank was increasing credit to large businesses by 10 to 15 percent for the year, to include PO Yuzhmash, one of the bank's largest clients.⁴⁹ So despite any losses in Yuzhmash rocket sales to Russia in the short term, the company is backed by Kolomoisky's credit line and his position as regional governor, giving Kolomoisky leverage not only over the company's financial decisions, but also, it would seem, as a potential financial benefactor of arms deals to people from both sides of the same war. Perhaps he's even already brought in some profit from Russia's firing of Yuzhmash made rockets during Putin's May 2014 nuclear drill, or perhaps the profit will come later when Russia is willing to pay even more money for rocket components in order to meet the goals of their military modernization plan. Either way, Kolomoisky is in a position to at least throw in some pretty decent size bargaining chips that can either raise the stakes further or help to bring about a political deal that could help end the conflict and even get the START treaty back on track.

Yuzhmash produces and sells landing gear, casting, and dye forging products, defense related rockets, and space and launch vehicles, including those for the Russian R-36M/SS-18 Satan intercontinental ballistic missile. The missile can be seen firing off during the May 2014 nuclear drills on an RT YouTube video.⁵⁰ The Satan is the longest range ICBM in the world and is capable of carrying ten Multiple Independent Reentry Vehicle (MIRV)

nuclear warheads, or just one really, really big one.⁵¹ It is the most destructive missile in Russia's arsenal and one that Yuzmash already has orders to maintain for Russia's military modernization program, so it's not one that Putin would like to be seen in the control of other countries, particularly those that are western friendly, or among the faction of the billionaires who may decide to raise the costs of components at a later date. But giving up Yuzhmash and building a new facility inside Russia wouldn't be economical either.

According to a Federation of American Scientists report on the Satan missile, "Manufacturing of SS-18s in Russia would be expensive, and could require 5 to 7 years of design work to begin at least tests at a cost of 8-10 billion rubles."⁵² Because of the strategic value of such a missile production site it is easy to see why Russia would be interested in controlling the place it is located, but Yuzhmash probably won't be handed over so easily, unless Putin believes the benefits of

invasion are greater than the costs.

Online rumors suggest there have been some behind the scene deals though in which Ukraine will agree to provide Russia with access to it's defense industry in exchange for Russia forgiving the Ukrainian natural gas debt. So there is still optimism that Putin will stop short of a full scale invasion of Ukraine, but he does seem to eyeing the country with much vigor than some of the other border conflicts he or his predecessors initiated within eastern Europe. It's still anybody's guess as to how far the "pro-Russian separatists" will go or how many of them already have local financial backing. After all, Ukraine is not just a weapons making state, it is also a natural gas corridor between eastern and western Europe and it is a country full of nuclear related facilities and experts in the field.

Also in Kolomoisky's Dnipropetrovsk Region is the state owned Eastern Mining and Processing Complex, "the only enterprise in Ukraine engaged in the mining of uranium ore and the production of a uranium oxide concentrate."⁵³ It is the largest such complex in Europe, with it's headquarters located in Zhovty Vody, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.⁵⁴ Mining and the supply of raw

materials for energy production are at the heart of Kolomoisky's Ukranaft operation, a company that is listed as a major client of the Russian company Stroygazmontazh, otherwise known as the SGM Group. SGM specializes in the construction of industrial facilities, trunk pipelines, gas and oil processing plants, and development of gas and oil fields. Stroygazmontazh and Ukranaft's operations include pipelines, energy production facilities, and processing plants in Crimea and along the Ukraine-Russia border where the Dnieper-Donets Basin lies.⁵⁵ According to the USGS, the basin contains 1.6 billion barrels of oil and 59 trillion cubic feet of gas within a total single petroleum system.⁵⁶ And of course Kolomoisky isn't the only one interested in profiting from the raw materials within his region and along the Dnieper-Donets basin.

SS-18 Satan



"SS-18 missile, Strategic Missile Forces museum" by Michael - Nuclear silo. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons - http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SS-18_missile,_Strategic_Missile_Forces_museum.JPG#mediaviewer/File:SS-18_missile,_Strategic_Missile_Forces_museum.JPG

Donetsk, on the southern tip of the Dnieper-Donets and just east of Dnipropetrovsk, lives Rinat Akhmetov, Ukraine's richest billionaire - an oligarch who once supported Yanukovich who is now reportedly enlisting his 300,000 strong workforce to patrol the streets alongside pro-Kiev police officers.⁵⁷ *Forbes*

lists his net worth at \$12.2 billion and *Bloomberg* at \$13.2 billion. He started out selling coal to steel mills, factories, and power plants with business partner Akhat Bragin, a man who was accused of being a crime boss before being killed in a 1995 explosion at his Donetsk soccer club's stadium.⁵⁸ After Bragin's death Akhmetov took over ownership of the team, some of whose members have refused to return to Donetsk since the fighting broke out in the area. Besides playing his Donetsk soccer team against their Russian rivals, Akhmetov's other dealings with Russia include the 2010 System Capital Management (SCM) purchase of Russia's Ukrainian unit of the Renaissance Credit Group based in Donetsk.⁵⁹ At the time the unit had 31 bank branches and was Ukraine's "104th biggest bank by assets." Akhmetov's SCM was most likely also conducting high-dollar business transactions with various Russian enterprises from 2004 to 2009, a time when Ukrainian outward foreign direct investment (OFDI) in Russia increased from \$94.6 million to \$165.5 million.⁶⁰ The only other country to have higher Ukrainian OFDI for that same time period was Cyprus, the country where Akhmetov's SCM Holdings Limited is locat-

-ed. Akhmetov owns 99% of the holding company which belongs to the SCM Group and “holds corporate rights of all assets of the Group except for Ukraine-based SCM managing company.”⁶¹ Besides owning the Donetsk Shakhtar soccer club and SCM, Akhmetov also owns over a hundred other companies, including steel mills, coal mines, chemical plants, power stations, banks, insurance companies, and media outlets, all together generating \$23.5 billion in revenue in 2012.⁶² Like Kolomoisky’s Ukranaft, it’s likely that Akhmetov’s companies are not only competitors to Russian companies such as Stroygazmontazh, but also major clients.

Stroygazmontazh is a supplier of pipelines to Gazprom and is owned by Arkady Rotenberg, a close advisor to Vladimir Putin and one of the first individuals to make the U.S. sanctions list. Like Kolomoisky, Akhmetov, and Ukraine’s second richest billionaire, Victor Pinchuk, Rotenberg is Jewish, which makes the disinformation campaign about the conflict having something to do with a Communist-Fascist ideological battle seem a bit amusing at the least. However it does give some credence to the conspiracy theorists ideas about the Ukraine conflict having to do with a larger “Zionist” agenda that is somehow tied into the Israeli Russian Jewish population and their activities in the Middle East. The fact that the billionaires tied to these conflicts are Jewish is a neat little coincidence, but hardly worth calling it a conspiracy of Zionists. It’s clear that the interests of these billionaires is mostly money, however the political and social implications of their power strokes can definitely be associated with a cultural and perhaps even a moral (or non-moral) upbringing that clearly influences not only local, regional, and global economics, but also the day-to-day lives of those who are forced to work and live in the environments created by these billionaires. So perhaps there is a bit of Zionism going on, but its definitely not to the extent that the world is going to give its full support to a global Jewish agenda any time soon. And with people like Rotenberg, whose success is reliant upon a government which disdains religion of all types, it is clear that religion is not the immediate concern of the billionaires’ geo-political agenda, but rather just a tool used to either divide and conquer or to opiate the masses with. But while everybody else is busy fighting each other and being duped by the social opiates of the day, the billionaires continue to rake in huge profits from the financial and economic wars being fought over energy and defense.

Rotenberg’s wealth has only risen since falling into Putin’s inner circle, and surely Moscow will see sanctions on him as a reason to contract out even more deals with the man, whether it’s to build pipelines or to secure weapons deals. Only a long term assessment of the sanctions will provide any reality based idea of the effect they are having on the oligarchs, as contracts of that sort could take many years to fulfill. As of July 30, 2014 Rotenberg’s net worth was listed by *Forbes* at \$3.7 billion, perhaps falling slightly from before the time sanctions were

imposed, but not enough to make much of a dent in his fortune. These controlled conflicts and economic wars, no matter how individualized they become, do not benefit the general populace, but rather just the billionaires who are engaged in them - they keep getting richer while the poor and middle class keep getting poorer or are killed off in the oligarchs’ wars. For instance, Rotenberg is owner of TPS Aviation, a Russian aviation company that supports programs which produce military fighters and trainers, military helicopters, military transports, military surveillance and bombers, military ordinance programs, military aviation support, and aerospace rocket and space programs.⁶³ As these products become more in demand during war time, and as export bans and financial sanctions are implemented, these products become more valuable, helping to enrich those who provide credit lines to the companies making these types of products.

Ismael Hossein-zadeh, Professor Emeritus of Economics at Drake University, explains in an *Information Clearinghouse* article that Ukraine is a “managed” conflict, mostly among the financial elite who tend to benefit from a managed conflict more than they would from direct military intervention, however such direct intervention is usually always left “on the table.” But, Hossein-zadeh writes, “Even then, however, all efforts are made (by the major capitalist powers) to make such military interventions “controlled” or “manageable”, that is, limited to local or national levels. While “controlled” wars tend to safeguard the fortunes of war profiteers and military spending (mainly the military-security-industrial complex and major banks), they would not cause paralysis of international financial markets.”⁶⁴ I agree that such limited or controlled wars do help to keep the oligarch’s money safe by providing more investment opportunities at higher returns without the added risk involved with direct military intervention. Just think of Halliburton and all the contracts they received in Iraq. Now imagine the profits they would have made if they could be contracted out private investment firms rather than having to go through the military. Imagine if they didn’t have to worry about military rules and conventions. Not only would they be able to work more freely and independently of any oversight, but there would be less risk involved in their operations, lowering insurance and other combat related costs significantly. Surely U.S., Ukrainian, and Russian businessmen are all flocking to the Ukraine investment portal opened up by the economic sanctions and ongoing unrest. Eventually more pipelines will need to be erected or repaired, buildings and roads will need rebuilt, mining and energy production will need to be secured, stabilized, or ramped up, and weapons & munitions that are used will need replaced or maintained. No businessman or woman, no matter what country they are supposedly loyal to, will overlook such potentially high yielding investment opportunities. That’s what drives them - profit, not ideology.

As of the time of this writing it does not appear as though U.S. or EU sanctions on Russia will have a dramatic

impact on the country's economy or even on the wealth of the individual businesses and businessmen being targeted by the sanctions, but the debate is still open. German Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel thinks the sanctions *will* have an effect on the Russian economy. In an online *Voice of America* article Gabriel is quoted as saying, "I think they will very quickly show an effect, because the Russian economy is not in a good shape and of course those who are affected by [the sanctions], the Russian oligarchs, won't want their opportunities to move, and their investment of money freely in Europe, to be limited."⁶⁵ But Russia's foreign ministry has said the sanctions are "destructive" and that they will only lead to "further aggravation of U.S.-Russia relations."⁶⁶ Whichever directions sanctions take us, it is clear that the billionaires will continue to be billionaires and those middle class and poor individuals who fight for their most favorite oligarch's brand of wealth-driven ideologies will continue to be maimed, mutilated, and killed in these wars, no matter how "controlled" or "managed" they appear.

So it seems that unless you are a billionaire you probably won't have much say in the outcome of the Ukraine conflict, but that doesn't mean the conflict has to go on, nor does it mean the billionaires will continue to support the wars they profit from. But what is the solution? How can we get the billionaires to stop supporting "managed" conflicts and wars, disinformation campaigns, weapons procurement programs, and environmentally hazardous energy production plans? Protests, boycotts, name and shame campaigns, worker strikes, and apathy/ignoring the situation hasn't seemed to be very effective in reining in the oligarchs and their destructive behavior, but who knows how deep the greed and devastation would be without such oppositional activities. And those aren't the only options either. Pinchuk's success in educating his companies employees about the dangers of joining the separatist movement is but one example we can take from the old playbook. Unfortunately he's forcing these workers to take sides by offering payment and other incentives to those who patrol the streets alongside Pro-Kiev police officers, but such forceable actions can be a good first step in "managing" the conflict and preventing an escalation in separatist hostilities toward the Ukrainian population. More needs to be done though to bring the workers, separatists, foreign agents, and international oligarchs to the negotiating table, which is where citizen journalism and social media come into play.

It's clear by the amount of disinformation being distributed across the internet, radio, and television that the major media networks can't be trusted to provide an accurate and realistic description of the situation in Ukraine. Despite being considered "credible" sources by much of the world's population because of their long term durability, these mega-media outlets are anything but credible and need to be checked by individuals brave enough to take on the job of reporting the truth and following the money. More investigative financial reporting

needs to be done regarding the wealth of the world's oligarchs. It's easy to find out how much these billionaires are worth and the type of companies they own, but it's much more difficult to see exactly how that wealth is generated and where it comes from, especially when tied to state-run banks and weapons making facilities.

What I propose is that citizen journalists, alternative news outlets, social media buffs, and various other non-profits, educational foundations, and social justice organizations create a global media co-op where they share a percentage of their sponsorship and delegate duties via a loosely managed non-hierarchical organizational network. Such a co-op will help to finance those reporters and journalists who would otherwise be unable to afford to take on the duties of government, media, and oligarch watchdogs. Such a co-op would also make it much harder for the major networks to get away with any disinformation campaigns being paid for by government agents and shady PR firms, as there would be more eyes on the ground looking for the inaccuracies and false reports. Just educating the populace about the financial gains of oligarchs during wartime should have a significant effect, but that education must extend into the ranks of the military who are carrying out the orders of those oligarchs. If the people doing all the fighting understood more about the racket of war, and how they are the one's who lose the most in such a racket, than perhaps they would be less likely to participate in those wars. Overcoming the indoctrination programs force fed to members of the military is not something that can be accomplished over night though, so still more efforts need to be undertaken to reduce the prospect of war, weapons proliferation, and war profiteering in the short term.

In Ukraine there are already eyes in the sky providing satellite imagery and video footage of the situation on the ground, but if the lead up to the Iraq war debacle is anything to learn from, than we know that these "eyes" cannot be trusted when they are owned or operated by people in the defense and mainstream media industries. To be more effective, ownership and operation of these "eyes" must be diversified to include citizen journalists and the average layperson so that a larger quantity and a different quality of perspectives is provided to those on the ground, in and outside of Ukraine. There's no reason live satellite imagery of the contested regions in Ukraine and along it's eastern border aren't already fed to an open and easily accessible website. The technology available today is completely capable of providing the type of imagery necessary to pinpoint the parties responsible for carrying out hostile activities on the ground, including those who fired upon and took down Malaysian Airlines flight 17. Why those images have yet to surface are beyond me. Since that type of imagery is not being made available to the public in it's entirety than that job of creating a transparent and open environment regarding the hostilities in the area must fall upon the average layperson. Obviously it is very expensive to operate the type of satellites that can provide

for this type of transparent and instantaneous sort of situation report, however there are other options. Alternatives include using low cost drones and crude remote flying machines armed only with video cameras.⁶⁷ For those who see themselves and the countries they live in being drawn into a conflict they don't want or need to participate in, it becomes all the more important that the truth be told, so that nobody else is duped into joining a dangerous and unnecessary war over money, weapons, and resources. The people who feel this way should, in my opinion, start sending toy helicopters, planes, remote control cars, and other remote objects equipped with video cameras that they can send into the contested regions so as to get more views of those engaged in the hostilities in order to provide a more accurate description of the situation. Equipping a remote control airplane with a camera that sends live video footage back via wi-fi connection is not undoable for even the most technologically deprived. Those operating such devices should send them in with the expectation that they will be shot down. When they are blown out of the sky the people viewing the imagery can at least have a better idea of where the hostilities are actually taking place and who is responsible for carrying out such violent acts. Without being able to place responsibility on the hostile actors it is impossible to take any type of effective measures against them to prevent such future acts. It is well known that people behave much differently when they are being observed, so let's really start to observe those who are carrying out the crimes in Ukraine and work towards making those observations more of a "behavior modification" tool for changing those actors into peaceful participants rather than using it for propaganda and information warfare.

Also, although the Ukraine problem is being downplayed and considered a "managed conflict", as is the nuclear threat emanating from it, there is no reason why the media shouldn't highlight the dangers this conflict poses in a more robust and rounded way. Arms control advocates should see the nuclear threat as an opportunity to ramp up negotiations over nuclear delivery system reductions and nuclear energy security, not an excuse for throwing in the towel and saying the nuclear arms race and Cold War is back on. No, the U.S. and Russia have significantly reduced their nuclear stockpiles over the last three decades, and although nuclear energy is becoming more profitable, the Fukushima disaster has reminded the world once again of the problems such energy production creates.⁶⁸ Why not use the Ukraine conflict as a catalyst to bring Russian citizens closer to their American counterparts? Why not revive the anti-nuclear movement by actually reporting on the nuclear threats stemming from Ukraine? Those who say there is not a problem need not forget Chernobyl. As author of *The Enemy Within* Jay M. Gould explains, the Chernobyl disaster was a major changing point in history, being a strong influential factor in the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Gould writes that "in a

single cataclysmic moment, Chernobyl revealed the Soviet rulers' massive deception of the Soviet population, which gave rise to the wave of civil disorder that continues today."⁶⁹ Ukraine already had a nuclear disaster once. Political and economic instability in the region increases the probability that such a disaster could happen again, accident or not. To me that's reason enough to take action, but being that I am on the other side of the world and am not a billionaire myself there is not much else I can do other than to write this article.

Perhaps more attention should be given to how to resolve the conflict rather than just outlining the problems, but it seems to me that the problem in Ukraine is one that keeps repeating throughout history, and is one that we need to be continually reminded of. Without those reminders even less people will be interested in learning how those problems can have a global effect. Without outlining the problem and just ignoring the situation even fewer people will take to the streets to protest and place pressure on their oligarch leaders to put an end to the madness. But protest is what started this whole mess you say, so how can that help? Because protest is powerful, that's why. Protest is what swept Yanukovich out of power and it was protest that brought the problems of corruption and financial greed to the forefront. Such protest need not be a workers rights protest, nor an anti-Communist or anti-capitalist protest, but rather a pro-peace protest. It's hard to send in agents and agitators into a peaceful crowd to stir up trouble, especially if that crowd is in the millions, synchronizing their activities on a global scale. And global protest is not out of line for the situation at hand.

Gene Sharp's *How Nonviolent Struggle Works* provides strategies and techniques for utilizing nonviolent social movements against military opponents. Sharp writes, "Against opponents using military means, always confront them indirectly by nonviolent means, so that their repression can be made to rebound against them to undermine their power position."⁷⁰ In all, Sharp lists 198 methods of nonviolent action. To date, only governments and big business are openly partaking in the economic sanctions imposed over the Ukraine crisis, however if one follows Sharp's strategies for nonviolent economic intervention than perhaps an even broader set of sanctions should be set in place by the global peace, anti-nuclear, and pro-economic equality movements that have evolved and taken on new shapes and sizes over the last few decades. Combined, these movements have the power to influence global events at a rapid rate, and when their shared goals are actively pursued in reaction to specific events, like those taking shape in Ukraine, then immediate results can often be achieved. Some of the economic interventions Sharp recommends include "reverse strikes, (working to excess), stay-in strikes (occupation of work site), nonviolent land seizure, defiance of blockades, politically motivated counterfeiting, preclusive purchasing, seizure of assets, dumping, selective patronage, alternative markets, alternative transportation systems, and alternative

economic institutions.”⁷¹ Such economic interventions can create dramatic change when global activists and other interested parties work together to determine the desired outcome of each type of intervention, and then proceed to effective implementation of their strategy. For instance, Russia and the U.S. may already be implementing some of these strategies as part of their own economic warfare techniques, but it may come as quite a surprise when both sides see their plans backfiring because of the indirect intervention measures taken by global activists. Scenarios of this sort include the large scale use of bit coins or other non-standard currency not regulated by government. Wide scale use of such currencies have the potential to undermine the value of global financial holdings of billionaires, which would require them to rethink their own investments. A seizure of assets operation could include the petitioning for changes in economic policy which require billionaires to pay higher taxes in order to provide the necessary public goods which can enable regional peace and political stability (i.e. nuclear waste prevention and clean up funds, arms for jobs campaigns, and cultural & educational programs promoting diversity, cooperation, and collaboration). The billionaires are not to be shunned from such actions either, as not all billionaires and oligarchs are war profiteers or corporate despots. And their involvement adds a new dynamic that can help reshape future events in dramatic ways.

Sharp lists six actions holders of financial resources can make to help influence events through economic noncooperation. Those actions include “withdrawal of bank deposits, refusal to pay fees, dues, and assessments, refusal to pay debts or interest, severance of funds and credit, revenue refusal, and refusal of a government’s money.”⁷² When global activist movements team up with billionaires to consider the specific outcomes they desire by implementing these actions and strategies an even greater potential for change is achieved than if all billionaires are treated as opponents or fence sitters. This is clearly not the case. There are factions among the billionaires and those factions can be exploited for securing the peace. It is my belief that war and conflict only serve the interests of the minority of billionaires, not all of them. I don’t think every billionaire wants to increase their chances of being killed in a nuclear war by using their power to push for more violence in Ukraine or other similar places where an escalation of the conflict can lead to a direct U.S.-Russia military confrontation.

Maybe the threat of human annihilation from nuclear war is not as great as it was during the Cold War, but more countries do have more nuclear weapons and access to more nuclear materials than ever before, and

that is a problem that the world needs to respond to, not just the oligarchs and so-called nuclear experts. During the Occupy Wall Street protests there was global solidarity that lead to the creation of the website Occupy Together, which was international in scope and did allow for the synchronizing of activist ventures without regard to borders. Of course the Occupy movement is not a new movement, but just a reinvention of an old movement that began building momentum in U.S. modern times during the 1999 World Trade Organization protests in Seattle. In my opinion, and from my experience of knowing people who participated in those protests, they were not orchestrated by any pro-Communist or anti-American organization. They were protests against the corporate greed among the world’s wealthiest CEOs and the damage that greed has done to the Earth and it’s global inhabitants.



Such protest is not a new phenomenon. It was in the same spirit of protest against greed that the French Revolution was launched and the Boxer Rebellion carried out. Peasant uprisings are common throughout history, but middle class and low income peoples rarely rise to power during such uprisings, no matter what people are led to believe. Lenin and Trotsky were not peasants and Mao Zedong, although born into a peasant family, was well enough off

to be able to travel the country and attend school - not something most poor peasant farmers in China were able to do at the time. Barack Obama may have been a community organizer, but he never truly experienced what it was like to live in the ghetto, and Putin is just as KGB as Bush is CIA - hardly clubs for the common layperson, no matter how common or average they make themselves to appear on TV. And it’s not that people are corrupted once they come to power, those who want that type of power are already corrupted, at least in today’s global political environment. There simply is no way for the average person to get into those positions of power without money, as nobody can afford to run for or be appointed to national office unless they are backed by wealthy groups and individuals or are millionaires or billionaires themselves. It’s just that simple, so don’t think of it as an Orwellian Animal Farm type of situation, as it’s not necessarily about taking over government or corporate offices as much as it is about taking over one’s own independent agency and using it to create positive collaboration and collective impact. Sure, for some it’s about taking over the wealth of the 1%, but a more equitable global distribution of the wealth is just one benefit from such collaboration. Peace, economic stability, social & cultural development, and greater planning capabilities are but just a few other benefits cooperation can bring. It is still possible to be powerful without being in powerful positions. Together we can make a difference.

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WWII-era propaganda posters at the National Nuclear Museum in Albuquerque. Photos by Emma Leiby.

Big

By Rick Albright

*Every one of us
has a cosmos
of their own
inside their self
where thoughts
are charted as
neurons fire and
axons myelinate
so we can become
who we are.*

le:

*The universe can
not contain us
-because -
whatever
we wish to be
whatever we wish to feel
whatever we wish to see*

*is possible using
imagination.*

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GETTING THE RUNAROUND: RESPONSE TO FOIA REQUEST NOT TIMELY

By A.K.

According to several news reports, on December 29, 2011 a U.S. Embassy staff member and 3 U.S. Marines picked up a group of prostitutes. One of the prostitutes was Romilda Aparecida Ferreira. According to statements released by her lawyer, Ferreira was pushed out of a moving vehicle by one of the Marines and run over after some type of argument ensued inside the vehicle. Ferreira suffered from a broken collarbone, two broken ribs, and a punctured lung from the incident. In publicly released statements former U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta admitted the guilt of these men.

The following article is about a Freedom of Information Act request put in to find out the name(s) of the Marine(s) responsible for Ferreira's suffering, the punishment for their crimes, and where those men are now and the positions and rank they hold if they are still in the military. In addition, a request was put in to find all the names and ranks of Marines and Sailors and the punishment they received for committing sex crimes, to include pandering to a prostitute, under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

According to the *Associated Press*, the Obama administration has done little to improve its record of releasing information to the public under the Freedom of Information Act. In a report released mid-March the AP noted "the government cited national security to withhold information a record 8,496 times - a 57 percent increase over a year earlier and more than double Obama's first year."

The report says the information returned to requestors is being censored more than ever before, and that important information is not being provided fast enough for its analysis and distribution to be relevant to events making headlines. In other words, the information is being

withheld until the public conscious is focused somewhere else. As an independent student researcher filing an FOIA request, I too found it frustrating to have to wait as long I did to hear a response. By the time I did get an email back it was too late, as the paper I needed the information for had already been handed in and graded, and the semester had come to a close.

The response I finally did receive was dated Jan. 16, 2014, some 48 days after my initial FOIA request. The response came via email from an FOIA analyst who, instead of providing any answers to my questions, asked me a few questions of her own. She wrote, "Specifically, is there an Article 134 violations (specific) you are looking for? There are 53 different Article 134 violations. Are you referring specifically to Article 134 (Pandering and Prostitution)?"

At the time I was in the middle of a move and wasn't able to read my emails regularly. Although I was looking at my inbox a couple times a week, I somehow missed this email, so the analyst assumed I was just not responding.

When I was able to finally find my missed emails I noticed another one from the same FOIA analyst, this one dated Jan. 23, 2014. In the email it stated my request would not be processed properly "until clarification is made" regarding the type of violations I was interested in receiving information about. I thought I had made this clear in my original request, as I had asked for records of "all U.S. Marines who have been convicted of Article 134 and 120 under the UCMJ from 2007 to the present."

"Until I receive a response," the analyst wrote in her email, "your request will be on hold. If, after January 31, 2014, I have not heard back from you I will close your request."



At this point I only had eight days to respond before my case would be closed even though the analyst had taken over a month and a half to respond to my initial request. Of course I still hadn't found these buried emails because of the move, and by the time I could get to them I didn't think it mattered much anyway since my paper was already handed in and also published on my website, www.balancingjustice.com. But I'm a persistent person and thought why not pursue my request? Since I had published the paper online, at the very least I could update what I had there.

So when I was finally able to answer the analyst's questions via a Feb. 16 email I was determined, yet I still had expectations of more disappointment. On Feb. 18, 2014 my expectations were confirmed when I received a response saying, "Case 2014F000163 was closed. You will need to submit your new request using the "FOIA On-Line" tool. Once you have gotten to the website - just follow the instructions to load your request into the system. Thank you and have a good day."

After resubmitting a new request in which I tried to be as specific as possible so as not to avoid the same run-around procedure as earlier, some of the information I wanted was finally sent to me. Although the information came through in a bit more timely fashion than before, I still did not get

FOIA RUNAROUND CONTINUED . . .

everything I asked for. I received the following email response to my new FOIA request on March 4, 2014:

“Please find the attached documents pertaining to your FOIA request 2014-003131. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.”

Attached to the email were two spreadsheets of names, ranks, pleas, findings, convictions, and sentencing of sailors and Marines stationed at U.S. military installations across the globe. I had requested the information for years 2007 to the present, but did not receive information from 2007 or 2009. Most of the names were duplicated throughout the two spreadsheets, making it difficult to quantify the number of people charged with sexual misconduct.

Interestingly, there was a significant increase in the number of Marines and sailors receiving a court martial for sexual misconduct involving articles 134 or 120 between the years 2008 and 2010. For 2008 one spreadsheet indicated nine Marines received a court martial, but only five names were listed, while the other spreadsheet listed six different names for the same year, none of them the same as those on the first. No data was given for 2009 on either spreadsheet. And then for 2010 some 220 Marines are listed on one spreadsheet as receiving a court martial for offenses involving articles 134 or 120. On the other spreadsheet 85 names are listed. For 2011 277 Marines are listed in one spreadsheet and 89 in the other. In 2012 there were 212, and in 2013 there were 267 Marines charged with sexual misconduct involving articles 134 or 120 on just the first spreadsheet.

Of particular interest is the fact that I never received the first names of the listed Marines, and in one case a note was left that reads “hide details for Galyon, JLGaly.” This Marine’s plea for an article 134 charge was “Not Guilty,” finding “Withdrawn.” Strange indeed. Hopefully one day our government will stop hiding the details all together. Until then we’ll just have to keep digging for the truth ourselves.



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RADIOACTIVE PLANET: FUKUSHIMA MEDIA FALLOUT

By Scott Albright

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Medical doctor Marc Siegel tells us in his book *False Alarm, The Truth About the Epidemic of Fear* that people can fall ill and social problems escalate when the media present news events in a way which generate fear and anxiety.¹ He says it is important to remember that there will always be terrible things happening all over the world, and that when the media report on these things the audience needs to be aware that there is likely no reason to immediately start worrying about them. Siegel explains that this constant worrying can have very damaging consequences for individuals and society at large. I agree with Siegel completely, and think he provides plenty of evidence in his book to show why this is true, but what he fails to also explain is how a lack of reporting on these terrible things can also be just as a damaging, and even more so in cases where reporting can help aid in protection or prevention against those terrible things. Nor does he mention that when there is such a failure of reporting, or when there is an abundance of misreporting and contradictory reports, that mass fear-based reaction, as well as non-action, can also occur. In the case of the media's reporting on the nuclear meltdown at Fukushima Daichi we have seen a mix of all these types of reporting, or lack thereof, which has utterly confused the public as how to best react to such an event.

The Fukushima Daichi nuclear plant triple meltdown, which occurred after a 9.0 earthquake and massive tsunami hit the Honshu coast and knocked out power at the plant March 11, 2011, has unleashed a torrent of media activity which continues to debate the severity of the accident to this day. On one end of the debate there are reports of increased thyroidism as far away as the west coast of the United States, lesions in polar bears in Alaska, predictions of dramatic increases in cancer rates worldwide, bans of fish imports from Japan in South Korea and elsewhere, increased death and

destruction of sea life, and suicides, tumors, and lawsuits - all stemming from the Fukushima nuclear disaster. On the other end of the reporting the media are telling us the government and so-called experts say the consequences from the Fukushima drift and fallout are nothing to worry about. They say all the radiation and heavy metals from Fukushima found in kelp, tuna, milk, and other sources of nutrients for humans and animals is so minimal that it will have no effect on our health or environment. They say the levels are too low to make any difference, and we should just keep on eating that tuna and probably forget the whole mess that is still going on over there all together, so we can focus on more important issues, like fighting a war in Syria or talking about some celebrity's wedding.

So what should the public do when there are such contradictory reports, particularly when both sides of the reporting are citing nuclear experts, scientists, and eye witnesses who all sound like they know what they are talking about? What I did was study, study, study. I read as many of the media reports I could find about the situation. I studied EPA reports, left-wing and alternative online media, conservative news media, foreign media, bloggers, FDA reports, TEPCO press releases, books and articles about other nuclear disasters, tests, industrial accidents, and leaks such as those at Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, Diablo Canyon, WIPP, the Trinity Test site, and the Nevada and Pacific nuclear testing grounds. I looked over military documents, read books about the media's handling of these events, and looked around in my own environment and compared my past experiences with what was going in Japan. I analyzed all this and came to the conclusion that . . . we're not being told the whole truth about what happened at the Fukushima Daichi nuclear plant. What we're dealing with, I believe, is an Agent Orange style cover-up, but on a much, much larger scale.

The following article explains just a few of the reasons I believe this is so, and why I think the world over needs to begin converting the entire nuclear industry, including energy and defense, into humanitarian, medical, and sustainable energy industries operated and managed by qualified civilian oversight organizations and corporate, government, and NGO partnerships that have enough experience in industry conversion to start engineering the shift immediately. Environmentalists, scientists, academics, and activists have been saying to shut down the nuclear industry for decades already because of their own research into the destruction of life caused by nuclear weapons use and testing, industrial accidents, and the general waste the industry creates. The thousands of protestors who showed up in New York to demand an end to dirty energy and corporate waste prior to the U.N. environment summit proves there is huge support in the U.S., and worldwide, to stop further contamination of the earth by big industry, including those industries profiting from nuclear energy and defense. In my opinion, Fukushima put the last nail in the coffin, but the nuclear industry is still profiting and expanding in to all kinds of new realms and activities even as I write this. So let me explain why I think we continue to be misled about the real dangers of the nuclear industry and why we should all be paying more attention.

On Dec. 19, 24, 25, and 27, 2013 TEPCO workers reported seeing steam rising from Unit 3 at the Fukushima Daichi nuclear plant. A Jan. 1, 2014 RT article reported that TEPCO was not explaining why the steam was occurring, and that, "Unlike the other five reactors, reactor 3 ran on mixed core containing both uranium fuel and mixed uranium and plutonium oxide, or MOX nuclear fuel. The Reactor 3 fuel storage pond still houses an estimated 89 tons of the plutonium-based MOX nuclear fuel composed of 514 fuel rods."²

Immediately following the reports of the steam an online press release was issued by a so-called Turner Radio Network, which said the west coast of the United States should immediately prepare for emergency measures should the reactor blow and go into total meltdown. Soon after, the press release was debunked and the Turner Radio Network owner labeled as a racist by tons of online news writers who said there was nothing too unusual about the steam and that the Turner Radio Network was just sensationalizing the event to attract viewers to its site, to increase fear, or for some other personal interest. By that time TEPCO had put out its own report detailing where the steam was coming from, explaining that it was most likely due to rain water evaporating near the hot shield plug of the primary containment vessel.³

What I didn't fully catch at the time though was that Unit 3 had already blown up and gone into a total meltdown over two and a half years prior, sometime between March 12 and March 14, 2011, after the hydrogen explosion millions saw on TV had already taken place inside Unit 1. In fact, it wasn't until Aug. 6, 2014 that online media such as japantimes.co.jp reported that all the fuel rods in reactor 3 "melted down and fell onto the bottom of the containment vessel" sometime after the cooling system shut down at 8 p.m. March 12, 2011.⁴ The news article states TEPCO had previously announced that only 63 percent of the fuel had melted down and that the cooling system in reactor 3 had shut off at 2:42 a.m. March 13, 2011, not at 8 p.m. the next day. In the book *Fukushima, The Story of a Nuclear Disaster*, it states, "Although there is some uncertainty about the timing, by approximately 9:00 a.m. on the morning of March 13, the fuel rods became uncovered, triggering the same sequence of events that had occurred at Unit 1 some thirty-six hours earlier: overheating of the fuel, oxidation of the fuel cladding, hydrogen formation, and release of

fission products. The Unit 3 core was melting down, and vessel and containment pressures were rising fast."⁵ The book says an explosion took place in Unit 3 at 11 a.m. on March 14, 2011. Most of the media I found reported that there was only a partial meltdown at Fukushima for almost an entire year after the disaster occurred, not a full on triple meltdown as was the reality of the situation. In a *Scientific American* timeline of the events at Fukushima it says another hydrogen explosion took place at Unit 2 on March 15, 2011, which was followed by a fire in the Unit 4 reactor building. The timeline states that on March 16, 2011 "TEPCO estimates that many of Fukushima Daichi's fuel rods have suffered damage, including 70 percent of the fuel in Unit 1 and 33 percent in Unit 2. The utility suspects that Unit 3's core is also damaged."⁶ More than likely the fuel in Units 1 and 3 were more than just "damaged," and may have already melted down completely by the time TEPCO had released the March 16 statement.

The hydrogen explosions that had rocked the reactor buildings of units 1, 2, and 3 made the buildings too dangerous and radioactive for TEPCO workers to enter or attempt to remove the fuel rods from, which partially explains why TEPCO initially got it wrong about the timing of the reactor 3 meltdown, but the misreporting seems to be a little too consistent for me to fully accept all these explanations. But before I get into the discrepancies in the reporting, let's take a look at why Fukushima was an awful place to have a nuclear plant from the get go. From my understanding, the people who decided Fukushima was a good place to have a nuclear power plant knew all along that it was pretty much guaranteed that that particular location would be hit by a tsunami when large-scale seismic activity took place. Large scale seismic activity is also pretty much a guarantee, not just near Fukushima prefecture, but around all of Japan.

Here's a rundown of some of the most recent earthquakes in the area: The Headquarters for Earthquake Research Promotion website's evaluation of seismic activity shows that a 5.0 magnitude earthquake struck Namie, Japan near the crippled Fukushima Daichi nuclear plant on Sept. 24, 2014 and then a 5.0 magnitude earthquake hit just an hour later only tens of kilometers away from the first.⁷ On Aug. 29, 2014 there was a 5.0 magnitude earthquake offshore Fukushima prefecture and on Aug. 10, 2014 there was a 6.1 magnitude earthquake offshore Aomori prefecture. On July 12, 2014 a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck offshore Fukushima prefecture, on October 26, 2013 a 7.1 magnitude earthquake hit offshore Fukushima prefecture, and on Sept. 20, 2013 a 5.9 magnitude earthquake struck Hamadori, Fukushima prefecture. Ninety-five earthquakes with a magnitude 4.0 or greater were reported in Japan for the month of August 2014. The median number of earthquakes with a magnitude 4.0 or greater in Japan from 1998 to 2007 is 73 per month. For the month of August 2014 there were 22 more earthquakes in that range than the median for the above years. The USGS measured the March 11, 2011 Great Tohoku Earthquake at a magnitude of 9.0. It was located 177 km east northeast of Fukushima near the Honshu coast of Japan. Japan is also prone to typhoons and other natural disasters which tend to have a greater impact on coastal areas like Fukushima.⁸ TEPCO owns 17 nuclear reactors, 10 of them in Fukushima prefecture.

According to a Sept. 10, 2014 article in *The New York Times*, Japan's nuclear regulatory agency was taking steps towards restarting two of the 48 "operable commercial nuclear reactors" that "were shut down after the March 2011 triple meltdown."⁹ So despite the chaos that the ongoing nuclear disaster has already created, and the ongoing threat to Japan's

nuclear infrastructure from more impending natural disasters, the regulatory agency still thinks it is better to provide nuclear energy to power Japan than to look for alternative solutions. The future truly is frightening.

But perhaps even more frightening than a potentially new nuclear disaster is the way in which the Japanese government is handling the current one. Several media reports, including PBS Newshour and Reuters, reported that Japan's homeless were



Storage tanks holding radioactive water at Fukushima Daichi nuclear plant. Typhoons and heavy rainfall have caused the tanks to leak, releasing high levels of strontium and tritium into the environment. Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons.

being recruited to clean contaminated areas around the Fukushima plant, which shows the Japanese government has a lack of regard for these individuals' health and that it isn't concerned enough about the accident to provide the training and expertise needed to ensure a successful cleanup. Also, in late 2013, Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe rushed a state secrecy bill into law which makes it illegal for insiders to discuss certain "national security" issues with foreign and local media, including those related to Japan's nuclear facilities. The secrecy law not only suppresses vital information about Fukushima and the potential health effects it will have on citizens in Japan and abroad, but it also causes fear, prevents the free flow of information from occurring, and may prevent exposed persons from getting the tests and necessary treatments

available to keep them alive and healthy.

Although much information has already been withheld from the public, some news agencies are keeping a close eye on the nuclear plant and reporting their findings, however most are not the mainstream western media outlets Americans turn to for their news. One such non-western media outlet, *Al Jazeera*, has done numerous reports on the disaster, with one online article discussing some opposing views and unanswered questions concerning the effects of Fukushima radiation on human health. The article quotes University of South Carolina biological sciences professor Timothy Mousseau as saying "Contrary to governmental reports there is now an abundance of information demonstrating consequences - in other words, injury - to individuals, populations, species and ecosystem functions stemming from the low dose radiation due to the Chernobyl and Fukushima disasters."¹⁰ Mousseau is a member of the Chernobyl + Fukushima Research Initiative.¹¹

Another non-western media outlet, RT, reported Dec. 22, 2013 that a new leak at Fukushima reactor number 2 was found by TEPCO workers, with a record 1.9 million becquerels per liter of beta ray-emitting radioactive substances detected at the reactor.¹² That leak, which was just one among many, was reported to be heading for the ocean, where much of the radioactive materials from the plant have already gone. On Oct. 21, 2013 Reuters reported that radioactive water from the storage tanks around the Fukushima Daichi plant were overflowing due to high rainfall. According to the news report, one the tanks that overflowed contained Stontium-90 "as highly concentrated as 710 Becquerels per liter - 71 times higher than the level set by the company as safe for release."¹³

On July 15, 2013 *Stars and Stripes* reported that sailors onboard the *USS Ronald Reagan* who participated in the March 2011 humanitarian mission in Japan named Operation Tomodachi were suing TEPCO because of the damaging health effects that resulted from their exposure to the Fukushima fallout.¹⁴ Sailors reported hair falling out, abnormal menstrual bleeding, high-pitched noises, anxiety, tumors, and cancer as a result of their exposure to the fallout.¹⁵ The Department of Defense denies the sailors claims and says the reported health problems are not related to exposure to radiation from Fukushima.¹⁵

In Hawaii where I lived for the last four years I noticed abnormalities in the plant life and health problems among animals and humans alike that may or may not be associated with fallout from Fukushima. Those abnormalities included white spots on the plant life, dead birds, a dead cow, and a dead cat with no visible wounds or cuts, unusually large tumors on a turtle at Leleiwi Park near Richardson Beach, and the consistent clearing of the throat by children and dry persistent coughing among kids and adults alike, to name a few. To be fair, the turtles in Hilo have been showing up by the dozens with tumors long before the Fukushima meltdown, and a recent study says the tumors are being caused by high levels of nitrogen in rainwater runoff, but there have been very few studies on the effects of radioactive fallout on turtles or other sea life from nuclear testing or accidents in the region. So it's

possible, I believe, that radiation from nuclear testing in the Pacific in the 50s and 60s or depleted uranium used at the U.S. Army's Pohokuloa Training Area could also be a potential cause or contributing factor to the ill health of the turtles. Also, the lifeguard I talked to about the turtle I found October 29, 2012 said it was unusual to see them with tumors in that exact location. He said they usually show up further north, where everybody surfs. It was the first and only time I had spotted a turtle with tumors, at least noticeable ones, during the whole four years I was in Hawaii. And I saw dozens of different turtles while I was there, not only near Richardson Beach, but at beaches all over Hawaii.

While on the Big Island I listened to public radio news broadcasts every day and scanned the local paper regularly, however there was little discussion of the possible environmental and health impacts that could emerge on the islands from the Fukushima fallout. In fact, it appeared to me as though we were purposely being denied information from the local media in order to prevent panic and to preserve the economic relationship Hawaii has had with Japan over the last couple of decades, particularly within the fishing industry. Having recently read Beverly Deepe Keever's *News Zero: The New York Times and the Bomb* I realized just how severe the ongoing misreporting on Fukushima probably was. Keever explains in her book that the U.S. coverup of the environmental and health effects of the 15-megaton Castle Bravo nuclear test on March 1, 1954 was so immense that it took decades to uncover just doses of the truth, while some Pacific islanders are still waiting for compensation due from radiation sickness caused by nuclear dusting and fallout.¹⁶ Keever writes in a wagingpeace.org article titled "Bravo: 60 Years of Suffering, Cover-Ups, Injustice" that:

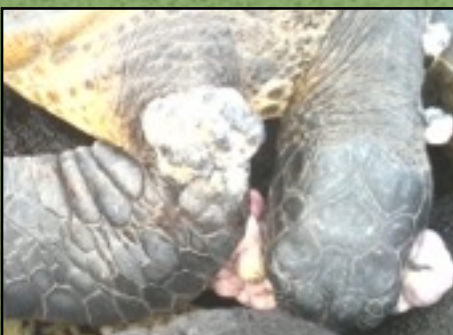
"Within days after the Bravo shot, the U.S. cover-up had secretly taken a more menacing turn. In an injustice exposing disregard for human health, the Bravo-exposed islanders

*were swept into a top-secret project in which they were used as human subjects to research the effects of radioactive fallout. . . For this human-subject research, the islanders had neither been asked nor gave their informed consent - which was established as an essential international standard when the Nuremberg code was written following the war crimes convictions of German medical officers."*¹⁷

When I realized the potential consequences of a Fukushima cover-up sometime in 2013 not only did my wife and I decide that we should hold off on some of the sushi and poke we were eating, but that maybe we should leave Hawaii all together, just in case. After reading that 300 tons per day of radioactive groundwater from the Fukushima Daichi plant had been leaking into the ocean since 2011 I thought it was crazy to not think we were at a higher risk of being exposed.

For comparison on the fallout coverage area, Keever says fallout from the one-time explosion of the 15 megaton Bravo shot covered a 7,000 square mile area. Hawaii is about 2,400 miles from the Marshall Islands where the Bravo shot was detonated. According to the IAEA, some 150,000 square kilometers (57,915 square miles) was affected from the radioactive fallout from the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear plant accident. Japan is about 4,000 miles away from Hawaii, but because much of the Fukushima fallout was not atmospheric or released all at the same time, it is difficult to determine the exact area considered affected by the accident. Although most of the water-bound toxic materials from Fukushima may travel north of Hawaii thanks to the Kuroshio Current, much of it could still catch a ride on rainwater or be swept ashore from southern swells, storms, or other changes in the weather pattern, so who knows how far of an area the fallout actually covers.

For another type of comparison, the IAEA says the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident, in which only one reactor exploded and went in



Picture of a turtle found with multiple tumors at Leleiwi Park Oct. 29, 2012.

-to meltdown, “was approximately 400 times more potent than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima,” but that the nuclear tests in the 60s and 70s “contributed 100 to 1,000 times more radioactive material to the environment than Chernobyl.”¹⁸ The Bravo shot had about a 1,000 times more powerful yield than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. In terms of the amount of nuclear fuel involved in the mentioned nuclear accidents, there was approximately 1,852 tons of combined nuclear fuel in the four reactor buildings that were destroyed or damaged at Fukushima. The sole reactor destroyed in the Chernobyl accident had approximately 245 tons of nuclear fuel inside, however official estimates say more radioactive material was released from Chernobyl than Fukushima, at least during the onset of the accidents. The area most affected by the Chernobyl accident was not inside Ukraine where the plant was located, but in neighboring Belarus where radiation was the number one demographic factor “responsible for the depopulation” of the country.¹⁹ Although Hawaii is much farther away from Japan than Belarus is Ukraine, the possibility still exists that “depopulation” from radiation exposure could still occur on the island chain. My goal was to go to New Zealand where the country has a long history of anti-nuclearism, but instead ended up in New Mexico, which is ironically the same place where the nuclear industry started out.

So why do I still feel like people will think I’m crazy if I tell them Fukushima fallout is one of the reasons I left Hawaii, even though there is plenty of evidence to suggest that I was likely to be exposed to heavy metal contamination and radioactive fallout even more than I already was had I stayed there? Why do I still not want to believe Hawaiians are in any danger now? Why do I still want to believe that the fallout we were exposed to was safe? And we were exposed. After all, on April 27, 2011, just a month after the Fukushima disaster occurred, the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* reported that

radioactive cesium-134 and 137, iodine-131 and strontium-89 from Fukushima were found in tested milk samples taken from Hilo, the city where I was living with my wife and children.²⁰ The *Star-Advertiser* article quotes a statement issued by the EPA to Forbes blogger Jeff McMahon, which said the strontium levels were “27,000 times below the Derived Intervention Level set by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.” The article states the EPA had released the measurements on its website and that the levels of Strontium-89 were at 1.4 pico-curies per liter (pCi/L), far below the FDAs 4,400 pCi/L “action level.” There is no mention of the EPA’s Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for any of the radionuclides detected in the Hilo milk, and even more interesting is the fact that the article says the Honolulu EPA office could not confirm the readings at the time the article was written, however it repeats a statement allegedly issued by the EPA to a blogger who works for an entirely different publication which isn’t even located in Hawaii. In place of getting a quote from the EPA, *Star-Advertiser* reporter William Cole quotes a state health department official, Lynn Nakasone, who said he could not get through to anybody at the EPA Honolulu office, however it is that same state health department official who is quoted in the article as saying “It’s of no health consequence,” and that “I realize it is a different reading and new data, but I guess from our point of view, it’s not a health risk.”²¹

Although the public was told the levels were too low to be of any concern, there is concern because, according to a letter from dairy farmers to milk share members on the Big Island being circulated on the internet, radioactive materials found in milk is an indication that the entire food chain is contaminated. The letter states, “Milk from the large dairies in Hamakua and Hawi has shown elevated levels of radiation, from 400 to 2400 times the recognized safe levels.”²² Interestingly, Meadow Gold dairy products produced in Hawaii

disappeared from grocery store shelves after the radiation levels were reported in the milk, and initially I had thought the letter to share members was from Meadow Gold to milk shareholders, but when I went back to find the letter on the internet I learned that it was from the owners of a Milk and Honey Farm in Pahoa. After contacting several farms via email I received a reply stating that no testing had ever been done on any of the farms and no further testing was planned, making me question where that share member letter actually originated, as there were many instances in which information about Fukushima would seem to just disappear off the internet or would be blocked or jammed from some kind of internal error.

It was exactly this type of activity that prompted me to question the official information that was being told to the public, especially when everybody else had seemed to have forgotten that radioactive materials were still being released from the accident and that we had already been exposed. Also, I noticed that the local grocery stores continued to sell the same variety of fish and seafood, but that the labeling had changed. Most fish was labeled by the country that it was caught in, but some had no labels at all, meaning it was probably from Japan, as none of the other fish had a caught in Japan label on them. The food is just fine the media said, but one just has to read the section from Svetlana Alexievich’s *Voices From Chernobyl* titled “A Monologue on Taking Measurements” to know that the truth isn’t always what it appears. Former chief engineer of the Institute for Nuclear Energy of the Belarussian Academy of Sciences Marat Filippovich Kokhanov explains how he continuously found high levels of radiation in milk and food products being sold at stores following the Chernobyl accident, yet nobody was informed of these readings. He says, “For a long time after that we used dry milk powder and cans of condensed and concentrated milk from the Rogachev milk factory in our lectures

as examples of a standard radiation source. And in the meantime, they were being sold in the stores. When people saw that the milk was from Rogachev and stopped buying it, there suddenly appeared cans of milk without labels. I don't think it was because they ran out of paper."²³

The higher radiation readings reported in Hilo milk were for the month after the *initial* plume of radioactive materials passed through Hawaii. Radioactive materials continue to be released into the air and the ocean that will inevitably find their way into the island chain's ecosystem, yet I still feel like people will look at me funny if I tell them I was exposed to radiation from Fukushima while living in Hawaii - that for some reason they won't believe me. Is the reason I feel nervous telling people why I left because Americans are being brainwashed to believe we are safe and I am just scared of being ridiculed and called a lunatic by those who believe the cover-up? Is it because the radiation levels really are safe and that there is no need to worry about the long term effects of exposure? To tell the truth, I'm not sure, but I do know that the public is, has, and was being lied to about the exact nature of the nuclear disaster at Fukushima. I do know that I no longer smell the strong odor of pesticides and insecticides that, although regularly used in Hawaii, seemed to be even stronger smelling throughout the Fall of 2013, a time when radio reports kept saying there was a strong smell of vog (volcanic steam & smoke) coming from the volcano and that if we had sensitive lungs we should stay indoors. But on many of those occasions there was no vog at all, at least not on the Hilo side of the island, so again I wondered what type of information I was being fed through the media. After looking into the matter more, I learned that many of those pesticides and insecticides I was smelling contain boric acid (in of itself odorless) - an agent known for killing cockroaches as well as preventing nuclear fission reactions from occurring. According to the letter to milk share members, sodium borate was being fed to the cows and goats and being put in kelp and water troughs to protect their cattle from the high radiation levels on the islands. Boron has also been detected in the water on Oahu, but at levels too low to be considered a danger to human health, according to the Hawaii department of health's website.²⁴ Several thousand tons of boric acid were poured on Chernobyl following the nuclear disaster that occurred there.²⁵

Although there is a lot of misinformation and confusing claims circulating the world over, I think it's safe to assume that radioactive materials from Fukushima will end up having a negative effect on the health of humans and animals throughout the Pacific. And because of the low dose long term exposure, it could take decades to identify all those effects. What convinced me that there is a problem for Hawaii though is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fukushima radiation dispersion model found on it's website.²⁶ The model clearly shows the initial plume of cesium from Fukushima traveling just north of Hawaii as it makes it's way toward the

mainland United States. Like the initial tsunami debris that hit the mainland before moving out toward Hawaii, the initial radioactive water-based plume will do the same, eventually becoming wrapped around the island chain in it's diluted form. When browsing through different websites which also discussed this model I noticed tons of people claiming that the information was false and that the model only showed wave activity in the Pacific during and after the 2011 tsunami, however *both* models exist and can be accessed on the NOAA website. The disclaiming of the cesium dispersion model was soon followed by posts quoting scientists saying that the radiation would be too widely dispersed and diluted for it to be of any health concern, and that any levels in fish were so low that the radiation exposure from flying on an airplane was considered worse than that from eating a contaminated fish.²⁷ There was no mention of the fact that the radionuclides scientists are looking for are so tiny and the fish in such great numbers in such a large area that the probability of finding really radioactive fish is very low, especially when only doing minimal testing from small sample areas. So I'm certain that nobody will know which fish is the one that is contaminated from those radioactive waters, but there are "hot" fish out there.

After hearing about the black sea bream fish caught near Fukushima that had tested at 124 times over the safe limit for radioactive cesium, I contacted the Fisheries Research Agency of Japan to learn more. Hiroya Sugisaki, chief of the agency's public relations section responded with an email message stating that "The report on the cesium of black sea bream caught in Fukushima is a kind of urgent report and we don't analyse the detail." A link was provided to a chart showing the results in an online pdf file. Although the chart is in Japanese, anyone who reads in English can still observe the high reading for Nov. 17, 2013 which shows the "hot" black sea bream, No. 2615.²⁸ The concentration levels for this reading are clearly much higher than the concentrations in other fish caught on or around the same day. My take is that being as far away from Fukushima as possible and not eating too much fish from the Pacific increases the probability that I won't come in contact with a "hot" fish or piece of radioactive seaweed, but choosing New Mexico as a final destination may not be so wise either.

Unfortunately, the risk of exposure from leaks at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad and potential leaks from the nuclear weapons facility at Kirtland Air Force Base is extremely high. In fact, although the government downplays the most recent leak at WIPP, which occurred right after I returned from Hawaii, there are some reports which indicate the radioactive material from WIPP will inevitably end up in the water basins near the site, while tailings from the mining of uranium have already sickened cattle and made water undrinkable in some parts of the state. On top of that, I've also come across reports showing that I was most likely exposed to depleted uranium while serving as an infantryman in Iraq. So there's

a good chance that I've been exposed to a higher amount of radioactive materials than most others, but still, I believe that even as large as the Pacific Ocean is, there was still a greater chance of me being exposed to more radioactive materials by staying in Hawaii than I would living on the mainland.

But even if I'm right, the statistics regarding the negative health effects for those exposed to nuclear related materials in New Mexico is hard to deny. According to Jay M. Gould's 1996 book *The Enemy Within*, Bernalillo County had the highest mortality rates from breast cancer among white females in New Mexico for the years 1985-89.²⁹ Gould outlines several statistical correlations between breast cancer and radiation exposure throughout the U.S., showing how those living downwind from nuclear test sites or near nuclear reactors tend to have higher breast cancer mortality rates. Gould writes, "New Mexico, now least affected by emissions from civilian power reactors, illustrates how persistent the delayed effects of exposure are to man-made fission products. It is only in the most recent five-year period that breast cancer mortality in New Mexico, clearly a product of early exposure to nuclear radiation, has begun to decline."³⁰ Gould explains that the trend of decreasing mortality rates is good, and especially noticeable in the areas downwind from the Trinity Test site, but with new leaks at WIPP and other forms of radiation emissions it's hard to say if those trends will continue, that is if that type of information is still being collected and accurately reported.

Gould explains that when there is a lack of data being reported on radiation releases from nuclear accidents, like the ones at Chernobyl or Three Mile Island, it is a good indicator the radiation levels are much higher than normal. During an investigation into abnormal negative radiation readings at the EPA laboratory in the years following the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident, Gould found that the government data was not only unreliable, but that it would soon be unavailable all together. Gould states that after a news reporter released a story containing information on the abnormal negative readings, "no further average readings were published thereafter, and, indeed, no further monthly measures, positive or negative, were published after the December 1990 reading of 1.5 pCi/L for I-131, which was based on only 33 stations as compared to 55 stations for the January 1990 average reading of 4.3 pCi/L, the highest single average measure since the peak Chernobyl measures of May 1986." Gould continues, "It is evident that if the laboratory sought to minimize the degree of radioactivity in milk, it could also do so by selecting the stations for which "detectable" levels could be found. But apparently after December 1990, the laboratory decided it could no longer find any detectable levels."³¹

Indeed, radiation monitoring stations stopped reporting some data following the Fukushima meltdown because, the EPA reported, radiation levels were too low to be of any significance. If history is any indicator, than we

should know that it is more likely that the levels are too significant for the public to know, at least from the government's standpoint. But of course that is exactly what the public wants to know - are the radiation levels in food, water, and milk higher than normal in the areas where they live? Nobody will know the facts for sure now, but we can at least take a look at some of the data that is available. Of particular interest is the data for Hawaii, as the state legislature is working on a bill that requires the Hawaii Department of Health to publicly post data collected from radiation monitoring stations in the state. Hawaii Senate Bill number 3049 states that "The department of health shall implement a radiation monitoring pilot project that shall: (1) Measure and monitor radiation levels in items such as food, dairy products, rainwater, aquifers, and drainage ditches that may be susceptible to increased radiation levels due to the March 11, 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster; and (2) Post periodic reports on the department's website of those radiation levels and their significance to the State. (b) The pilot project shall commence on July 1, 2014."³² As of October 14, 2014 the Hawaii Department of Health website did not have any of those readings posted even though monitoring stations have been operable throughout Hawaii for many years prior to 2011.³³ According to the capitol.hawaii.gov website, the Senate adopted the SB 3049 report which was received in amended form by the House on March 6, 2014.³⁴ It was referred to several House committees the next day and no further action has been taken on the bill as of the time of this writing.

Fortunately, the EPA does have data available for radiation levels in Hawaii for both pre and post-Fukushima accident dates, however some readings, such as those for Strontium-89 and 90, were not done or are not made available to the public for the period after April 2011. Detectable levels of Strontium-90 were being released into the environment from Fukushima throughout the year 2013, particularly around the Sept. 16 time period, when a large typhoon brought heavy rainfall and overflowed the water storage containers there which contained high levels of Strontium-90. Also, there are several negative readings listed in the data which make Gould's previous revelations of negative and absent readings even more pertinent than before. Below is a table of select EPA readings for Cesium-137 found in pasteurized milk in Hawaii for the years 2000-2014.³⁵ Notice the reading of 19.1 pCi/L for Cesium-137 on April 4, 2011. The EPA's Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Cesium-137 is 3 pCi/L. The FDA sets their threshold at 33,000 pCi/L.

Location	Medium	Sample Date	Procedure Name	Radionuclide/Isotope	Result	Committed Standard Uncertainty	MDC	Unit
HAWAII	PASTEURIZED MILK	04 APR 11	Gamma-ray Spectrometry	Cesium-137	19.1	1.8	---	pCi/L
HAWAII	PASTEURIZED MILK	13 APR 11	Gamma-ray Spectrometry	Cesium-137	88	6.7	---	pCi/L
HAWAII	PASTEURIZED MILK	26 JUL 11	Gamma-ray Spectrometry	Cesium-137	5.7	1.3	---	pCi/L
HAWAII	PASTEURIZED MILK	12 OCT 11	Gamma-ray Spectrometry	Cesium-137	1.36	0.91	3	pCi/L
HAWAII	PASTEURIZED MILK	04 APR 12	Gamma-ray Spectrometry	Cesium-137	4.58	0.85	3.8	pCi/L

For Strontium-90 the EPA's MCL is 4 millirem per year, or 8 pCi/L.³⁶ The EPA lists three different measurements for Strontium-90 detected in Hilo milk for the month of April 2011, but no subsequent measurements are listed for any of the months since then. One April 4, 2011 reading shows a measurement of -1.1 pCi/L while another reading for the same day shows a measurement of -.45 pCi/L. An April 13, 2011 reading shows Strontium-90 to be at .16 pCi/L. Measurements taken in July of 2010 and August of 2000 show higher levels at .3 and .37 pCi/L, respectively.

Location	Medium	Sample Date	Procedure Name	Nuclides/Radiation	Result	Combined Standard Uncertainty	MDC	Unit
HILO, HI	PASTEURIZED MILK	19- JUL- 10	Strontium-89 and 90 in Milk	Strontium-90	0.3	0.26	0.86	pCi/L
HILO, HI	PASTEURIZED MILK	04- APR- 11	Strontium-89 and 90 in Milk	Strontium-90	-1.1	1.3	5.3	pCi/L
HILO, HI	PASTEURIZED MILK	04- APR- 11	Strontium-89 and 90 in Milk	Strontium-90	-0.45	0.43	1.8	pCi/L
HILO, HI	PASTEURIZED MILK	13- APR- 11	Strontium-89 and 90 in Milk	Strontium-90	0.16	0.56	2.1	pCi/L
HONOLULU, HI	PASTEURIZED MILK	15- AUG-	Strontium	Strontium-90	0.37	0.21	0.69	pCi/L

News reporting of Strontium-89 measurements in Hilo milk bring about questions of the accuracy of the data reported to the public. The same Forbes blogger mentioned in the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* article discussed above, Jeff McMahon, wrote an April 27, 2011 article titled "Radioactive Strontium Found in Hilo, Hawaii Milk."³⁷ The article says the EPA found 1.4 pCi/L of Strontium-89 on April 4, 2011 in Hilo milk. In the online article there is a link to a pdf file released by the EPA showing this result, but when searching the EPA's radiation data on their website I found a reading for April 4, 2011 which shows a measurement of 6.5 pCi/L of Strontium-89 in pasteurized milk in Hilo.³⁸

Location	Medium	Sample Date	Procedure Name	Nuclides/Radiation	Result	Combined Standard Uncertainty	MDC	Unit
HILO, HI	PASTEURIZED MILK	04- APR- 11	Strontium-89 and 90 in Milk	Strontium-89	6.5	3.8	12	pCi/L
HILO, HI	PASTEURIZED MILK	13- APR- 11	Strontium-89 and 90 in Milk	Strontium-89	0.6	3.3	4.2	pCi/L

McMahon explains in his article that the EPA emailed him to say the Strontium-89 found in the Hilo milk was well below the FDA's Derived Intervention Level (DIL). The problem with that, McMahon wrote, is the FDA does not have a DIL for Strontium-89, but rather only Strontium-90. So was the EPA lying to McMahon, and why does the data not add up? When I contacted McMahon via email to ask what he thought was going on he replied, "I can't explain the discrepancy between those two EPA reports, and I think you would have to get someone from EPA to explain it. I've never got any indication that EPA is fudging or lying about the numbers. During the Fukushima fallout period, EPA was very forthcoming with data. Since

then it's been more difficult to access their data, but I'm not sure why that is. There could be many reasons, other than the political one." After receiving this reply I promptly shot an email off to the EPA radiation laboratory using the contact information they provide on their website to see what they could tell me about the discrepancy, and why they haven't done more testing since it was publicly announced that TEPCO had underreported the amount of strontium being released into the environment, well after the last April 2011 test was conducted. As of the time of this writing I have yet to receive a reply from the EPA. So the questions remain, was it 1.4 or 6.5 pCi/L of Strontium-89 found in Hilo milk on April 4, 2011? Was the dairy farmer milk share member letter the real thing, and why hasn't SB 3049 gone into effect yet? To me it all seems suspicious, but then again it is the era of Stuxnet and Prism - anything can happen.

So how much should we worry about all this? Siegel says we shouldn't worry ourselves to death, so to speak, but he also says the placebo effect can only work if the time is taken to develop real medicines and remedies. In the case of Fukushima the government and its nuclear industry counterparts have tried to pull the wool over our eyes to create a placebo effect that won't work, since nobody is addressing the real problem to the necessary degree that gives the placebo effect something to compare itself to. In this case out of sight out of mind just doesn't work. The problem is the killer is already out of sight, so that's the paranoia - where is it going to come from next? A fish? Fresh fruit? Meat? The drinking water? Ignoring the invisible cancer causing killer elements is like walking through glass shards thinking they won't make you bleed. Radiation sickness is a real problem, and lying and covering up mistakes isn't going to make it go away. The vomiting, diarrhea, loss of hair, and eventual cancer won't consume everyone in the path of the Fukushima fallout, but heavy metal and radiation poisoning could still potentially affect millions, as "hot" radionuclides can get wedged into food particles and in other easily digestible forms before making their way into the body, damaging cells and organs. Of course the ocean does help the heavy metals and radioactive particles to disperse and become diluted depending on how soluble they are, and over time these particles will decay and become part of the background radiation, but the problem in Hawaii is that nobody knows just how long it will take for that to actually happen. And well, dispersion is great, that is if it's not being dispersed in your direction.

The people living in Hawaii have the capacity to manage the situation just fine though, as SB 3049 indicates, but they need accurate information to be able to carry out those capacities. Not having that information made me think the threat to human health and the environment was greater than people were being led to believe, helping me to secure my decision to move back to the mainland. Even though I think those in Hawaii are still at risk from the toxic materials coming from Fukushima, I'm

sure Hawaii will survive without too many heavy metal or radiation related problems, so there probably isn't that much to worry about. After all, Hawaii has been hit by nuclear fallout before in the 50s and 60s during the U.S. military's nuclear tests in the Pacific, one of which took out a streetlight in Oahu even though those tests were conducted thousands of miles from Hawaii. And as far as I know no Hawaiians died of cancer from those tests, only the Marshallese and other Pacific islanders closer to the test sites got sick or died. But most of those islanders survived the fallout then and so did the people living on Hawaii, so I'm sure they will survive this as well. Maybe there will be some illness and even death caused by the eating of contaminated fish, which Hawaiians eat by the bucketload on a daily basis, including the bluefin tuna or ahi which has been found to be contaminated as far away as California, but it won't affect everyone. Thyroid cancer, higher infant mortality rates, and other such problems may arise from the fallout in the air, rain, and soil, but the Hawaiian people will still live on, however those who say everything is just a-OK might want to reassess the situation again.

To understand the mentality of those who keep the truth about nuclear accidents to themselves we once again return to Marat Filippovich Kokhanov in *Voices From Chernobyl*. Kokhanov says radiation readings were off the charts everywhere he took measurements, yet he kept silent. He said he tested milk and meat which he said couldn't even be considered food items, but rather a "radioactive byproduct." Yet he didn't say a thing. Kokhanov explains:

*"So here's the answer to your question: why did we keep silent knowing what we knew? Why didn't we go out onto the square and yell the truth? We compiled our reports, we put together explanatory notes. But we kept quiet and carried out our orders without a murmur because of Party discipline. I was a Communist. I don't remember that any of our colleagues refused to go work in the Zone. Not because they were afraid of losing their Party membership, but because they had faith. They had faith that we lived well and fairly, that for us man was the highest thing, the measure of all things. The collapse of this faith in a lot of people eventually led to heart attacks and suicides. A bullet to the heart, as in the case of Professor Legasov, because when you lose that faith, you are no longer a participant, you're an also-ran, you have no reason to exist. That's how I understood his suicide, as a sort of sign."*³⁹

I pray that all the naysayers are right though, that the truth is being told, and that the cesium, strontium, americium, uranium, plutonium, tritium, and other radioactive materials and heavy metals that are continuously being introduced to the world's ecosystems will have dissipated to harmless levels by the time they reach Hawaii. I hope that, as Forbes reported, those radioactive materials really are no more harmful than eating

a bunch of bananas.⁴⁰ Of course I don't believe this, but I can always pray. Perhaps all of us should.

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Notes on Combating Ecocide

1. A) The three international financial institutions created in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire in 1944 are the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization.

B) The World Bank's function is to provide basic banking services for international business and for state owned properties such as lending, holding, and transferring money. The International Monetary Fund's basic function is to loan money to the governments of developing countries so they can improve their economic and social standards. The World Trade Organization sets international trade policies and pushes towards a more capitalistic free-market system worldwide.

C) A bunch of rich white guys created these organizations.

2. A) Structural Adjustment Programs are plans that are made for developing countries by the international banking community so they can produce more capital from the exportation of resources and other commodities that are within these countries.

B) Globalization privatizes profits because state owned business as well as independently owned business earns the largest amount of money for a small amount of people. The unfair or lack of distribution of this money creates higher social costs (medical care, education, social security, etc) in countries whose governments have accepted globalization.

3. A) Geddicks means that a nation, which is a group of people who have strong ethnic ties, are culturally similar, and share the same language, are more likely to be in conflict with a state, which is an area defined by borders that are controlled by a sovereign government, than another nation, and a state is less likely to be in a conflict with another state.

B) Conflicts between nations and states are usually presented to the public through the media which is usually controlled or strongly influenced by the state. This control factor causes nations to be misrepresented by the press. Often times nations who are seeking independence or are fighting for some other cause are presented as creating a rebellion or an uprising. Words used to describe nations by the media usually are not the preferred descriptors of the nations themselves (guerrilla forces vs. FARC, armed insurgents vs. martyrs, terrorists vs. Taliban).

4. The U.S. military-industrial complex extracts uranium, consumes the product, and then extracts more for further use. The extraction of titanium is another example of this

pattern of global resource consumption and extraction. The U.S. military-industrial complex accounts for 10-20% of U.S. mineral consumption.

5. A) The multilateral agreement on investment (MAI) is the creation of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development that wishes to dismantle barriers to investment all over the world in order to create a more open global economy.

B) The defense exclusion in the MAI is the continuation of the protection of military spending and arms protection.

C) Without the defense exclusion the MAI would be more equitable in that every legislative decision that is incompatible with the MAI would be thrown out.

6. Geddick's solution to ecocide is social protest. By joining movements like Flood Wall Street or some conservation group and attending their meetings is one way people can participate in trying to solve the problem of ecocide.

7. A) The new geography of conflict is the conflict that is occurring in newly formed regions in Africa and Southwest Asia, but conflict is not limited to these areas.

B) These conflicts are new because of the technology that allows for the quick transfer of resources and the instantaneous networking of intelligence.

C) Klare suggests that the alternative to resource wars is the establishment of a global system of resource conservation and collaboration.

8. A) Leopold's sequence of the evolution of ethics includes the relation between individuals, the relation between individuals and society, and the people's relation to land and animals.

B) Human relations with land and animals has existed from the beginning of time and has evolved into different ethical perspectives throughout the globe. There is not one global perspective that all of humankind has accepted as to what the relation between the people and the earth is but there are many different views as to what it should be and the combination of these views has reached the third turn in the sequence of the evolution of ethics.

C) Leopold argues that the core change in ecological consciousness that is necessary to heal the cleavage between conservationists is an internal change in intellectual emphasis, loyalties, affections, and convictions.

BOOK REVIEW

HYPERSPACE BY MICHIO KAKU

Review By Scott Albright

Michio Kaku begins his book *Hyperspace* in simple enough layman's terms, but then about half way through the book my mind went into total panic mode. I had no idea what the hell Kaku was talking about. I was following along just find, understanding Kaku's explanation of relativity and so forth, but then BAM! all of a sudden he goes into these descriptions of how subatomic particles like leptons, mesons, and positrons function under different energy levels. It's not that the writing is incomprehensible, or that the concepts are out of grasp, it's just that, well, quantum physics doesn't make a lot of sense when trying to use Aristotelian logic.

Kaku does just fine explaining high energy particle physics, 10th dimensional mathematics, and the theoretical applications of modern science in our every day lives, but he doesn't explain the experience. There's something missing from Kaku's explanation of higher dimensions that I can't quite put my finger on. It's like he takes me from these three spatial dimensions into a new temporal dimension, but then he leaves me flat out guessing as to what the next dimensions have in store for us. Are the fifth, sixth, and seventh dimension spatial and temporal, or is another element added that no one is explaining? How can all these dimensions possibly be spiraled up into tiny microscopic resonances with no real physical form if the universe itself is expanding beyond all the normal directions in space-time that humans can understand? It's truly mind boggling to venture into this fantastical world of multiple dimensions and universes. Although seemingly farfetched, these are concepts and theories physicists continue to pursue with serious rigor.

In particular, Kaku explains the pursuit of the unification of the forces, with superstring theory being one of the most possible candidates for making unification possible. Kaku's description of the theory will swirl the mind into a spinning mess of strings and spaghettis, spider webs, and pieces of

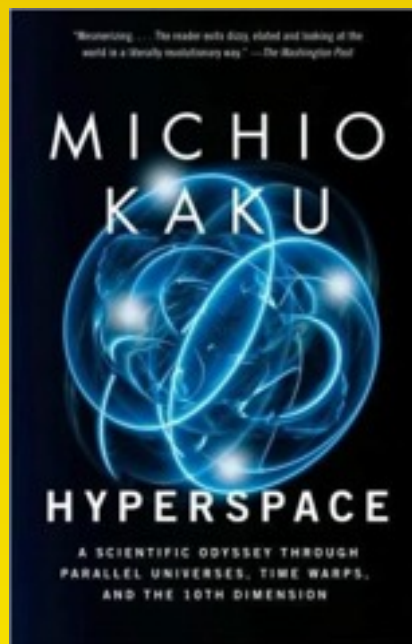
grass, and hair, slivers of glass, and world lines, laser beams, and photon rays, sun rays, light waves, and everything else that looks thin and string-like in appearance.

"The world is just a big ball of giant spinning spaghetti noodles," I told my 5-year-old son, who was also seeing strings in everything around us after I tried to explain the concept to him. Digits, codes, `html:km7501010101010101`. Strings of language, strings of energy. Break the symmetry. . . Yes, the book will take the brain all over the place. It's nuts!

But Kaku doesn't stop with string theory. He goes on to talk about black holes, warp drives, time machines, different civilization types, and all sorts of other wonderful and fantastical futuristic things in the world of math and physics. I highly recommend this book for anybody interested in particle physics, higher dimension mathematics, quantum field theory, and cosmology. I personally didn't get the technical aspects of the book, especially when getting my pages mixed up with those I was reading in

The Tao of Physics at the same time, but conceptually Kaku's *Hyperspace* is easy to grasp even for non-physicists.

One of the most interesting parts of the book for me was Kaku's few lines about his experience in the military. According to Kaku, he'd been drafted in the Army to go to Vietnam, while many of his scientist colleagues were forced into jobs not well suited for their skills because of the war. He talks about how he was running equations through his head during his machine-gun training. On page 165 Kaku writes, "Infantry training, I discovered, is rigorous; it is designed to toughen the spirit and dull the intellect. Independence of thought is ground out of you." I couldn't agree more. Thank goodness for books like Kaku which can reinvigorate the intellect for all those who've had theirs dulled!



Select Chapter Summaries of Primo Levi's *The Periodic Table*

By Scott Albright

Primo Levi compares events in his life as a prisoner during the holocaust to the periodic table of elements. The following are summaries of a select few of these elements.

Phosphorus:

At the beginning of this chapter Levi is looking for a new job, which he finds and talks about throughout the reading. He briefly discusses his experience as a Jew working in a new environment under the time of Starace. Most of the chapter involves Levi's work in finding a cure for diabetes. He also spends a lot of time discussing different relationships he has with the new people at his job.

One new relationship is with a woman named Giulia, who Levi takes a liking to. When Giulia asks Levi what he is thinking about after an ordeal involving her lover he said, "phosphorous." Levi didn't want to hear her good news. He blocked it out in his head, but later on reflects on the situation with a more positive outlook. He wrote, ". . . a veil, a breath, a throw of the dice deflected us onto two divergent paths, which were not ours." Here he is talking about fate.

Gold:

Levi is taken captive by Nazi militiamen and held as a prison inside a camp of some kind. Levi describes the life of captivity and explains his experience with other prisoners. One of the other prisoners is a contraband smuggler who pans for gold in the warmer months.

Levi writes that he "courageously awaits death," and that he would gladly try to pan for gold, not to get rich, but to try a new experience. In this chapter I see a spark of hope resonating in Levi's mind even though death is at hand. This inkling of hope that rests in the spirit of man is what many prisoners, including those at Auschwitz, used to help them through the day. To help them survive.

Cerium:

Two years later Levi is still a prisoner, using his skills as a chemist to make money by selling matches. He spends night after night fiddling with the cerium to

produce his flints, all the while expecting to die at any time. It is the hunger that drives him to steal the cerium in order to make flame for others.

Whether Levi knows it or not, he is using the match as a metaphor for his little spark of hope that remains within. The hunger for food, the hunger to survive, it is this that keeps him working, keeps him alive. He speaks of the Russian liberators and the freight cars that transported the surviving prisoners, yet he does not speak of his own destiny at this time. This chapter is sad because of the death and misery, but also something to rejoice because of the tales of survival and life.



Sulfur:

This short and strange chapter has varying degrees of meaning, but I particularly like the quote about the smell of sulfur: "The B 41 (sulfur) was already weighed out, in three cardboard boxes: he put it in cautiously and, despite the mask, which may have leaked a bit, immediately smelled the dirty, sad smell that emanated from the mixture, and thought that maybe the priest was right too, when he said that in Hell there is a smell of sulfur: after all, even the dogs don't like it, everyone knows that."

In this chapter I made a connection between the worker and the servant, that the worker was but a servant in hell, angrily pushing along through the day just to start it all over again the next.

Uranium:

In this chapter Levi talks about a man named Bonino who sends him a package claiming it is uranium. Levi soon finds that the metal is actually cadmium but allows the man to tell the story as if the metal were truly something special.

I find this chapter to be interesting because it lacks the same direct link to the chapter name and the element it relates to. I think Levi is trying to suggest that uranium is truly a sneaky element with a potential to affect human behavior to the point of lying. It also suggests that although man is susceptible to such lies, many people may play along with the lies, as does Levi in this chapter.

Carbon:

Levi ends the book by using the flow of carbon through life and death and back to life as an example of the universe itself. I like the way he shows how the elements not only shape us, but lives beyond us. Perhaps in the end we all become but another one of the elements.

[Purchase *The Periodic Table* by clicking on the book cover image.](#)

FOCUS: Tricks for Concentration

Life speeds by pretty quick. Cars, bikes, trains, birds, bees, comets, rockets - everything's zooming by at the speed of the universe. Are we as humans supposed to be moving this fast? Smart phone, ringtone, deadline, train ride, freeway, zip line. How in the heck are we supposed to keep up? Well, by slowing down of course. The following exercises and mental tricks can help ease the mind, improve concentration, and help you to be more productive and effective in achieving your goals. These tricks and exercises are inspired by my brother who has dedicated his life to being a physical fitness instructor, the numerous books written by qi gong master Mantak Chia, and the many others who have guided me and challenged me to concentrate on the more important things in life.

1. Sleep: Get plenty of rest. Letting the body and mind sleep helps it to recover from a hard day's work.

2. Physical Exercise

2.1. Qi Gong: Learn Mantak Chia's teachings on the inner smile and microcosmic orbit.

2.2. Soccer - Team sports can help to improve social relationships, encourage collaboration, can unite rivalrous factions, and teach loyalty, respect, and good sportsmanship.

3. Mental Exercise

3.1. Meditation - Deep breathing, concentration, relaxation. The more one can focus the more likely they will be able to see something through to the end, whether it be a political or social issue, or a personal one.

3.2. Study - Knowledge, spiritualism, ideology, philosophy, culture, etc. Reading can help one to escape from reality while at the same time delivering reality-based information. Study all aspects of the issues (i.e. right/left/asymmetrical politics), discover truth through rigorous examination of different perspectives, and increase one's mental capacity to learn in more complex ways.

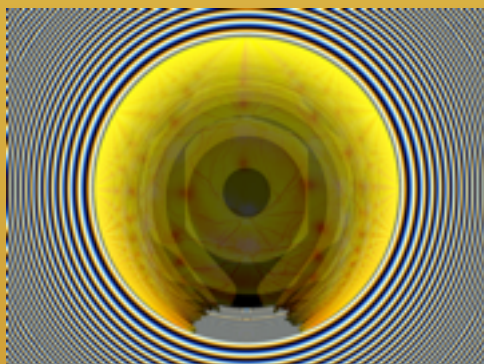
3.3. Puzzles - Helps overcome confusion & deception. Can help to improve logical & rational thinking, problem solving, and multi-step analytical thinking skills.

4. Emotive Exercises

4.1 Love - Unconditional for all.

5. Creative Exercises

4.1 Art - We're a creative species. We wouldn't be here if that wasn't true. Express yourself and breathe the rhythm of life. The universe demands no less!



The art on this page comes courtesy of Randy Rambo, an art student at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. The center-middle piece is titled "Louis-S-Olive Bathroom" and the work to the left is called "Yellow Eye."

To see more of Randy's work visit [flickr.com/randynambo](https://www.flickr.com/photos/randynambo/)

DISINFORMATION: BY ION MIHAI PACEPA AND RONALD J. RYCHLAK

Review by Scott Albright

Ion Mihai Pacepa is the highest ranking Soviet intelligence officer to ever defect to the United States of America. He was a Lieutenant General in the Romanian intelligence agency known as the DIE. He was in charge of running disinformation operations for the KGB out of his DIE office during the U.S.-Soviet Cold War. His revelations about the KGB's use of disinformation, propaganda, and lies to discredit and attack their enemies is shocking, but not all that surprising considering the literature available on U.S. disinformation operations during the same time period.

What's so shocking about what Pacepa writes is the incredible lengths to which the Russians would go to cover up their own operations and discredit their enemies in the Vatican and in the U.S. government.

Pacepa reveals a ton of information about the deception and dirty tricks used to frame Pope Pius XII as a Nazi collaborator and shows how others working for the Vatican also had their names smeared and histories recreated by the KGB. The first half of the book is dedicated to explaining how the KGB got away with this re-writing of history for so long using plays, movies, books, and various literature to influence the beliefs of the global masses.

The narrow focus of this book allows the reader to learn about KGB disinformation operations in descriptive detail, however readers should not absorb the information in this book alone if they want to know the larger picture of what was going on at the time. Stonor Saunders' book *The Cultural Cold War* is highly recommended, as it will provide a balance to Pacepa's revelations by showing what the CIA was doing in Europe's pre-internet media and literary world after WWII. It is also important to question Pacepa's own motivations for writing the book, who edited and cleared the book for publication, and the accuracy of the information itself. Is *Disinformation* just more disinformation? Who knows, but knowing what both sides were allegedly doing is important for understanding the type of disinformation campaigns that are going on today.

Pacepa leads up to the modern disinformation campaigns by way of explaining his role in spreading the conspiracy about U.S. President John F. Kennedy's assassination. He says the conspiracy was created to help cover up KGB involvement in the act. Apparently Pacepa helped to spread the theory that JFK was assassinated by radical rightists inside the CIA. He says Jack Ruby was a Cuban agent used to kill Lee Harvey Oswald in case

Oswald's KGB ties were revealed. Pacepa says this is a classic case of how the KGB regularly blames the other side for the crimes they commit, using the nastiest tricks possible to cover everything up. This is fairly apparent from the news coverage we get in the U.S. of the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, but how much of that is American disinformation is questionable as well, making me wonder how well any of these disinformation campaigns work if nobody believes anything their told in the media anymore.

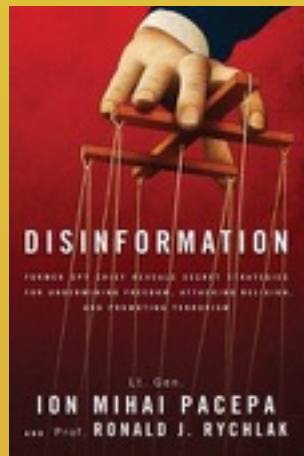
Pacepa claims that for the JFK conspiracy to work the KGB had people like I.F. Stone and Mark Lane on their payroll. Stone and Lane wrote several articles and books accusing rightist elements within the U.S. government of assassinating Kennedy. Oliver Stone's movie *JFK*, which claims the Kennedy assassination was a local conspiracy of the highest degree, was inspired by a book written by

Jim Garrison, the New Orleans District Attorney who was helped by Mark Lane in the arrest of Clay Shaw for his alleged involvement in the conspiracy. According to imdb.com, *JFK* brought in \$205,405,498 in box office sales worldwide, all on a \$40 million budget.

If what Pacepa says is true than who knows how many movies have been inspired, supported, or funded by foreign or domestic elements of the intelligence community. As for the more modern acts of KGB disinformation, Pacepa says he was personally involved in the spreading of anti-Americanism in the Middle East and across the globe by disseminating propaganda like the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* and

supporting terrorist groups like Hezbollah and the Palestinian Liberation Organization in their fight against Israel and the U.S. He also claims the protest movements against the wars in Vietnam and Iraq were created through KGB disinformation operations. Pacepa says the U.S. Democratic party has been infected by this disinformation disease.

It's easy to see why Pacepa is strongly anti-Communist and politically to the right, but I disagree with his theory that Obama is a secret socialist and that calls for the redistribution of the wealth is a bad idea. First off, Obama is not very secret about his socialist-like policies, but in the end capitalism has absorbed his socialist aims, just as representative democracy has absorbed the anti-war movements. Capitalism is the global economic system every country uses. China absorbed it into their Communist system, just as American capitalism absorbed socialism, which is more of a government program intended to provide a social safety net for the people rather than just serve as an economic system. And the American social safety net has worked far better than Russia's or China's under Maoism, Stalinism, or Putinism. This is not a bad thing at all, but rather a great asset which should continue unhindered.



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FUTURE WORLD

Drone Journalism & Free Speech

Drone journalism is a scary thought to some. The right to privacy is the first thing most people worry about when it comes to news reporters operating remote aircraft, but do the drawbacks of drone journalism outweigh the benefits? That question was asked on the Drone Journalism Lab website when discussing the airspace closure and restrictions placed on journalists in Ferguson, Missouri where protestors have been demanding the arrest of police officer Darren Wilson who gunned down 18-year-old Mike Brown in early August. The author of the website article writes:

“Do rules restricting the airspace in the interests of pilot safety apply if there’s no pilot to keep safe? Specifically in Ferguson, if gunfire closed the airspace, can a news organization choose to risk their drone getting shot by someone on the ground?”

And, how much does the public’s right to know weigh in here? What are the ethics here? Is there an argument for a journalist to violate the TFR to report on a news event that is being blocked from the public view?”

Of Course There Is. Who doesn’t think otherwise? It would be silly to think differently, but drone journalism probably won’t be accepted so easily anytime soon, even if the drones are quieter than the news helicopters already in use. My guess is though that drones will be used more and more as time goes on, and not just by mainstream media outlets, but by citizen journalists, hobbyists, emergency workers, and many many others. I believe we should embrace the movement, but that it should be well regulated with significant oversight procedures in place to prevent misuse of these technologies. When information access is denied, what other options do journalist have?



Is drone journalism the future of news media?
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About Distracted Masses

Distracted Masses is the creation of Scott Albright, an independent researcher and freelance journalist living in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Scott’s goal is to create a fun, unique, and academic magazine for audiences of all ages and walks of life. Future issues are dependent on the time and resources available to contributors, so if you like what you see make a donation or contribute to the cause.

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