|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Jihad Report  Sep 08, 2018 - Sep 14, 2018 | |
| Attacks | **43** |
| Killed | **318** |
| Injured | **348** |
| Suicide Blasts | **8** |
| Countries | **11** |

**Arjen Kamphuis Gear Found**

Norwegian police have found the belongings of Julian Assange’s associate, cyber security expert Arjen Kamphuis, who mysteriously went missing in late August.

The 47-year-old co-author of a [handbook](https://tcij.org/sites/default/files/u11/InfoSec%20for%20Journalists%20V1.3.pdf)for investigative journalists on how to keep themselves and their work safe from government spying, has been missing since August 20. At that time, Kamphuis checked out of a hotel in the town of Bodo in northern Norway and hasn’t been seen since.

[View image on Twitter](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1035674447418519552/photo/1)

[](https://twitter.com/wikileaks/status/1035674447418519552/photo/1)

[Twitter Ads info and privacy](https://support.twitter.com/articles/20175256)

The security expert’s belongings were found on Tuesday by a man who was fishing near Bodo, police said on Wednesday, as [cited](https://www.nrk.no/nordland/har-funnet-eiendeler-som-tilhorer-savnede-arjen-kamphuis-1.14204635)by Norwegian media.

According to police inspector Bjarte Walla, the fisherman *“found an object floating in the sea.”*

*“We can say that this item belongs to missing Arjen Kamphuis,”* he said, refusing to release any information on the nature of the item or items found.

Earlier in September, Norwegian police [confirmed](https://www.nrk.no/nordland/bekrefter-mobilsignal-fra-savnede-arjens-telefon-1.14197339)that they had detected a signal from a Kamphuis' phone near Stavanger, some 1,000km (620 miles) from Bodo.

Police say they are working on at least three theories about Kamphuis’ disappearance. Investigators say that he might have been involved in some incident, been the victim of a criminal act, or just went into hiding.

The disappearance of the Assange's associate cyber security expert also created multiple theories on Twitter, ranging from a hiking incident to a secret assignment. Some Wikileaks supporters even suggested he might have been snatched or killed in a covert CIA operation.

Human rights campaigner Peter Tatchell believes that Kamphuis’ disappearance is certainly a “*cause for concern,”*because his research has been been *“a matter of some considerable anxiety to government security agencies.”*

*“Quite clearly there are people in governments and security services around the world who would very much like to get the solution to that encryption and those cyber security measures that he's enabled journalists to use when those journalists are investigating, exposing bad things being done by governments,”* Tatchell told RT.

Kamphuis has been training journalists, human rights workers and whistleblowers to defend their data from government intrusions or manipulation since 2009.

In the handbook, which he co-authored, Kamphuis advises investigative journalists and media professionals how to avoid being snooped on by the state. *"Think of ‘protecting your system’ as building a house of cards – for it to work, you must build your security from the bottom up,”* the handbook states.

Some of Kamphuis' friends told the Guardian that he has gone "off the grid" before, and that they remain hopeful that he will surface when he feels ready.

Carlo said Kamphuis had "gone off grid before. It can be good for the soul. I was worried before, and it is worrying now. But I have strong faith he will come back into the welcoming arms of his friends when he is ready, in his own time." Van der Leest told Dutch radio that while Kamphuis "certainly didn’t come across as someone who was planning to be away for a long time. He had lots of appointments."

Though reports that he purchased a kayak and told a salesperson that he was heading to the Norwegian fjords have left many concerned that he may have encountered some trouble while he was out.

Dutch police have said Kamphuis bought a foldable kayak before leaving the Netherlands, telling the salesman who sold it to him that he was planning on going canoeing in the fjords.

Other friends said Kamphuis was no daredevil. "If he’s heading into dangerous territory, he always seeks out company," Helma de Boer told NRC Handelsblad. "And he always has good equipment. His motto is: 'better safe than sorry.'"

Still, it's worth considering that Kamphuis has helped Wikileaks and many other organizations - some controversial, some not - thwart intelligence agencies and other prying organizations. That type of work could help a man make enemies who are both motivated and resourceful (doubly so if he was caught doing some unauthorized snooping). Then again, there's also the possibility that he may have tried to fake his own death - leaving his possessions in the water on purpose to convince authorities that he drowned. But one would think that such a talented cybersecurity engineer would understand the risks of using his phone.

In my opinion, Arjen is keeping himself in the headlines with clues left behind. He wants people to be watching for him. When he surfaces, it will be at his choosing and if his history is any indicator, it will be devastating for the globalists.

**Nuclear Engines**

One of the frustrating and intriguing things about nuclear energy is that there is no standard design that is essential. For example, if you want to build a motorcar, you need to start with the idea that it will have four wheels; three is less effective, and two with gyroscopes is something else again.

But when it comes to nuclear reactors, there are seemingly no limits. There are literally hundreds of reactor designs and possibilities. The moderator, which acts like a shock absorber to the reaction, varies too. It is nearly always water, but it can be gas, salt or a liquid metal.

The end, though, is to use fission to produce power to turn a generator to make electricity or to propel a ship, like a submarine or aircraft carrier.

So far, so good. But the limit is that the reactor only produces heat which then must be converted, through steam or some other medium, into shaft horsepower to make electricity or to drive the submarine.

In my many years of writing about nuclear and chronicling its ups and downs, I have always been aware of the apparent weakness here: Huge, sophisticated power plants are only giant kettles; their purpose is to boil water, albeit very effectively.

Periodically, scientists have tried to tackle this issue with thoughts on a direct conversion of heat to useful work in turning a drive shaft for whatever end use. There have been theoretical attempts to make the leap to the direct use of nuclear heat for work without a transfer agent. The great nuclear theorist Leo Szilard, according to his biographer William Lanouette, toyed with an idea but abandoned it.

But there is a way, says Mark Adams, an MIT-educated physicist and former staff member at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, Calif. He has designed an engine which he calls an “internal” rotary engine, rather like the kind of Wankel engine which has been around since the 1950s. Instead of pistons going up and down, the engine has a rotor that rotates around a crank shaft

The rotary engine which Adams envisions looks diagrammatically very like a schematic of the rotatory engine which Mazda introduced to varying degrees of success in its cars in the 1970s.

It works like this: A small amount of gasified “nanofuel,” which contains nuclear material mixed with hydrogen, is ignited by a neutron source to set up a controlled fission reaction, creating heat and propelling the rotor forward and driving the crank shaft. The fuel can be derived from the transuranic parts of spent conventional nuclear fuel or can be created separately.

A company dedicated to energy innovation, Global Energy Research Associates (GERA), is working on design and raising money. The Department of Energy has held back.

Adams, 45, explains his engine this way, “Much like the way your car converts chemical energy into mechanical work, our engine converts nuclear energy directly and safely into useful mechanical work. This eliminates a lot of expensive reactor equipment and paves the way for low-cost nuclear power plants.”

He says his engine would produce 340 megawatts of electric power, if deployed in a combined-cycle configuration. The radioactive byproducts are only cesium and strontium with half-lives of about 30 years -- a great improvement on the nuclear waste from conventional reactors. It would be a high-level waste burner as well as an energy source. Tests to prototype engine components are underway at the Idaho National Laboratory in Idaho Falls.

The nuclear engine would shut itself down automatically if things went wrong. A meltdown accident of the kind seen at Three Mile Island and Fukushima is not possible, according to GERA, which Adams formed to demonstrate and market the engine.

One must have, as one must with all futuristic, high-technology designs, a healthy skepticism and a lot of excitement.

**It’s The Money, Stupid**

Debt-based fiat money, like any monetary system, enforces some behaviors and punishes others. Specifically, debt-based fiat money demands a regime of constant, perpetual growth. As any mathematician will tell you, anything that grows constantly accumulates exponentially.

So each year, there’s exponentially more debt in the system than the year before. If not, our high-leveraged system begins collapsing, as threatened in 2008. As long as you can have endless growth, the system of money we have in place today is perfectly fine. But if you can't, then once growth peters out, the entire system crashes into nothingness. There’s no in-between territory.

We could choose to have a different monetary system. We could embrace a 'sound money' system, where money can't be conjured out of thin air, at no cost, the way it is today. Instead, it's in limited supply.

Under a sound money system, you either produce more than you consume or you face the consequences (rising interest rates, economic contraction, etc.). No ramping up the printing press to defer the reckoning off to a future date, which will also make it more intense when it eventually arrives.

Wars cannot be financed on the backs of future generations as yet unborn. Either you rally the populace to pay more in taxes to fund a military campaign, or you ramp down the war machine. Sound money won’t fix everything. But it would be a great step in the right direction.

There are many other indictments against debt-based fiat money, including its proclivity to concentrate wealth into the hands of fewer and fewer winners, with everyone else in debt to that oligarchy (a process already well underway). Given these, busying ourselves with trying to refine our current monetary model is a waste of precious time.

As long as debt-based fiat money pins us between the harsh dichotomy of either growing exponentially or collapsing, there’s no amount of tweaking, (de)regulating, or rule modifying that’s going to make the slightest bit of difference.

We need a full-blown replacement. You see, money is at the root of it all.

Every large, hierarchical assembly of people throughout history has had an organizing principle that kept everyone in line. Where once it was “royal blood” or “direct access to the god(s)”, today it's money. That’s what keeps everyone in line and in their place. (Those interested in understanding this dynamic more deeply should read our foundational report on this topic)

But what happens when your organizing principle that keeps everyone in line marches them towards a cliff? You need to either change it or perish. As the above article on the UN study continues:

Most observers, then, have no idea of the current biophysical realities – that the driving force of the transition to postcapitalism is the end of the age that made endless growth capitalism possible in the first place: the age of abundant, cheap energy.

And so we have moved into a new, unpredictable and unprecedented space in which the conventional economic toolbox has no answers. As slow economic growth simmers along, central banks have resorted to negative interest rates and buying up huge quantities of public debt to keep our economies rolling. But what happens after these measures are exhausted? Governments and bankers are running out of options.

Capitalist markets will not be capable of facilitating the required changes – governments will need to step up, and institutions will need to actively shape markets to fit the goals of human survival. Right now, the prospects for this look slim. But the new paper argues that either way, change is coming.

I too, will argue that -- like it or not -- change is on the way. However, I would go further than the authors and note that any system, whatever its premise and however it's run, will fail if it's predicated upon an unsustainable idea.

And our system's unsustainable idea is debt-based fiat money.

It's flawed and it's failing. Yet nobody in power can envision a solution because the answer cuts too deeply across our entire social, political and geopolitical constructions. Each is based on infinite growth and has enshrined power based on what we call "money".

Changing the model is just too unpalatable to those who currently benefit most from the current system. Blinded by their spoils, they simply can't realize that if/when the system breaks down, they'll find mob justice offers an even worse outcome.

How To Move Forward

Help is NOT on the way. Not from our leaders, and quite frankly, not from ourselves. Too many people are not going to proactively reject society's pursuit of growth and start embracing having less stuff in their lives.

Materially reducing carbon emissions into the atmosphere would require enormous hits to the economy, lost jobs and quite possible a reduction in total global population. Nobody in politics will go anywhere remotely near that conversation.

And yet the changes are coming. In many cases, they're already here.

As I type, Hurricane Florence is stalled at the coastline of North Carolina, dramatically increasing the rainfall is it dumping there and exacerbating the flooding damage.

Is global warming to blame for the specific steering currents that brought about this path? Maybe; maybe not. But we can easily make the case that the warmer air and warmer seas of recent years result in more energy that increases hurricane intensity.

We can also easily make the case that the damage inflicted by Florence and future storms to come will be compounded by the extremely short-sighted building practices designed to maximize property values and real estate development. Wetlands and dunes that evolved to absorb storm surge have been bulldozed and paved over in the pursuit of profits. Are the resulting flooding damages worth those extra dollars (and lost ecosystems)?

Shale oil is being pumped out of the ground as fast as possible, surprisingly with no profits to be seen (collectively, the shale oil industry has been a massive loss-making enterprise so far). Drillers have to pump to simply to keep the debt and equity that’s already in play in motion. Shale holes aren't being drilled and fracked because it makes sense, or because it's the right thing to do at this moment in time; but simply because all of that money printed by the Federal Reserve had to go somewhere and do something. And right now, it's flooding into the oil patch.

Any sane person should sit back, scan the ratio of mess-to-benefit provided by shale oil and shout: Stop! But apparently we “need” the jobs, the money, the oil Right Now!

That’s the nature of debt-based money. It enforces the Right Now! mentality at the expense of long-term thinking. Or even any thinking.

So changes are coming. There will be an enormous mess when this third central bank inspired credit bubble bursts and this will be the last one of this size. After this burst, there won’t be any getting around the fact that letting a few banksters fiddle with the price of money in an attempt get more borrowing to fuel even more spending was a terrible, horrible, no good idea.

Meanwhile -- as people are marveled by our shiny rising stock prices, complete with $trillion-dollar companies and price-to-earnings ratios at nosebleed highs -- the weather gets worse, more species disappear, and more people fall into lifelong debt servitude. And the hard conversations that we desperately need to be having aren't happening at all.

So, what can you do about it?

Attend to your own business. Develop resilience to become better prepared for what is surely to come. Don’t fall for the current bogus narrative. Stand fast to what you know to be true and right. Tend your garden, build your wealth, and let go of old ways.

**The Clinton Crime Syndicate Revolving Door at Google**

## Dozens of people who used to work for Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign and a number of Clinton initiatives went on to work at Google, and vice-versa.

At least twelve employees from the Clinton Global Initiative, the Clinton Foundation, and the Clinton Health Access Initiative went on to work for Google, while at least fifteen Google employees went on to work for Hillary For America. The list was originally developed by Adam Townsend on Twitter.

Here is the list of employees:

[Peter Albers](https://www.linkedin.com/in/peteralbers/), former Finance and Operations Director at the Clinton Foundation, before moving to Google Fiber as Head of Partnerships and Market Development in 2015. In 2017, he became Google’s Global Head of Business Development and Head of Americas Retail Partnerships for Google Play Retail.

[Shannon Jones Newberry](https://www.linkedin.com/in/shannonnewberry/), former Deputy Director of Communications at the Clinton Global Initiative, before becoming Communications and Public Affairs Manager at Google in 2012.

[Jeff Lawi](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jefflawi/), a former analyst at the Clinton Health Access Initiative, before joining Google in 2013 where he has held a number of positions, including Product Support Manager, Senior Product Support Manager, and Principal, Strategy, and Business Operations.

[Nathan Allen](https://www.linkedin.com/in/nathankyleallen/), a former consultant at the Clinton Foundation, before becoming a Senior Creative Producer and Launch Manager at Google in 2015. Allen is currently an Executive Producer at Google.

[Puiyan Leung](https://www.linkedin.com/in/puiyanleung/), a former consultant for the Clinton Foundation through Stern Consulting Corps. Leung had been an intern at Google before serving as a consultant for the Clinton Foundation, and he returned to Google in 2013 as a financial analyst, before becoming a program manager in 2015. Leung left Google to work for Facebook in 2016.

[Felicia Yep Salinas](https://www.linkedin.com/in/feliciasalinas/), former Employment and Labor Commitment Maker at the Clinton Global Initiative before joining Google in 2015 as a Talent Hacker. She then became a Technical Sourcer in 2016, before moving to Facebook months later.

[John Lyman](https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-lyman-240a431/), according to the [website](https://www.gv.com/team/john-lyman/) for GV where he now works, “helped launch the Clinton Global Initiative,” worked as Deputy Chairperson, and focused on “progressive policy and advocacy,” before joining Google for “a decade” where he served as Head of Partnerships and Marketing for Google for Entrepreneurs.

[Scot Frank](https://www.linkedin.com/in/scotfrank/), a former mentor at the Clinton Global Initiative, joined Google as a product manager in 2014.

[Theodore Przybyla](https://www.linkedin.com/in/theodoreprzybyla/), former Working Group Manager at the Clinton Global Initiative, joined Google as an engagement manager in 2015, before leaving for the Brookings Institution in September 2017.

[Justin Pang](https://www.linkedin.com/in/justinpang8/), former Deputy Chief Operating Officer at the Clinton Health Access Initiative, joined Google in 2012. Having served as Strategic Partner Lead of Global Partnerships and Team Lead of Global Partnerships, he is currently the Head of Partnerships.

[Maria Wang-Faulkner](https://www.linkedin.com/in/mariaywang/), former Country Support Manager at the Clinton Health Access Initiative, joined Google as a Strategic Partner Manager in 2016, and currently serves as Strategic Partner Development Manager for Google Assistant.

[Paul Lee](https://www.linkedin.com/in/paulklee/), a former consultant for the Clinton Foundation, joined Google in 2007 as a Senior Product Manager, before leaving in 2015.

[Stephanie Hannon](https://www.linkedin.com/in/skhannon/), former Group Product Manager at Google, left the company in 2011 before becoming a Product Manager at Facebook in 2012. Hannon then moved back to Google in 2013 as a Director of Product Management for just over two years, before she became the Chief Technology Officer for Hillary For America in April 2015.

[Osi Imeokparia](https://www.linkedin.com/in/oimeokparia/), former Product Management Director at Google, left the company in 2015 to become Chief Product Officer at Hillary For America. Imeokparia currently works at the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, which is owned by Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and his wife Priscilla Chan.

[Derek Parham](https://www.linkedin.com/in/derek-parham-b7b5504/), former Technical Lead of Google Apps, joined Hillary For America in 2016 as Deputy Chief Technology Officer.

[Jason Rosenbaum](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jasonrosenbaum/) has worked in a number of Democrat Party-affiliated positions, including as Deputy Director of Online Communications for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee between April 2007 and March 2009, and Digital Director for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee between March 2009 and June 2013. Rosenbaum then became Director of Elections and Advocacy at Google in July 2013, before leaving to become Director of Digital Advertising at Hillary For America in July 2015.

[Nathaniel Welch](https://www.linkedin.com/in/natwelch/), a former Site Reliability Engineer at Google, joined Hillary For America as Staff Site Reliability Engineer in January 2016.

[Henry Bridge](https://www.linkedin.com/in/hbridge/), former Product Manager at Google, left to join Facebook in June 2011, before becoming Director of Product at Hillary For America in January 2016.

[Fred Wulff](https://www.linkedin.com/in/fredwulff/), a former software engineer at Google, joined Hillary For America in March 2016 as a software engineer and manager.

[Divina Videna Chung](https://www.linkedin.com/in/divinavidena/), former Operations Point of Contact at Google Express, joined Hillary For America in February 2016 as California Phone Bank Captain and Nevada Precinct Captain. She also worked at Uber, before moving to Facebook as an Oculus VR Brand Ambassador.

[Danny Bowman](https://www.linkedin.com/in/dbowman123/), a former Product Specialist at Google, joined Hillary For America in July 2016 as a software engineer.

[James Plummer](https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-plummer-0321ba72/), a former User Experience Designer at Google, joined Hillary For America in January 2016 as Lead Product Designer and Manager.

[Andrea Frome](https://www.linkedin.com/in/andrea-frome-9b0377110/), a former software engineer at Google, joined Hillary For America in May 2016 as a senior software engineer.

[Maxwell Nunes](https://www.linkedin.com/in/maxwell-nunes-4211031b/), a former Political Advertising Fellow at Google, joined Hillary For America’s digital team in June 2015. Nunes currently works in digital policy at Airbnb.

[Remy DeCausemaker](https://www.linkedin.com/in/decause/), a former mentor at Google Summer of Code, joined Hillary For America in June 2016 as Open Source Community Manager, before becoming Open Source Program Manager at Twitter in June 2017.

[Dina Lamdany](https://www.linkedin.com/in/dina-lamdany-4552302b/), a former software engineering intern at Google, joined Hillary For America in June 2015 as a data analyst, before moving back to Google as an Associate Product Manager.

[Corey Bertram](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cbertram/), a former software engineering intern at Google, worked with Hillary Clinton’s 2016 presidential campaign and claimed to be “responsible for building backend platform and infra for Hillary Clinton 2016.”

This year, Breitbart Tech also [discovered](https://www.breitbart.com/tech/2018/04/10/dozens-obama-alumni-now-senior-facebook-employees/) that dozens of former Clinton and Obama staffers were now working at Facebook.

In 2016, WikiLeaks [claimed](https://www.breitbart.com/tech/2016/06/08/julian-assange-says-google-directly-engaged-clinton-campaign/) Google was “directly engaged” with and [working](https://www.breitbart.com/tech/2016/10/19/wikileaks-googles-eric-schmidt-working-with-clinton-campaign/) for the Clinton presidential campaign, while leaked [emails](https://www.breitbart.com/tech/2016/10/31/wikileaks-googles-eric-schmidt-wanted-to-be-head-outside-advisor-to-clinton-campaign/) showed that former Google Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt wanted to be the “Head Outside Advisor” to the Clinton Campaign.

Schmidt was also “instrumental” in [creating](https://www.breitbart.com/tech/2017/08/14/4-times-google-was-linked-directly-to-hillary-clinton/) the “The Groundwork,” a company that sought to put Clinton into the White House, and Google [worked](https://www.breitbart.com/tech/2016/09/13/hillary-google-bias-confirmed-experiment/) to hide negative search results of Clinton during the presidential campaign.

In a leaked [video](https://www.breitbart.com/tech/2018/09/12/leaked-video-google-leaderships-dismayed-reaction-to-trump-election/) released by Breitbart Tech of an internal meeting at Google shortly after Clinton’s presidential campaign defeat in 2016, Google executives, including CEO Sundar Pichai, co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin, Chief Financial Officer Ruth Porat, and Vice Presidents Kent Walker and Eileen Naughton expressed strong and negative reactions to the results.

Brin announced that the meeting is “probably not the most joyous we’ve had” and claimed to find the election results “deeply offensive,” claiming it “conflicts with many of [Google’s] values.”

After an employee asked if Google would “invest in grassroots, hyper-local efforts to bring tools and services and understanding of Google products and knowledge” so Americans can “make informed decisions that are best for themselves,” Pichai claimed the company would ensure that “educational products” reach “segments of the population [they] are not [currently] fully reaching,” and expressed that “investments in machine learning and AI” could stop “misinformation” shared by “low-information voters.”

The executives also applauded an employee who made a remark about needing to recognize “white privilege” following the election.

**The Sunspot Secret**

The Sunspot Solar Observatory is located in [Sunspot, New Mexico](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunspot,_New_Mexico), and is part of the [Lincoln National Forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln_National_Forest) on the western edge of the [Sacramento Mountains](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacramento_Mountains). The ~250 acres (100 ha) area is located on [National Forest Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Forest_Service) lands, managed by the [U.S. Department of Agriculture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Department_of_Agriculture), [U.S. Forest Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Forest_Service) (USFS), Lincoln National Forest, and the [Sacramento Ranger District](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Sacramento_Ranger_District&action=edit&redlink=1) The origins of Sunspot as a Solar Observatory date back to the sudden increased interest of solar physics to the US military during the Second World War. In 1940, the High Altitude Observatory (HAO) was established in 1940 in Climax, Colorado, by Walter Orr Roberts and Donald Menzel. It was associated with both Harvard College Observatory and the University of Colorado and was incorporated in 1946. At the time it was the world's highest permanent observatory for astronomy, at an elevation of over 11,000 feet, and was designed purely for studying the Sun. Roberts worked with the Bureau of Standards, "forecasting radio conditions on the basis of solar observations".[1] Such studies of the upper atmosphere were critical for predicting conditions for radio communication, guided missiles, and supersonic aircraft and, as a result, solar observations "became essential to the war effort". Suddenly the field of solar astronomy became an appealing goal for both astronomers and the military.[2][3]

The Sacramento Peak Observatory was conceived as a complementary telescope to the existing facilities in Climax, as Roberts had realized that "there were long periods of cloudiness, especially during the winter, when it was not possible to make observations",[3] and hence a second dedicated solar observatory should be established. The practical applications for solar research, as discovered by the military during World War II, regarding the impact solar activity had on radio communication spurred the US Congress to provide for a military-funded observatory. It became an important mission of the USAF to establish a solar observatory and "after the war, when the Air Force recognized the need to organize its own long-range program of solar studies, it quite naturally turned for specialized assistance to the recently formed High Altitude Observatory (HAO)".[1] In September 1947, the USAF issued a contract to HAO and Harvard University to conduct a survey and thereby identify an appropriate site for a new solar observatory and to determine which instruments to install at the new site.

The National Solar Observatory in Sunspot, New Mexico was evacuated and closed down by the FBI last Thursday, September 6th, 2018 along with the local USPS office due to unexplained 'security reasons'.

The entire facility has been surrounded by police tape and techs working at the observatory were contacted who said: "It was a security risk area, and we were told to leave and don't come back until we were told to."



Why have they blurred out in this photo?

 A statement was made by the Otero County Sheriff:

*“The FBI is refusing to tell us what’s going on. We’ve got people up there (the observatory) that requested us to standby while they evacuate it. Nobody would really elaborate on any of the circumstances as to why. The FBI were up there. What their purpose was nobody will say.”*

 The OCS also said there are Blackhawk helicopters at the site, circling overhead and that crews were on towers and around antennas and added that the sheriff's office was not part of the investigation.

 Rod Spurgeon, a spokesman with the USPS:

*"Right now, what we're told is that they've temporarily evacuated the area. We haven't been told why... or when that expires."*

“I can tell you it definitely wasn’t aliens,” a spokeswoman for the National Solar Observatory, part of the Sunspot Solar Observatory consortium, told [The Washington Post.](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/a-solar-observatory-in-new-mexico-is-evacuated-for-a-week-and-the-fbi-is-investigating-no-one-will-say-why/2018/09/14/ea006a96-b78b-11e8-a2c5-3187f427e253_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.594b565e127a)

It is still unclear what led to the evacuation and closure of the facility, which is typically open to the public. The Post reported that only the director and an assistant have been allowed into the building and even the security guards have reportedly been kept in the dark.

“We don’t know anything. We’re just as curious as anyone else,” one guard told the Post.

The Post also reported the FBI has been on the scene, but local law enforcement has not been involved.

“They wouldn’t give us any ­details,” Otero County Sheriff Benny House told The Washington Post. “I’ve got ideas, but I don’t want to put them out there. That’s how bad press or rumors get started, and it’ll cause paranoia, or I might satisfy everybody’s mind and I might be totally off base.”

However, the observatory does seem to recognize the interest its closure has sparked and hopes it will continue after it is reopened.

“With the excitement this closure has generated, we hope you will come and visit us when we do reopen, and see for yourself the services we provide for science and public outreach in heliophysics,” is posted [on its website](https://sunspot.solar/).

I wanted to know why the Observatory was shut down. First of all, what does the Sunspot Observatory do?

I went to the NDO website. The mission of the National Solar Observatory is to advance knowledge of the Sun, both as an astronomical object and as the dominant external influence on Earth, by providing forefront observational opportunities to the research community.

The National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope is a four-meter solar telescope under construction in Maui, Hawai’i. Once completed, it will be the largest solar telescope in the world. With a focus on understanding the Sun’s explosive behavior, observations of magnetic fields are at the forefront of this innovative telescope. A combination of an off-axis design, to reduce scattered light, and cutting edge polarimetery will produce the first ongoing measurements of the magnetic fields in the Sun’s corona. DKIST’s 4-meter mirror will provide views of the solar atmosphere like we’ve never seen before. Focusing on small observing changes, DKIST’s instrument suite will gather unprecedented images from the Sun’s surface to the lower solar atmosphere. DKIST will reveal features three times smaller than anything we can see on the Sun today, and will do so multiple times a second. Not only will the world-class instruments and optical assembly allow spectacular imagery, but will also have incredible spectroscopic capabilities. Observing the specific fingerprints of hundreds of atoms and ions throughout the solar surface and atmosphere will help us explain the dynamic nature of the Sun’s behavior

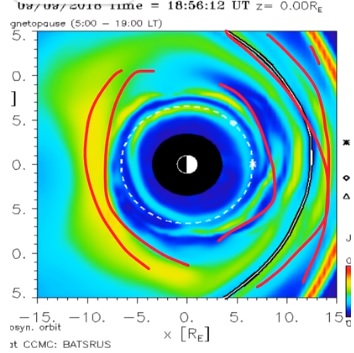
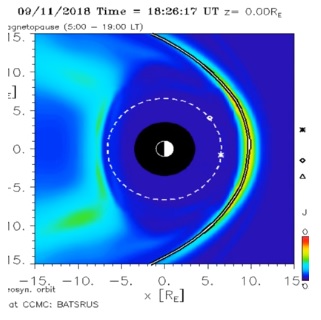
The mission includes the operation of cutting edge facilities, the continued development of advanced instrumentation both in-house and through partnerships, conducting solar research, and educational and public outreach. NSO accomplishes this mission by:

* Providing leadership for the development of new ground-based facilities that support the scientific objectives of the solar and solar-terrestrial physics community;
* Advancing solar instrumentation in collaboration with university researchers, industry, and other government laboratories;
* Providing background synoptic observations that permit solar investigations from the ground and space to be placed in the context of the variable Sun;
* Providing research opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students, helping develop classroom activities, working with teachers, and mentoring high school students;
* Innovative staff research.

# NSO Advisory Committees

NSO is overseen and guided by a number of committees made up of national and international representatives, experts, and stakeholders. In addition to NSO’s direct advisory committees, the AURA Board and AURA Member Representatives assist in the decision making process for NSO. These decisions include, among other items, the hiring of NSO’s Director, tenure decisions, and termination decisions

I looked for coincidental anomalies associated with the Sun at this time. There are some anomalies that occurred on the 9th just before the shutdown that we need to discuss. The Schuman Resonance—also called the MagnetoPause—Is monitored constantly, and displays some undulations from time to time, but just before 19:00 Universal Time, something never seen before occurred. Normally, the leading edge of the planet, as we travel through space, has a high-energy barrier that forms like a shockwave in front of the bow of a ship. But without warning, the Earth pulsed out what appears to be a million-farad capacitance pulse in all directions.



The pulse that is ejected from the Earth happened suddenly, compared to how slowly this field normally operates. The shape takes on a geometry that may be a function of the detector, but it does stand out as an octagon and a square in the apexes of the shaped pulse. Not too much can be drawn from this, really, except that it could be the shape of the detector itself.

At the same time, numerous Corona Satellites were interrupted for a period of 7 hours. Subaru Cat Walk Aimed East, SE and South. In all, six webcams went dark. This happened 130 miles away from Roswell. This observatory was started in the 1940’s to observe things they were testing at Area 51 and the White Sands Range. In 1964, it is said that a wobbling spacecraft landed at White Sands, and beings got out, met, and communicated with military personnel. It was caught on film.

Once thing to note is that all the other solar observatories around the world are all up and running normally and did not shut down.

Many people are asking what did it see? DrudgeReport posted an article that said the other Solar observatories around the world were shut down as well, but that is not true. There were 7 missing hours of data from two satellites in space. The more likely scenario was a Chinese hack into the powerful listening capabilities of the observatory to monitor the White Sand Missile Range. Once this hack took place, the FBI was in jurisdiction to step in and seize everything. I will definitely keep you posted, but it does seem that this might have been going on for a while, and that is the reason why the 2 postal locations were also shut down and searched. We have not heard of anyone being detained in connection with this shutdown, which is normally what would occur if they felt that someone was trying or had shipped evidence gleaned from this surveillance via the post office.

I wrote the [AURA Board of Directors](http://www.aura-astronomy.org/governance.asp), the SOC provides independent management oversight and advocacy for the National Solar Observatory (NSO)., but did not receive any communication back from them.

**Marines Conducting Live Fire Drills in Syria With “Rebels”**

On Thursday an anti-Assad group in Syria's south confirmed to Reuters via its 'rebel' commander that **it is conducting rare military exercises with American forces** in order to "send a strong message to Russia and Iran that the Americans and the rebels intend to stay and confront any threats to their presence," according to a [new Reuters report](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-usa-rebels/us-marines-conduct-big-drills-with-rebels-in-southern-syria-idUSKCN1LT2V5).

The anti-Assad commander, Colonel Muhanad al Talaa, is part of the Pentagon-backed Maghawir al Thawra group now conducting eight days of "live-fire and ground assault" drills [that involve](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-usa-rebels/us-marines-conduct-big-drills-with-rebels-in-southern-syria-idUSKCN1LT2V5) **"hundreds" of U.S. troops and allied Syrian insurgents cooperating together**.

[](https://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/inline-images/Drills%20Tanf.jpg?itok=WnkvCGxX)

Official US defense media accounts released new photos showing the drills near At Tanf in action. via CENTCOM

“These exercises have a big importance and have beefed up the defenses of the area and raised the combat capabilities and morale and that of civilians in the area,” Talaa said in a statement from Tanf.

The US appears to be responding to the major Russian naval and amphibious assault drills along Syria's coast from last week. This also comes after Moscow **warned its forces could attack in the area near US-occupied At Tanf in pursuit of al-Qaeda linked jihadists** that Russia says hides out under US protected areas.

The U.S. military has said in recent statements that it is not seeking military confrontation with Russia, and a spokesman said US coalition commanders maintain “deconfliction” channels with Moscow's forces to prevent “miscommunication or escalate tension”.

[](https://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/inline-images/Drills%20Tanf%202.jpg?itok=HvTdsksY)

Part of the newly releasted photo set showing the drills near At Tanf in action. via CENTCOM

The 'rebel' commander now fighting alongside the Marines told [Reuters further that](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-usa-rebels/us-marines-conduct-big-drills-with-rebels-in-southern-syria-idUSKCN1LT2V5),***“We are staying whether the Russians or Iranians want or not.”***

“If Tehran does not respond to the demands of the Americans there is a big likelihood they will be hit. It’s inevitable the Iranians leave Syria. This should happen quickly and in a decisive way,” he added.

**Home Depot**

Ken Langone, co-founder of the home improvement retail chain Home Depot, joined Fox News host Neil Cavuto for an in-studio interview on Wednesday, and he had a rather pointed message for former President Barack Obama.

Cavuto and Langone [discussed a number of issues](http://www.foxnews.com/transcript/2018/09/12/ken-langone-on-preventing-hurricane-florence-price-gouging.html) during the conversation that included President Donald Trump’s election, the still ongoing special counsel investigation of Robert Mueller and the recent remarks made against Trump by Obama, who has re-emerged on the political scene to help his fellow Democrats ahead of the midterm elections.

Speaking about the current state of the economy, Cavuto mentioned that Obama had tried to [claim credit for the good economic news](https://www.westernjournal.com/ct/trump-unleashes-numbers-wizard-after-obama-says-booming-economy-belongs-to-him/), saying it was because of his policies, not the opposite policies put in place by Trump over the past two years.

With a dismissive wave of the hand, Langone said, “Forget about it. Obama ought to do what every other great president did, go off into the sunset … be the mother of the groom, wear beige and keep your mouth shut.”

In other words, keep quiet and allow Trump to do the job he was elected to do — for good or for bad — as former President George W. Bush did toward his successor, Obama, and as virtually every other president in this nation’s history has done.

Indeed, it has long been a tradition for former presidents to refrain from attacking or openly criticizing their successors, and for all of the talk about how Trump is breaking all of the “norms” of the prestigious executive office, few have mentioned the “norms” that have been violated by Obama.

“What I’m saying is that, like it or not, Trump’s base is rock-solid,” Langone said. “Donald Trump needs 15 percent of the voters to get re-elected in 2020. That 35 percent and everybody knows it is rock-solid.

“I would hope he would do things different than he does, but damn it, give the guy credit.”

He went on to mention the extraordinary progress that has been seen thus far via improved relations with North Korea, which didn’t display any missiles during a recent military parade, released Americans held hostage and returned the remains of U.S. soldiers killed during the Korean War.

Langone proceeded to suggest that it really didn’t matter if the media treated Trump fairly because Trump most likely didn’t care what the media had to say about him, as he knew what was true and what wasn’t.

“We live in the greatest country on Earth. And the American people spoke loud and clear,” he said. “The establishment is shocked that Donald Trump won. But he won. He won fair and square.

“I don’t — this Mueller investigation, come on, let’s end it. Let’s decide. Come out and say what you got.

“There’s a notion here this guy should not be president of the United States. I beg your pardon. He won fair and square. He won 307 electoral votes. He is our president. Respect the office of the presidency.”

Earlier in the interview, asked about the new anti-Trump book from famed Watergate journalist Bob Woodward and the anti-Trump anonymous Op-Ed in The New York Times, Langone said, “Well, I’m suspicious that we are getting close to a midterm election.

“And I’m also intrigued by the number of people that he cites in the book that have come out vocally and passionately saying, I didn’t say that. Come on.”

Asked if he didn’t believe the book’s claims, Langone replied, “I have to not believe it to the extent that Gen. (John) Kelly (the White House chief of staff) or Gen. (James) Mattis (the secretary of defense), whoever it is, comes out and said, ‘I didn’t say that, I said nothing like that, I don’t know where he got that.'”

Ken Langone was never what one would call a fan of Obama, but he always tried to stay respectful of the office and Obama’s position when criticizing his policies and agenda.

Some may think that Langone went too far in suggesting the former president “keep your mouth shut,” but there are plenty of Americans who would wholeheartedly agree that Obama’s time in the spotlight is over and he should allow his successor to govern as he sees fit, which Obama’s predecessor was kind enough to do.

**The Iphone Tesla Theft**

After several humiliating months for Elon Musk and Tesla, the company may have just set a new standard for embarrassing itself when one of its Model 3 vehicles was allegedly stolen from the Mall of America by a 21-year-old, using only his smartphone.

In what will likely come as a blow for confidence in Tesla's software security and deeply troubling set of circumstances for the folks at Tesla customer service, The Drive [reported](http://www.thedrive.com/tech/23599/tesla-stolen-from-mall-of-america-using-only-a-smartphone) that the car was stolen **after Tesla customer service, over the phone, reportedly "handed the thief the keys" by allowing him to add the car, by VIN number, to his Tesla account.**The alleged thief then **made it 1,000 miles** before being caught.

[](https://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/inline-images/model%203_0.png?itok=C2N3rFXP)

Once inside, the thief disabled the car's GPS tracking system and nearly got away scott-free. After stealing the vehicle, he was found days later in Waco, Texas and was only able to be tracked by monitoring where he was accessing Superchargers along the way. The Model 3 was owned by a Tesla rental company named Trevla, that has store space inside of the Mall of America. The alleged thief had rented vehicles from this company at least six times prior to the theft taking place and the owner of Trevla vaguely recalled that the same person had bragged in the past about how well he knew Tesla security systems. This made him a prime suspect after the vehicle was reported missing.

This leads to an obvious assumption: somebody who can disable Supercharger tracking, and who wouldn’t be foolish enough to brag about their ability to thwart Tesla security, may have easily gotten away with the theft.

But of course, just like in many Autopilot accidents, Tesla claims it was somebody else's fault - not theirs. Tesla claimed to [electrek](https://electrek.co/2018/09/06/tesla-model-3-rental-stolen-key/) that **the thief had already authenticated the car through his smartphone prior, ostensibly during a time that he had rented it in the past.**This would shift the blame to the rental company. However, the owner of the rental company said that this wasn’t the case, and that he had disabled access to the vehicle after the alleged thief's prior rental. **This would shift the blame back to Tesla.**

To us, this sounds like Tesla is trying to cover up the fact that its "secure" and "convenient" method for allowing people to access their vehicles actually just makes them easy targets to be stolen.

The primary way that customers get into and drive their Model 3s is by using a smartphone. There is a back up key card that can also be used in case of emergencies. But as of now, Tesla owners need to make peace with the fact that apparently any person who is capable of calling Tesla customer service and simply lying to them may be able to steal their vehicles.

Tesla has been trying to stave off occurrences of theft by adding a PIN number that drivers must use in order to drive a vehicle. Instead, this just adds another step for drivers before they can get on the road - and it seems to make the "convenience" of accessing your car with a smartphone pointless, in what appears to be yet another dead-end "innovation" from the Tesla path-forgers.

**The Arrests**

It’s the one question on everyone’s minds. When will the arrests, associated with 51 thousand sealed indictments begin? By the way, the normal amount of sealed indictments per year is about 1,000. Why are they sealed? Two reasons. The first is that there are others they wish to indict, but that evidence has not been reviewed yet by the Grand Jury, so they don’t want to alert the persons of interest. Second, they are searching for more evidence to go with the indictment to make the strongest conviction possible.

Oh, there is one more reason they are sealed. The target of the indictment may be willing to turn State’s evidence to turn in criminal activity higher in the chain of authority. Call it narcing to save your butt. Now, when will the arrests begin?

Something rarely brought up by our utterly useless but still corrupt establishment media is that in order for someone to “flip,” that someone has to have the goods on someone else. In other words, if you want to deal your way out of prison time, you have to have something to deal with; you actually have to serve someone’s head up on a platter.

Nevertheless, all throughout the Russian Collusion Hoax, and every time someone agrees to “cooperate” with Mueller, the media squeeze like the 14-year-old girls they all are and then intentionally mislead the public by matter-of-factly saying, “This is bad news for Trump.”

Well, no, actually it is not.

The only way someone “flipping” is bad news for Trump is if he has indeed done something illegal, and as of right now, after nearly three years of 24/7 scrutiny at the hands of a beyond-corrupt FBI, two years of scrutiny from a rabidly partisan media, two congressional investigations, and 18 months of an unaccountable fishing expedition by a herd of Democrat Dirty Cops in the special counsel office, they got exactly zippo.

In other words, so far none of these so-called flippers has flipped on Trump. One wonders how many other politicians could weather the kind of scrutiny Trump is facing. Hell, one wonders how many so-called journalists could survive this kind of risk.

Answer: not many.

Sure, the Resistance desperately holds on to the hope Mueller is sitting on a bombshell, but another interesting factoid the media only dutifully reported is that Mueller has agreed to accept written answers from Trump on the issue of collusion and is not asking any questions about the media’s other hoax — obstruction.

This is a massive climb down on Mueller’s part, a special counsel who has so far only indicted people for committing the terrible crime of “associating with Trump” — meaning, process crimes (lying to authorities \*yawn\*) and old crimes that have nothing to do with Trump (crimes no one was interested in before the aforementioned Trump association).

Then there is the matter of leaks. Does anyone honestly believe evidence of Trump committing a crime would not have leaked by now? But guess what has leaked? Oh, sure, in-between the 24/7 partisan wish-casting coming from the media about Manafort “flipping” on Trump, there has been some dutiful coverage about what the Manafort deal might really mean, and the news is not good for Democrats.

Ken Vogel, a Democrat-operative who plays the role of “reporter” at the far-left New York Times, has been forced to report that powerful Democrats linked to Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama might be in the Mueller crosshairs.

“Podesta” as in Tony Podesta, brother of John Podesta, who served as Hillary Clinton’s 2016 campaign chairman in named in Kenneth Vogel tweets.

TWEET: BAD FOR GREG CRAIG: His white shoe law firm @SKADDEN\_ARPS accepted $4M from MANAFORT through overseas accounts to write whitewash report on YANOKOVYCH while privately expressing doubts about the report & also secretly working more broadly for Yanukovych's pro-Russian regime. pic.twitter.com/j6puIgZwdY

That is “Greg Craig” as in “Greg Craig former White House Counsel to … Barack Obama.”

Naturally, like the good little Democrat he is, Vogel is already trying to rescue Podesta, but here we are, 18 months into the Mueller investigation, two years into the media investigations, and nearly three years into the breathtakingly corrupt FBI’s investigations, and they got nothing.

Wouldn’t it be something if, like the #MeToo movement, this whole Russian Collusion Hoax blew up in the smug face of Democrats?

#MeToo was all about taking down Trump, about making the misconduct allegations against him so toxic he would be forced to resign. But the only people who have lost their reputations and careers are some 150 members of two of the most left-wing institutions in America — the establishment media and Hollywood.

For his part, Mueller has to justify the fact he has allowed a cloud to hang over the presidency for 18 months. What if his only way to do that is to bring down powerful Democrats? What if the only way for Mueller to fold-up his witch hunt with any dignity is with the head of a Podesta on that platter?

In a way this has already happened. While Trump sits in the Oval Office, it is former FBI Director James Comey who is unemployed and disgraced, as are some half-dozen of his hideous cronies. Well, as a failed president likes to say when he misquotes Rev. Martin Luther King, “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.”

Justice is craved by the right and feared by the left.

**Asst US Attorneys Hired to 300% of Normal**

Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced Monday the Justice Department will hire 300 additional prosecutors to bolster its efforts against illegal immigration and spiraling opioid abuse.

“In the largest increase in decades, the Department of Justice is allocating 311 new Assistant United States Attorneys to assist in priority areas. Those allocations are as follows: 190 violent crime prosecutors, 86 civil enforcement prosecutors, and 35 additional immigration prosecutors,” the Justice Department said in a statement.

“The Eastern District of New York and Puerto Rico will each receive the largest allocation of assistant U.S. attorneys focused on violent crime with five each, the Justice Department said. An additional 12 districts, including the Northern District of Illinois, Southern District of New York, Southern District of Ohio, and the Northern District of Texas, will each receive four new violent crime prosecutors,” The Washington Times reports.

“Under President Trump’s strong leadership, the Department of Justice is going on offense against violent crime, illegal immigration, and the opioid crisis—and today we are sending in reinforcements,” the Attorney General said.

“We have a saying in my office that a new federal prosecutor is ‘the coin of the realm.’ When we can eliminate wasteful spending, one of my first questions to my staff is if we can deploy more prosecutors to where they are needed. I have personally worked to re-purpose existing funds to support this critical mission, and as a former federal prosecutor myself, my expectations could not be higher. These exceptional and talented prosecutors are key leaders in our crime fighting partnership. This addition of new Assistant U.S. Attorney positions represents the largest increase in decades.”

The Justice Department, which cut over $702 million from its budget in 2018, will spend nearly $72 million to hire the new U.S. Attorneys. The announcement comes amid ongoing criticism directed at Attorney General Sessions, whom President Donald Trump said last Wednesday he regretted nominating to lead the agency.

President Trump is playing 5-D chess here. Publicly, he criticizes the Alabama bulldog, Sessions. 100 million Americans have a level of frustration building like at no time in American history. Sessions moves silently, the way a good AG is supposed to move. We are so used to the Democrat grandstanders like Lynch and WithHolder that we are uneasy when a ship runs this deep and this silent.

But trust me. Trust me. You do trust me, I know you do. The target is in sight. When the first salvo is launched, this war will go hot. Are you ready for the conflict? You say you are, but sometimes peace at any cost is the path we truly desire.

**The Trump Effect**

What does any good CEO do when he comes aboard a sinking company? He audits everything to find out where the leaks are. Guess what? Without a leak. Without a single news story. The audits are taking place. The results are exactly what we have been saying for 14 years on this program.

The Agencies, departments, bureaus, and administrations have been laundering hundreds of billions of dollars of taxpayer dollars into the pockets of the Democrats and their supporters. What you are about to hear are the results of the IG audit of these agencies.

Between October 1, 2017–March 31, 2018 something very interesting was happening.

The IG was AUDITING THE TREASURY!

This was a SEMI ANNUAL audit. There’s another one going on right now. In the first audit, the work by the Office of Investigations resulted in 33 arrests, 35 indictments, and 21 convictions. What else was in the Report the IG handed to Congress?

🚨The United States MINT GOT AUDITED!😲

👉Financial Management: Audit of the United States Mint’s Schedules of Custodial Deep Storage Gold and Silver Reserves as of September 30, 2017 and 2016 (OIG-18-003, 10/24/2017

🚨The GOLD RESERVES GOT AUDITED!😲

👉Financial Management: Audit of the Department of the Treasury’s Schedules of United States Gold Reserves Held by Federal Reserve Banks as of September 30, 2017 and 2016 (OIG-18-007, 10/31/2017)

That’s not all this Report tells us.

THE IG CAUGHT A LEAKER TOO.

“The complainant alleged that a senior staff member at a Treasury bureau may have released information regarding the existence of a DOJ and Treasury OIG investigation.”

💥Substantiated and Referred to DOJ for Prosecution💥

WHO instructed all these Audits to take place?

Trump’s giant killer. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin👊

All this was going on AND NO ONE KNEW ABOUT IT.

The Swamp IS being drained! First you have to discover the crime, then you deal the punishment. It’s ALL getting cleaned up, one Department at a time.

Just like Candidate Trump said…’EVERY DEPARTMENT WILL BE AUDITED’.👊

**First up, The SNAP Program**

The first example of FRAUD the IG reported was 1 Convenience store trafficked MORE THAN 3.4 MILLION in SNAP Benefits in one year. 1 STORE!! In U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, the owners of a convenience store in Orlando, Florida, were sentenced in December 2017 for trafficking SNAP benefits. The investigation disclosed that the two owners gave customers cash, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco products in exchange for SNAP benefits. The owners pled guilty to wire fraud and were sentenced to 33 months in prison, followed by 24 months of supervised release. They were also ordered to pay joint restitution totaling $3.4 million.

**Next up, The RMA Crop Insurance Program**

👉We reviewed the adequacy of a pilot program that delivers crop insurance for pistachios based on actual production history. We found that four of the five producer claim files from one approved insurance provider (AIP) did not contain the required evidence to support the paid insurance indemnities. As a result, we found that nearly $7.7 million of indemnity payments paid to these four producers were questionable. 😲

**Next up, The USDA**

👉An investigation into construction contracts issued under programs designed to create set-aside Federal contracts for small businesses uncovered a massive fraud scheme in South Carolina. Using political nominee owners, the subjects of this investigation conspired to create seemingly eligible contractors that actually operated under the control of a few ineligible businesses. They received more than $165 million in set-aside contracts to which they were not entitled from USDA, the Department of Defense, and other Federal agencies.

In total, seven individuals and two companies were indicted for varying offenses including misprision of felony, wire fraud, conspiracy, false statements, and major fraud against the Government.

A Federal Grand Jury in the District of New Mexico indicted a former Sandia National Laboratories contractor procurement officer on one count of Major Fraud against the United States, three counts of Wire Fraud, and seven counts of Money Laundering.

**The Dept of Energy**

During the 8 years of the Obama Administration, 91% of more than $100 billion in taxpayer stimulus funding was routed to donors, bundlers, or organizer’s supporting the DNC. In exchange, those companies returned approximately 10% of those funds to the DNC. The audit has tapped into the tip of the iceberg:

During this Audit period, the IG opened 54 investigative cases, closed 83 investigative cases, referred 97 subjects for criminal prosecution, and helped obtain 35 convictions. Civil, criminal, and other monetary recoveries resulting from our investigations totaled over $97 million.

**The EPA**

The IG finished it’s Semi Annual Report on the EPA from the Period of Oct 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018.The Audit found $374,664,113 in WASTE AND FRAUD OVER A 2 YEAR PERIOD!

The IG found the EPA ILLEGALLY Paid $1.5 Million for Subsidized and Unoccupied Parking Spaces Over a 2-Year Period in MULTIPLE CITIES. YES, you read that right. The EPA WAS PAYING FOR PARKING SPACES IT NEVER USED. Which cities? You guessed it. All Democrat controlled cities.

The IG found the EPA WAS NOT REQUIRING CONTRACTORS TO CARRY INSURANCE!

So, if a contractor has ANY kind of a spill, it could simply default and walk away, leaving the TAXPAYERS TO FOOT THE CLEAN UP BILL.

✅ The IG recommended 367 people for Federal Prosecution.

**The USPS**

The US Post Office handles all the absentee ballots for the elections. All elections. . Election fraud can encompass many aspects, from voting Illegally, to ‘losing’ votes mailed in, to ‘suddenly finding votes, etc.

I bet the USPS NEVER expected to be scrutinized SO CLOSELY by IG Horowitz.

Horowitz, responding to Session’s request to investigate HOW THE USPS HANDLES….ELECTION MAIL Horowitz randomly chose just six mail processing facilities that were processing election and political mail for five special elections held on January 16 and January 23, 2018.

The sites we selected were the Milwaukee, WI, Pittsburgh, PA, and St. Paul, MN, Processing and Distribution Centers (P&DC); the Charleston, SC, Processing and Distribution Facility (P&DF); and the St. Paul, MN, and Pittsburgh, PA, Network Distribution Centers (NDC). We also observed Business Mail Entry Unit (BMEU) operations at the Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, and St. Paul P&DCs and the Charleston P&DF.

Ready to be Horrified?

Here’s an example how Election Mail is handled:

We found election and political mail processing errors at three of the six sites we visited:

■ St. Paul NDC employees moved political mail to the P&DC staging area without telling P&DC management about the transfer. Other mail was staged in front of it, which caused the political mail not to be seen and expedited. In other words, Republican votes are left on the dock and NOT COUNTED in the tally. Since they are late arriving, they are not included in the election results.

■ There was a sort plan error at the Charleston P&DF that caused additional manual sorting of election mail at the delivery station. In other words, election-related mail was misrouted by design to places other than the election board of that State.

■ An employee at the Milwaukee P&DC removed ballots from automated mail processing because he believed the equipment would damage the mail. We brought these issues to the attention of local management, who immediately corrected them during our site visits. The mail was never validated.

It get’s worse. The Managers CLAIM they don’t know when Special Election’s are being held, despite numerous notifications and alerts that the increase in election-related mail was coming and when to expect it.

👉Finding #1: Lack of Readiness for the January 2018 Special Elections

We found that communication between headquarters and the mail processing facilities needed improvement. Specifically, plant managers at the six mail processing facilities we visited and seven of the eight election and political mail coordinators we interviewed said that headquarters did not notify them of the special elections in their processing service areas.

👉The managers and coordinators testified during the audit that they first learned of these elections from our auditors. That’s right. They said they never knew the election took place.

👉The Manager, Operations and Integration Support, notified mail processing facilities about the special elections by email on January 18, 2018, after the start of our field work and the special elections.

EXPECT HUGE CHANGES AT USPS!!!

**Elizabeth Warren’s Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).**

**Mick Mulvaney, acting director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, fired the agency’s 25-member advisory board Wednesday, days after some of its members criticized his leadership of the watchdog agency.**

This report backs up numerous claims that the CFPB is rife with fraud and NO OVERSIGHT of the entities in which they are to monitor.

👉The bureau’s examiners observed various deceptive and unfair acts or practices by credit servicers, including repossessing vehicles after the repossession was supposed to be canceled, or sloppy billing practices that caused consumers to be late on payments.

👉In the home mortgage servicing sector, unfair practices were found in loan modifications and foreclosure initiations, the CFPB said.

👉In payday lending, examinations uncovered violations such as sending out misleading collection letters and debiting consumers’ accounts without valid authorization. The other industries highlighted in the 22-page report included credit cards, debt collection and small-business lending.

Now. Is it still a mystery as to WHY Mulvaney fired the ENTIRE 25 MEMBER BOARD?

Pay is flowing so generously at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) that hundreds of bureaucrats there receive more than most members of Congress. The Senate majority and minority leaders are paid $193,000 annually. Two hundred and one CFPB employees outdo Sens. Mitch McConnell and Charles Schumer in pay.

Speaker of the House Paul Ryan of Wisconsin receives $223,000 per year, but that’s less than what 54 CFPB employees are paid.

Another 170 CFPB employees earn more than the secretaries of defense and state, the attorney general and the director of national intelligence. All cabinet salaries are capped at $199,700. That doesn’t sound too bad for the people that have the entire government on their shoulders. Even managers are Fortune 500 companies make more than this.

Thirty-nine CFPB employees earn more than the $230,000 paid to Vice President Mike Pence.

Now, let’s see what Elizabeth Warren pays her hit squad that shakes down major Conservative companies in the form of fines, the funds from which are funneled to PACs and Liberal action groups who require money for signs, lawyers, and transportation to get protestors to Trump rallies.

A total of 198 CFPB employees also earn more than their ultimate boss, Federal Reserve Chairwoman Janet Yellin, who is paid $201,700. Overall, 449 CFPB employees get at least $100,000 per year and 228 CFPB are paid more than $200,000, according to publicly available 2016 data.

The Bureau and the DOJ built a huge the Obama Administration funneled billions of dollars to left-wing activist groups—such as the National Council of La Raza, National Urban League and National Community Reinvestment Coalition—through a slush fund scheme of the Department of Justice.

"Findings spearheaded by the House Judiciary Committee point to a process shrouded in secrecy whereby monies were distributed to a labyrinth of nonprofit organizations involved with grass-roots activism," reports Fox.

"Advocates for big government and progressive power are using the Justice Department to extort money from corporations," Tom Fitton of Judicial Watch told Fox. "It’s a shakedown. It’s corrupt, pure and simple."

Fitton would also suggest that these "spontaneous" protests sprouting up at town halls and elsewhere are connected to the left's massive infrastructure, created in part by Obama's slush fund at the DOJ.

"The protests are as organic as a plastic cup," he said. "There is a massive left-wing infrastructure in place trying to protect the monstrous government created by the Obama administration."

Here's essentially how the "shakedown" works, as outlined by Fox:

When big banks are sued by the government for discrimination or mortgage abuse, they can settle the cases by donating to third-party non-victims. The settlements do not specify how these third-party groups could use the windfall.

So far, investigators have accounted for $3 billion paid to “non-victim entities.”

Critics say banks are incentivized to donate the funds to non-profits rather than giving it to consumers.

As noted by the Competitive Enterprise Institute Center for Class Action Fairness Director Ted Frank, DOJ officials are essentially going after corporate defenders to "to fund their pet projects."

"The underlying problem with the slush funds is we don’t know exactly where the money is going," said Frank. "Using enforcement authority to go after corporate defendants, DOJ bureaucrats are taking billions away from taxpayers to fund their pet projects overriding congressional preferences."

Although the DOJ claims it's perfectly lawful to bypass the Treasury Department since the banks are voluntarily donating, Frank agues that bypass of the department "subverts the legislative branch’s essential spending power." Not to mention, critics have suggested the "voluntary" donations come attached with incentives and pressure.

"This is real abuse of power," insisted Frank.

"Congress allotted $47 million for the HUD Housing Counseling, but the Citi and Bank of America settlements shipped in an additional $30 million in funding," in the FY16 Enacted Congressional Appropriation, outlines Fox as an example. "The Legal Services Corporation was allocated $385 million from Congress but is getting an additional $412 million in taxpayer dollars from the third-party settlement practice."

Moreover, in a recent Volkswagen settlement, a $1.2 billion investment into zero emission technology requirement "was not only twice denied by Congress but is now expected to receive four times the amount originally requested by the Obama administration."

Republicans argue this alleged abuse of power should be a bipartisan issue.

"Democrats thought it was an attack on Obama," said Republican Oklahoma Senator James Lankford. "This is not a Republican or Democrat issue, but one of good government. Actions settled by the federal government should go back to the federal government, back to the taxpayer."

Legislation, called Stop Settlement Slush Fund Act of 2017, has been introduced by Lankford to address the scheme.

"Congress must permanently end the abuses Obama’s Justice Department exploited to use settlements to funnel money to their liberal friends," said House Judiciary Chairman Bob Goodlatte, a Republican representing Virginia.

Why couldn’t Congress stop this group of criminals operating with impunity inside our government?

**Elizabeth Warren set up the bureau to operate above any oversight. Additionally, the bureau was placed under spending authority of the federal reserve. The CFPB gets it’s operating budget from the Federal Reserve, not from congress. Again, this was set-up to keep congress from defunding the agency as a way to remove it.**

**Most likely President Trump will not appoint a replacement until Mulvaney has exposed the corruption within it. That sunlight is toxic to Elizabeth Warren and can potentially be politically destructive to the Democrats. If the secrets within the bureau are revealed, there’s a greater likelihood the bureau will be dissolved.**

**There are billions of scheme and graft at stake. Within the record-keeping there are more than likely dozens of progressive organizations being financed by the secret enterprise. That’s the risk to the SWAMP.**

The Director enjoys significantly more unilateral power than any single member of any other independent agency. By “unilateral power,” we mean power that is not checked by the President or by other colleagues. Indeed, other than the President, the Director of the CFPB is the single most powerful official in the entire United States Government, at least when measured in terms of unilateral power.

The court then goes on to proclaim that the director of the CFPB is given more power and autonomy than the speaker of the house, senate majority leader, or even a Supreme Court justice.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau—which was brainchild of Senator Elizabeth Warren—was created in the wake of the financial crisis by the Dodd-Frank Act, the legislation meant to reform the financial sector and protect the public from predatory and dangerous practices. They are largely responsible for the evaporation of startup businesses in the USA. America is currently at its lowest level of startups than at any time since records have been kept.

**The Google Giant**

When you search for something, you Google. Everyone does. Well, they do now. It used to be Alta Vista. It used to be AOL. It used to be a wild wild West of search engines that crawled the web looking for everything for you. Otherwise, you would have to know the exact address of the site you wanted to visit. You would have to have a phone book. Of course.

The fastest draw won all the fights, and Google came out on top. They are now the most powerful search engine on Earth. Now, what to do with all that power? Manipulate the results, of course.

The search engine, codenamed Dragonfly, revolves around the Android platform and is designed to remove content deemed by government officials to be sensitive or offensive - such as information about protests, free speech, political dissidents, democracy and human rights violations.

Sources familiar with the project said that prototypes of the search engine linked the search app on a user’s Android smartphone with their phone number. This means individual people’s searches could be easily tracked – and any user seeking out information banned by the government could potentially be at risk of interrogation or detention if security agencies were to obtain the search records from Google.

The search platform also appeared to have been tailored to replace weather and air pollution data with information provided directly by an unnamed source in Beijing. The Chinese government has a record of manipulating details about pollution in the country’s cities. One Google source said the company had built a system, integrated as part of Dragonfly, that was “essentially hardcoded to force their [Chinese-provided] data.” -The Intercept

"This is very problematic from a privacy point of view, because it would allow far more detailed tracking and profiling of people’s behavior," says Human Rights Watch senior internet research Cynthia Wong. "Linking searches to a phone number would make it much harder for people to avoid the kind of overreaching government surveillance that is pervasive in China."

Human rights groups have slammed Dragonfly, insisting that it could result in Google "directly contributing to, or [becoming] complicit in, human rights violations."

Google engineers agree - and they've been resigning over the ethical concerns with the project

Approximately 1,400 Google employees have signed a letter circulating within the company, asking executives to explain exactly what the hell is going on.

"As a company and as individuals we have a responsibility to use this power to better the world, not to support social control, violence, and oppression," the letter reads. "What is clear is that Ethical Principles on paper are not enough to ensure ethical decision making. We need transparency, oversight, and accountability mechanisms sufficient to allow informed ethical choice and deliberation across the company."

And as The Intercept noted on Thursday, senior Google research scientist Jack Poulson quit over the project, saying that the project violates the company's artificial intelligence principles, which state that Google won't create technologies "whose purpose contravenes widely accepted principles of international law and human rights."

In early August, Poulson raised concerns with his managers at Google after The Intercept revealed that the internet giant was secretly developing a Chinese search app for Android devices. The search system, code-named Dragonfly, was designed to remove content that China’s authoritarian government views as sensitive, such as information about political dissidents, free speech, democracy, human rights, and peaceful protest.

After entering into discussions with his bosses, Poulson decided in mid-August that he could no longer work for Google. He tendered his resignation and his last day at the company was August 31.

"I’m offended that no weight has been given to the human rights community having a consensus," said Poulson. "If you have coalition letter from 14 human rights organizations, and that can’t even make it into the discussions on the ethics behind a decision, I’d rather stand with the human rights organizations in this dispute."

And Poulson isn't the only one... six other employees have reportedly quit over Dragonfly, as reported by BuzzFeed News.

While current employees declined to provide the list itself or to specify most of the names on it, three sources familiar with the matter confirmed the existence of the list, which is made up largely of software engineers whose experience at Google ranges between one and 11 years. Google declined to comment on the list.

The revelation of Dragonfly provoked an immediate backlash within the company’s rank and file, who have high expectations for transparency from executives because of Google’s stated corporate values. One employee who’d been asked to work on the project decided to quit, another transferred teams, and internal forums were flooded with thousands of posts, comments, and emails debating the ethics of the project. It is of no consequence at all. India has more honor students in Information Technology than America has students. The escapees will be replaced with genius-level techs who will work for 10% of the wage and deliver the code the Google Giant wants.

Right now, you have a choice. Choose well. DogPile is the search engine I use. I will promote any search engine except Google and Yahoo. Send them along.

**Treason: The Charm of Favor**

Kerry spoke with a calm voice. At the end of a week in which former Secretary of State John Kerry's unauthorized meetings with top Iranian officials have taken center stage, and in which both President Trump and current Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have publicly thrashed Kerry's "unheard of" and "illegal meetings" with Iran that "undercut" the White House, Kerry has gone on his own anti-Trump rant.

Appearing on HBO’s Real Time with Bill Maher Friday night, Kerry slammed the president as having "the maturity of an 8-year-old boy with the insecurity of a teenage girl" in remarks that are sure to continue the ongoing war of words. Kerry has come under fire for discussing the Iran nuclear deal behind Trump's back. Is he afraid? Not at all. He has the Charm of Favor cloaked around him by Lucifer himself.

Bill Maher and his audience ate it up as Kerry is on a media tour selling his newly published memoir, Every Day is Extra, and Kerry will likely milk as much of the attention as he can from his spat with Trump.

“He’s the first president that I know of who spends more time reading his Twitter ‘likes’ than his briefing books or the constitution of the United States,” Kerry said on the HBO show.

Trump further hinted that Kerry violated the Logan Act by rhetorically asking whether Kerry is officially registered as a foreign agent.

“John Kerry had illegal meetings with the very hostile Iranian Regime, which can only serve to undercut our great work to the detriment of the American people. He told them to wait out the Trump Administration! Was he registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act? BAD!”

The Fake Stream News Media keeps pounding out that Kerry is a private citizen peddling a book in an extremely noisy market. He’s not gonna generate any buzz by taking the high road. The truth is that he is NOT just a private citizen. He is the Former Secretary of State and still has a top security clearance. He is actively funding, aiding, and abetting the enemy of America responsible for more deaths of Americans in the last 20 years than any other nation.

When asked about the White House's potential threats of legal inquiry into the meetings, Kerry flippantly dismissed: “There’s nothing unusual about it. The conversation he really ought to be worrying about is Paul Manafort with Mueller. Unfortunately, we have a president, literally, for whom the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth is three different things, and you don’t even know what they are.”

Hundreds of millions of Americans know this is treason. This is the clearest, most stark offense that the Founding Fathers tried to prevent with the Logan Act. John Kerry should be indicted. His house, office, foundation, and bank accounts should be raided immediately and searched for evidence of selling American secrets to our enemies to make himself rich and to overthrow the American government in the process. If this does not happen, then the Logan Act should be erased forever, because there will never be a better court precedent that this.

Oh, one more thing. Kerry and McCain were the ones who started the riots that took down Yanukovich in Ukraine for refusing to sign the loan documents that would have plunged the country into debt to the World Bank. The result was worth billions to Kerry and McCain. There’s more. Greg Craig, former president Barack Obama‘s very first White House counsel, has retained a lawyer of his own. The move comes as federal prosecutors in the Southern District of New York (SDNY) weigh charges against Craig and other high-profile Democratic Party influence peddlers after special counsel Robert Mueller referred the cases to the U.S. Attorney’s Office in southern Manhattan.

As reported by the National Law Journal, Craig is now represented by William Taylor III, a founding member of the elite Zuckerman Spaeder law firm, which is based out of Washington, D.C.

Craig himself is a former counsel at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, another high-priced mega law enterprise which has been described as “Wall Street’s most powerful law firm.”

Skadden Arps also once employed a direct target of Mueller’s wide-ranging Russia probe–convicted felon Alex Van Der Zwaan, the Dutch-born attorney who pleaded guilty to lying to federal investigators and who was the first person sentenced in the special counsel’s increasingly corruption-focused dragnet.

Craig is currently under scrutiny as part of the SDNY’s investigation into whether he improperly failed to register as a foreign agent under the federal Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA). Notably, Paul Manafort pleaded guilty to a similar violation of the FARA statute in a superseding indictment released on Friday morning by the special counsel’s office. Are you getting an idea what deal Manafort made?

In terse comments to the National Law Journal, Taylor said, “Greg Craig was not required to register under the Foreign Agents Registration Act.”

According to CNN, Skadden Arps itself is also caught up in the SDNY’s probe though it’s presently unclear whether Mueller’s army of attorneys still have their sights set on anyone at the firm. The specific allegations of wrongdoing leveled at Skadden Arps are related to their role in Manafort’s Ukrainian lobbying. To wit, the production of a since-discredited report defending the imprisonment of former Ukrainian prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko by then-president Viktor Yanukovych–one of Manafort’s longtime clients in Ukraine. She was freed when Yanukovych was run out of town by Kerry Na McCain’s riots.

I think that there is a feint that prosecutors are likely to issue the legal equivalent of a slap on the wrist by working with the firm. The FBI does not do civil cases.

At the time, Mueller also referred an investigation into longtime Democratic Party lobbyist and influence peddler Tony Podesta, who co-founded the Podesta Group lobbying firm with his brother John Podesta, an influential member of pro-Democratic Party think tank the Center for American Progress and chair of Hillary Clinton‘s 2016 presidential campaign.

The potential wrongdoing in the Podesta case is integral to the Ukrainian lobbying work and the riots to destroy the work Manafort was doing to support Ukraine with investments in the US.

According to court filings, two companies–referred to as Company A and Company B–were hired “to lobby in the United States on behalf of President Yanukovych, [the pro-Russian] Party of Regions and the Government of Ukraine.” A lobbying firm owned by superlobbyist Democrat Tony Podesta worked directly with Paul Manafort regarding the direction of the Ukrainian government, this according to an indictment released on Friday. This indictment says that part of Manafort’s “lobbying scheme” includes that of soliciting two firms in February 2012 on behalf of then-Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych.

This indict has been released ahead of the expected and much-anticipated plea deal for Manafort. He was convicted in federal court in Virginia on Aug. 21 on bank fraud, tax fraud and money laundering charges.

“Various employees of Companies A and B understood that they were receiving direction from MANAFORT and President Yanukovych, not the Centre, which was not even operational when Companies A and B began lobbying for Ukraine,” reads the indictment. The Centre is a reference to the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine, a Brussels-based non-profit that the government says was used to support Yanukovych.

One company has been identified as Mercury Public Affairs, which is a lobbying firm operated by now-former Republican Rep. Vin Weber, and the other being that of the Podesta group which was founded by DNC’s John Podesta’s brother, Tony… John is the chair.

Nobody from Podesta Group or Mercury Public Affairs has faced charges in the case, though the latest indictment suggests that the lobbying firms skirted federal law by failing to register as foreign agents with the Department of Justice (DOJ). According to the indictment, Manafort knowingly avoided registering with the DOJ and lied to the government about his work for Yanukovych, who was forced to leave office in 2014.

The indictment lays out evidence that Manafort, his business partner Rick Gates, and employees at Mercury Public Affairs and the Podesta Group were aware they were working for Yanukovych. The head of Company B, believed to be Podesta, told his employees “to think the President of Ukraine ‘is the client.’”

The indictment also cites evidence that an employee of the Podesta Group realized the European Centre for a Modern Ukraine was being used as cover for Yanukovych.

**Gun Control Update**

A man in a bandana was killed a late night shootout at a Whataburger in Southwest Houston after walking in to the fast food restaurant and starting shooting, witnesses said.

The man, whose identity has not been released, walked into the restaurant at 7629 W Bellfort about 1:00 a.m. Saturday, possibly to rob the store and started shooting.

"As he came in, he pointed at me then he started shooting," said Dorian Johnson, a 16-year-old who was in the restaurant.

Witnesses said the security guard returned fire, hitting the man who fled the restaurant. He died in the parking lot while trying to get to his car. Some witnesses said the man was not trying to rob the restaurant, but was there to kill someone.

My question is why was there an armed security guard at a Whataburger at 1:00 AM? If he was in uniform, why wasn’t he a deterrent to this kind of violence? Oh yeah. It was Texas. ‘nuff said.

**As Discussed in the Bearth Trilogy**

In another prophetic revelation in the Bearth Trilogy, the reasons why General George Patton was assassinated—that’s right I said assassinated—were revealed by President Robert Riker. If you have not read the book, you need to. Here is the deathbed confession of the assassin.

The newly unearthed diaries of a colourful assassin for the wartime Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the forerunner of the CIA, reveal that American spy chiefs wanted Patton dead because he was threatening to expose allied collusion with the Russians that cost American lives.

The death of General Patton in December 1945, is one of the enduring mysteries of the war era. Although he had suffered serious injuries in a car crash in Manheim, he was thought to be recovering and was on the verge of flying home.

But after a decade-long investigation, military historian Robert Wilcox claims that OSS head General "Wild Bill" Donovan ordered a highly decorated marksman called Douglas Bazata to silence Patton, who gloried in the nickname "Old Blood and Guts"

His book, "Target Patton", contains interviews with Mr Bazata, who died in 1999, and extracts from his diaries, detailing how he staged the car crash by getting a troop truck to plough into Patton's Cadillac and then shot the general with a low-velocity projectile, which broke his neck while his fellow passengers escaped without a scratch.

Mr Bazata also suggested that when Patton began to recover from his injuries, US officials turned a blind eye as agents of the NKVD, the forerunner of the KGB, poisoned the general.

Mr Wilcox told *The Sunday Telegraph* that when he spoke to Mr Bazata: "He was struggling with himself, all these killings he had done. He confessed to me that he had caused the accident, that he was ordered to do so by Wild Bill Donovan.

"Donovan told him: 'We've got a terrible situation with this great patriot, he's out of control and we must save him from himself and from ruining everything the allies have done.' I believe Douglas Bazata. He's a sterling guy."

Mr Bazata led an extraordinary life. He was a member of the Jedburghs, the elite unit who parachuted into France to help organise the Resistance in the run up to D-Day in 1944. He earned four purple hearts, a Distinguished Service Cross and the French Croix de Guerre three times over for his efforts.

After the war he became a celebrated artist who enjoyed the patronage of Princess Grace of Monaco and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

He was friends with Salvador Dali, who painted a portrait of Bazata as Don Quixote.

He ended his career as an aide to President Ronald Reagan's Navy Secretary John Lehman, a member of the 9/11 Commission and adviser to John McCain's presidential campaign.

Mr Wilcox also tracked down and interviewed Stephen Skubik, an officer in the Counter-Intelligence Corps of the US Army, who said he learnt that Patton was on Stalin's death list. Skubik repeatedly alerted Donovan, who simply had him sent back to the US.

"You have two strong witnesses here," Mr Wilcox said. "The evidence is that the Russians finished the job."

The scenario sounds far fetched but Mr Wilcox has assembled a compelling case that US officials had something to hide. At least five documents relating to the car accident have been removed from US archives.

The driver of the truck was whisked away to London before he could be questioned and no autopsy was performed on Patton's body.

With the help of a Cadillac expert from Detroit, Mr Wilcox has proved that the car on display in the Patton museum at Fort Knox is not the one Patton was driving.

"That is a cover-up," Mr Wilcox said.

George Patton, a dynamic controversialist who wore ivory-handled revolvers on each hip and was the subject of an Oscar winning film starring George C. Scott, commanded the US 3rd Army, which cut a swathe through France after D-Day.

But his ambition to get to Berlin before Soviet forces was thwarted by supreme allied commander Dwight D. Eisenhower, who gave Patton's petrol supplies to the more cautious British General Bernard Montgomery.

Patton, who distrusted the Russians, believed Eisenhower wrongly prevented him closing the so-called Falaise Gap in the autumn of 1944, allowing hundreds of thousands of German troops to escape to fight again,. This led to the deaths of thousands of Americans during their winter counter-offensive that became known as the Battle of the Bulge.

In order to placate Stalin, the 3rd Army was also ordered to a halt as it reached the German border and was prevented from seizing either Berlin or Prague, moves that could have prevented Soviet domination of Eastern Europe after the war.

Mr Wilcox told *The Sunday Telegraph*: "Patton was going to resign from the Army. He wanted to go to war with the Russians. The administration thought he was nuts.

"He also knew secrets of the war which would have ruined careers.

I don't think Dwight Eisenhower would ever have been elected president if Patton had lived to say the things he wanted to say." Mr Wilcox added: "I think there's enough evidence here that if I were to go to a grand jury I could probably get an indictment, but perhaps not a conviction."

Charles Province, President of the George S. Patton Historical Society, said he hopes the book will lead to definitive proof of the plot being uncovered. He said: "There were a lot of people who were pretty damn glad that Patton died. He was going to really open the door on a lot of things that they screwed up over there."

Patton, while lying in the iron lung in his last few days was quoted as saying, “This is a hell of a way to die.”

**Alpha Centauri B**

Just a cosmic hop, skip and jump away, an Earth-size planet orbits the closest star to our sun, Proxima Centauri.

Ever since the discovery of the exoplanet — known as Proxima Centauri b— in 2016, people have wondered whether it could be capable of sustaining life.

Now, using computer models similar to those used to study climate change on Earth, researchers have found that, under a wide range of conditions, Proxima Centauri b can sustain enormous areas of liquid water on its surface, potentially raising its prospects for harboring living organisms. [9 Strange, Scientific Excuses for Why Humans Haven't Found Aliens Yet]

"The major message from our simulations is that there's a decent chance that the planet would be habitable," said Anthony Del Genio, a planetary scientist at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York City. Del Genio is also the lead author of a paper describing the new research, which was published Sept. 5 in the journal Astrobiology.

Proxima Centauri is a small, cool red-dwarf star located just 4.2 light-years from the sun. Despite its proximity, scientists still know very little about Proxima Centauri's planetary companion, besides that its mass is at least 1.3 times that of Earth and that it goes around its parent starevery 11 days. Therefore, Del Genio and his colleagues had to make some reasonable guesses about the exoplanet Proxima Centauri b — namely, that it had an atmosphere and an ocean on its surface — for their work to proceed.

Proxima Centauri b orbits in its star's habitable zone, meaning it's at just the right distance to receive enough starlight to keep its surface above the freezing temperature of water. But this zone is extremely close to the star, Space.com, a Live Science sister site, reported. So it's likely that the planet has become tidally locked due to gravitational forces. This means that the same side of Proxima Centauri b always faces its parent star, much like how the moon always shows the same side to Earth.

Previous simulations published in a 2016 paper in the journal Astronomy & Astrophysics modeled a hypothetical atmosphere on Proxima Centauri b and suggested that the star-facing hemisphere of the exoplanet might be baked under an intense glare, while a space-facing ocean would be frozen over. Therefore, only a circle of warm sea might exist on Proxima Centauri b — a scenario Del Genio's team calls "eyeball Earth."

But the new simulations were more comprehensive than prior ones; they also included a dynamic, circulating ocean, which was able to transfer heat from one side of the exoplanet to the other very effectively. In the researchers' findings, the movement of the atmosphere and ocean combined so that "even though the night side never sees any starlight, there's a band of liquid water that's sustained around the equatorial region," Del Genio told Live Science.

He likened this heat circulation to our own planet's seaside climates. The U.S. East Coast is balmier than it would be otherwise, he said, because the Gulf Stream carries warm water up from the tropics. In California, by contrast, ocean currents bring cold water down from the North, and the West Coast is colder than it otherwise would be, Del Genio added.

The team ran 18 separate simulation scenarios in total, looking at the effects of giant continents, thin atmospheres, different atmospheric compositions and even changes in the amount of salt in the global ocean. In almost all of the models, Proxima Centauri b ended up having open ocean that persisted over at least some part of its surface.

"The larger the fraction of the planet with liquid water, the better the odds that if there's life there, we can find evidence of that life with future telescopes," Del Genio said.

Ravi Kopparapu, a geoscientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, who was not involved in the study, agreed.

"I think it's exciting that some of these climate outcomes can be observed," Kopparapu told Live Science. Next-generation facilities, such as the Extremely Large Telescope currently under construction in Chile, might be able to witness heat coming off Proxima Centauri b and differentiate its possible surface conditions, he added.