

THE DEWEESE REPORT

Volume 20 - Issue 7

July 2014

Editor's note: I have had the privilege of working closely with Mark Lerner and his Constitutional Alliance for many years. He is one of the nation's leading experts sounding the alarm against the growing American surveillance state. TAD

The Chilling Effect of Domestic Spying

by Mark Lerner

The good news is now that the Snowden revelations have revealed to a large degree the domestic surveillance taking place, the public knows more about what OUR government is doing. The bad news is the chilling effect creating a surveillance state has on a representative form of government.

The chilling effect can be simply defined as the way in which people alter or modify their behavior to conform to political and social norms as a result of knowing or believing they are being observed. The observation can be from physical surveillance, telephone meta data being collected, emails being intercepted and read, search engine requests being maintained, text messages being read and stored, financial transactions being monitored and much more. This paper will examine the chilling effect and provide some empirical data (links within this article) to show the chilling effect is real.

Denial is no longer an option. For years, even decades it has been reported by people inside and outside our government that agencies and departments within our federal government have been spying on citizens and further collecting data (Personal Identifiable Information) associated with the domestic spying taking place. Many of us who discussed the spying taking place were called conspiracy theorists, tin foil hat wearers, or black helicopter paranoid people: Today we are called realists.

The Snowden revelations are unique because of the depth and scope of the revelations and because Snowden had the official documents to back up his assertions. Previously people including former NSA

analysts such as William Binney, Thomas Drake, Russell Tice and Kirk Wiebe had come forward asserting that our government was spying on citizens.

Too many in the government, the media, and the public dismissed the allegations of these men because it was "easy" to do so rather than believe the worst about our government, or actually having to do something about domestic spying. To be fair the NSA has not been the only ones accused of domestic spying. The FBI, DHS, and the CIA have also been proven to having done their own domestic spying; in the case of the FBI going back over seventy years.

I support the need for our intelligence community, law enforcement, and our military. Unfortunately in much the same way the "Stockholm Syndrome" results in a person who has been kidnapped falling victim to the goals and aspirations of the kidnappers, the "rank and file" of those responsible for protecting us and our freedom have fallen victim to corrupt leadership in our intelligence and law enforcement communities. The culture of corruption is just as infectious as any chemical or biological weapon of mass destruction.

Congress has its share of the blame for the domestic spying that has and even to this day is taking place. After all it is congress that has the responsibility of oversight over agencies and departments of the federal government. All too often congress has failed to do what it has been tasked with doing; performing oversight. In fact, not too long ago congress gave retroactive immunity to telecom companies for the roles telecom companies played in illegally collecting information for the NSA at the request of former

IN THIS
ISSUE

PAGE 4 - BENGHAZI - OPERATION ZERO FOOTPRINT

PAGE 6 - US ELECTRICITY SYSTEM IN REGULATORY AND TERRORIST CROSSHAIRS

PAGE 8 - FEATURED ACTIVIST TOOL BY TOM DEWEESE

President Bush. When it comes down to it, there is plenty of “blame” to go around. Some are guilty: All are responsible including the public for not demanding better of our elected and appointed officials.

Whether a Democrat or Republican occupied the White House or regardless of which party controlled the Senate and/or the House of Representatives, domestic spying took place and is still taking place. Domestic spying is not a “Right” or “Left” issue. Domestic spying is an equal opportunity offender.

Typically I would provide dozens of links in an article to substantiate what I am writing. In the case of the chilling effect I am only going to provide three links. The three links provide undeniable evidence that the chilling effect is real and how the chilling effect is affecting our country <http://gigaom.com/2013/08/20/through-a-prism-darkly-fear-of-nsa-surveillance-is-having-a-chilling-effect-on-the-open-web/> and <https://www.commondreams.org/headline/2013/11/12-5> and finally http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2412564

The bottom line is the chilling effect is not some psycho mumble jumble. The chilling effect is quantifiable based on empirical data. People were polled and research has been done. The public including lawmakers, young people, journalists and other “writers” have all too various degrees become subject to the chilling effect. Political scientists, attorneys, law professors, psychologists, sociologists have all weighed in on the chilling effect. I have read dozens of papers and other material accounting for thousands of pages about the “Chilling Effect”.

Depending on who is doing the research and the writing, it is fair and reasonable to assert that as much as 50% of people or more alter their behavior to

conform to political and social norms as a direct result of the surveillance state that has been created in the United States. Up to 33% of journalists and other writers have admitted to changing what they write or say, or seriously considered changing what they write or say because they believe they are being “watched”.

What does all this mean to “activists” who are attempting to get the “general public” engaged in a whole host of issues from Common Core, Real ID, smart meters, immigration, national debt, healthcare, foreign policy and yes, even including domestic surveillance among other issues? What it means is the chilling effect will make it much more difficult to engage the general public much less educate and motivate the general public to “take a stand” and have their voices heard.

In addition to the surveillance state we must not forget that state and federal government has said domestic terrorism is the biggest threat to our country. Veterans, anti-abortion advocates, anti-war activists, third party supporters, environmentalists, 2nd Amendment supporters, states’ rights proponents, and many other groups of people have all been named as “potential domestic terrorists” by state and federal government agencies and departments. Once again it is not a “Left/Right” issue. People and groups on both sides of the political spectrum are “suspects.” The presumption of innocence is no longer a consideration. This broad profiling of people and groups only exasperates the “Chilling Effect” domestic spying has.

We live in a country where CCTV (Closed Circuit Television cameras), Automatic License Plate Readers, RBI (Remote Biometric Identification – primarily using facial recognition software), drones over U.S. airspace, and many other “tools” are being used to further the surveillance state. Agencies and departments of the federal government, states and even local law enforcement have

DeWeese Report

Vol. 20, No. 7
July 2014

Published by
The American Policy
Center

Editor
Tom DeWeese

Correspondence/
Fulfillment
Lola Jane Craig
Eve Craig

Graphics/Layout
CJ Scrofani
Jeff Craig

DeWeese Report
PO Box 129
Remington, VA
22734

Web Page:
www.deweese-report.com

Copyright 2014
The American Policy
Center
Issn 1086-7937
All Rights Reserved

Permission to photocopy,
Reprint and quote articles
from the DeWeese Report
is

hereby granted, provided
full acknowledgment is
included. All reprinted
articles must say:

“Written
by Tom DeWeese, Editor
of DeWeese Report
(unless
another author is listed).
All reprints must carry the
DeWeese Report address
and phone number.

Samples of the reprint
must be provided to the
DeWeese Report

admitted to lying to the court, prosecutors and defense attorneys about how evidence was obtained in the prosecution of defendants.

The Director of National Intelligence lied to congress and the people about domestic spying taking place. It is not me saying he lied; he admitted it himself. A baseball player who lied to congress about using steroids has gone to jail. Ask yourself where is the accountability of appointed and elected leaders who lie to the public and/or congress? There is none which is why the surveillance state and the chilling effect are alive and well.

Often I am accused of being soft on Christians because of my religious beliefs, which by the way I have made no secret of. The truth is, it is Christians, not Jewish people, Muslims, or people of no faith that have been the ones primarily responsible for the surveillance state we now have in the United States. I have often said that a surveillance state and a free society cannot be reconciled. Never in history has a surveillance state and a representative form of government existed side by side.

In my next article titled “Are You a Christian First” I examine just how Christians have failed to apply biblical principles and values to political policy and actions. Church leaders have failed to discuss the surveillance state and how it is consistent with biblical prophecy, especially Revelation 13:14-18. Sometimes it is pride, at other times it is because Church leaders are not comfortable speaking about laws and technology, or these same leaders simply have lost their way falling victim to “spiritual blindness.”

Biometrics (e.g. facial recognition technology, iris scans, fingerprints, voice recognition, DNA) is the linchpin of a surveillance state. Proponents of biometrics including law enforcement and political officials will tell you that using biometrics will control welfare fraud, illegal immigration, voting fraud, crime in general, terrorism, and just about everything else under the sun. Proponents will also tell you that facial recognition technology, handheld biometric devices, CCTV, drones, and smart phones will be the savior for each of us stopping or greatly reducing all types of crimes and terrorism.

Biometrics allow for you to be identified (truth is biometrics do not identify you – documents such as birth certificates do) and tracked in public. We had the biometrics of eleven Russian spies arrested in our country a few years ago and had no idea of who most of these people really were.

For Christians there is only one Savior and that is Jesus Christ; not biometrics. In fact, in a sad form of irony biometrics is much like the Anti-Christ; the false answer to all the problems of man.

The surveillance state is the reason for the chilling effect; it stands to reason we should all be resisting and opposing mandatory global biometric enrollment that directly links a person’s body to their ability to buy, sell, travel, and work (Comprehensive Immigration Reform – S744).

We can agree or disagree on a myriad of issues but we must all agree that a surveillance state and the chilling effect that is a byproduct of the surveillance state are not in the best interest of any citizens regardless of their political ideology.

We must each reach deep down inside ourselves to find the courage, strength and wisdom to stand up to and oppose a surveillance state.

Think, think, and then think some more about how the chilling effect impacts our right to free speech, freedom to associate with others, right to seek redress, and right to peacefully assemble. The chilling effect created as a result of the surveillance state is a perfect example of the cure being worse than the disease. Just as taking the oxygen out of the air we breathe would kill each of us, the chilling effect of a surveillance state smothers the freedom so important to the survival of our constitutional republic.

Mark Lerner leads The Constitutional Alliance, It is a valuable and credible source of information on the use of biometrics as tools for spying on American citizens. Mark frequently is an expert witness to start and federal hearings on the subject. And he works with groups, state lawmakers, members of congress and their staffs and private citizens. Contact Mark at www.constitutionalalliance.org ●

Benghazi – Operation Zero Footprint

The *Blaze's For the Record* has done an extensive investigation into Benghazi and the operation called, Zero Footprint by interviewing people directly involved in the operation and who know first hand about what went on in Benghazi. This important information about ZERO FOOTPRINT - Benghazi Operation is yet to be reported in the MSM. We can pass this information along, as many of our friends and family won't hear about it otherwise.

Zero Footprint was a scheme concocted by the Obama administration to supply weapons to the Libyan rebels (Muslim Brotherhood, al-Qaeda, Hizbollah, Islamic Maghreb and other al-Qaeda networks) while appearing to not be involved in that activity. Leadership in both political parties including Boehner knew about Zero Footprint. Is this why there has been no House Select Committee?

Bullet Points below from Maggie's Notebook

2008 The U.S. is working with Libya / Qadhafi with the goal of thwarting al-Qaeda.

2009 Wiki-Leaks reveals that Muammar Qadhafi wants to unify Africa: one currency, one passport one common army. Qadhafi wants the currency to be a gold dinar.

Qadhafi begins demanding the EU pay for Libyan oil in gold.

Boom! Qadhafi's life is close to over, this is a threat to the EU (European Union) and to the U.S.

On February 10th, 2011, all is calm in Libya

By February 17th, 2011, all hell is breaking loose and anti-Qadhafi activists participate in a "Day of Rage."

The State Department begins looking for a country who will take Muammar Qadhafi into exile. None is found.

By the end of February 2011, a female FBI and CIA informant is asked to determine and identify if there are terrorists among the rebels. She and others find that the Muslim Brotherhood, al-Qaeda, Hizbollah, Islamic Maghreb and other al-Qaeda networks are working with the rebels.

The U.S. intelligence community was completely caught with their collective pants down, unawares.

March 10, 2011, Hillary Clinton testified before Congress saying the U.S. is endorsing U.S. support for Libyan rebels. (Endorsing the Muslim Brotherhood, al-Qaeda, Hizbollah, Islamic Maghreb against Qadhafi)

Al Jazeera 'maked-up' stories blaming Qadhafi for a humanitarian crisis in Libya.

Those working in intelligence know there is no humanitarian crisis in Libya.

March 14, 2011 Chris Stevens is named Diplomatic Liaison to Libya

March 19, 2011 Obama announces U.S. armed forces will begin "limited military action in Libya."

March 19, 2011 Hillary announced "We have every reason to fear that left unchecked, Qadhafi will commit unspeakable atrocities."

March 19, 2011 began of a 3-day of ceasefire, included a 72-hour truce to negotiate a truce, monitored by African Union.

Clinton names diplomat Chris Stevens liaison to the Libyan opposition.

March 23, 2011, NATO assumed control of Libyan operations with the U.N. Security Council resolution.

March 24, 2011 intelligence factions manage to get a report detailing terrorist activities inside the rebels directly to Obama's desk.

(Obama knew the Muslim Brotherhood, al-Qaeda, Hizbollah, Islamic Maghreb and other al-Qaeda networks are working with the rebels and that he would be supporting and arming the terrorists and destabilizing the country)

By March 27, 2011 AFRICOM Commander General Carter Ham's control was transferred to the NATO commander Navy Admiral James Stavridis. Ham maintained control of AFRICOM.

Moving toward a cease-fire when word comes that the DoD and White House have cancelled any discussion of a truce.

The intelligence community is in a state of shock, that it appears the U.S. is readying to usurp a sovereign nation.

All throughout, Senator John McCain is calling the rebels "heroes."

March 30, 2011, Reuters reported (linked below) that President Obama has already signed a secret order authorizing the CIA to provide covert support to the Libyan opposition, an operation that would become known as Zero Footprint. (The U.S. switched sides, arming the terrorists, Muslim Brotherhood, al-Qaeda, Hizbollah, Islamic Maghreb and other al-Qaeda networks to take over Libya)

The U.S. covertly moves weapons to the rebels by going through the U.A.E. and Qatar for arms and logistics, in the hope of the U.S. not being connected to the operation.

October 20, 2011 Qadhafi dies.

June 7, 2012 Chris Stevens is appointed U.S. Ambassador to Libya.

July 9, 2012 Stevens filed a request with the State Department for at least 13 additional security agents. His request went unanswered.

August 16, 2012 Stevens cables State of deteriorating conditions, of 10 Islamist militias and

al-Qaeda training camps. State Department refuses additional security. He was forced to keep the spurious British Blue Mountain Group (after receiving a "warning" from the Tripoli Embassy) which was not a State Department sanctioned security detail, and the February 17th Martyr's Brigade which took part in the attacks against the compound.

According to federal law, in the event a covert operation is deemed necessary, it is the president's responsibility to alert the leadership in the House and Senate, as well as the chairman and ranking members of the Intelligence Committees in both chambers – eight people known as The Gang of 8: Boehner, Pelosi, Rogers, Ruppertsberger, Reid, McConnell, Chambliss, Feinstein. Is this why there has been no House Select Committee?

September 11, 2012 The attacks happen. Four Americans Died.

September 11, 2012 U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Susan Rice received an email containing a tweet from a CNN journalist on the ground in Benghazi who says Ansar al-Sharia is at the compound.

Ansar al-Sharia (English: Partisans of Sharia) is an Islamist militia group advocating the implementation of strict Sharia law across Libya, coming into being during the fractious Libyan Civil War. A terrorist organization having deliberately targeted both Libyan and American civilians, including taking part in the 2012 Benghazi attack.

It's less than two months to Obama's next election and subsequent coronation.

August 7, 2013 Ahmed Abu Khattalah, leader of a sub-group of Ansar al-Sharia leader, is charged in the deaths of Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty. As far as we know, Khattalah is still free in Libya. Khattalah is the only person implicated in the attacks and deaths.

May 3, 2014 Families of the dead and injured have no explanations, no justice. ●

US electricity system in regulatory and terrorist crosshairs

EPA and other agencies pile on costs and delays, as saboteurs reveal acute vulnerabilities

By Paul Driessen and Roger Bezdek

Government agencies are forcing us to spend countless billions on illusory risks and anti-fossil fuel mandates, while ignoring real threats to our livelihoods, living standards and lives.

America runs on electricity. Our lights, refrigerators, air conditioners and furnace controls, computers and internet, social media, radios and televisions, banks and ATMs, cell phone chargers and transmitters, electric cars and gasoline pumps, hospitals and schools, offices, factories, refineries, farms and water purification systems – all run on electricity. 68% is generated by fossil fuels, 20% by nuclear and 7% by hydropower.

Electricity reaches its billions of destinations through a complex, interconnected system of power lines, substations and transformers called the power grid. The entire United States is divided into just three separate grid segments: East, West and Texas

Without abundant, reliable, affordable electricity, America would sink into Third World status. If our electricity were cut off for a prolonged period, the nation would collapse into survivalist chaos.

And yet President Obama insists that electricity prices must “necessarily skyrocket” and the United States must be “a global leader in the fight against climate change.” Secretary of State John Kerry calls climate change “the world's most fearsome weapon of mass destruction.” EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy says there is “no more urgent threat to public health than climate change.”

In response, using faulty computer models and secretive pseudo-science, federal agencies are imposing “social cost of carbon” analyses, carbon dioxide emission limits and “carbon capture and storage” standards. They are implementing stringent pollution, drilling, mining and other regulations – and requiring costly power grid upgrades to accommodate

expensive, unreliable, intermittent electricity from wind and solar installations. They are compelling the early closure of efficient, low-cost coal-fired power plants, with many remaining years of productive life, thereby raising electricity prices for businesses and families, and forcing ratepayers to pay for mothballed plants and new ones to replace them.

They are spending 20 billion taxpayer dollars a year just on climate change initiatives, while forcing the electric power industry to spend billions of dollars every year to comply with a plethora of rules. The Heritage Foundation calculates that EPA’s proposed climate regulations alone will cost our economy \$2.2 trillion between 2015 and 2038.

Meanwhile, the Obama Administration is ignoring real threats.

On April 16, 2013, saboteurs attacked a power substation near San Jose, California, the Wall Street Journal reported on February 5. They cut fiber optic cables in a manner designed to maximize repair time and shot up 17 transformers, causing them to leak their oil coolant, overheat and fail.

It took them less than an hour, after which they disappeared into the night, leaving no fingerprints on more than 100 cartridges. It took 27 days to get the substation back online. Thankfully, grid operators were able to reroute power and avoid blackouts. Otherwise we could have repeated the 2003 transformer failure that triggered a cascading blackout affecting 50 million people in the eastern USA and Canada.

Former Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) director Jon Wellinghoff called the attack “purposeful, extremely well planned and executed by professionals who had expert training.” Other utility experts said it could have been a “dress rehearsal” for much bigger operation. One called it “preparation for an act of war,” in which a few terrorists with cheap bolt

cutters and bullets unleash a real weapon of mass destruction – not an imaginary one – as calamitous as what an electromagnetic pulse or hacker-initiated computer system meltdown could inflict.

Many substations are in rural areas, with no human staff, protected only by cameras and chain-link fences. On a hot summer day, experts fear, by destroying or disabling a dozen carefully chosen interconnection substations and transformers, terrorists could set off cascading blackouts, taking down much of the US or even North American power grid for an extended period.

Communications, jobs, food, fuel, safe drinking water and other benefits of modern civilization would quickly disappear. The United States could be plunged into darkness, chaos, crime, anarchy and widespread deaths. Even smaller, less coordinated attacks could be devastating across entire regions.

Replacing these huge, 40-ton, high-voltage, multi-million-dollar transformers could take weeks, months, a year or more, depending on many factors. Few American companies make the big transformers, and those factories could be affected by the blackout. Replacing one behemoth recently took nearly two years and a 7,000-mile journey from Korea. Bringing one of these monsters in on rush basis could require a jumbo cargo plane that only one country builds: Vladimir Putin's Russia.

Who could launch such an act of war? Al Qaeda, Iran and North Korea certainly come to mind. Even Mexican drug cartels are suspects, after an attack on power installations in Mexico's Michoacan State.

Nevertheless, within weeks of the first WSJ article, Russia invaded Crimea, Secretary Kerry said the "aggression" would bring "serious repercussions," President Obama worked on his short game and March Madness "bracketology," and 28 Senate Democrats held an all-night gabfest to rant and obsess about – climate change! None of them mentioned the threat of terrorist attacks on our grid and nation.

Just as maddening, responsibility for protecting the grid is apparently not in the job description of any US government agency. Homeland Security says it is the utility industry's job, and FERC recently

gave the industry until early June 2014 to propose new standards for securing critical facilities against threats of this nature and magnitude.

Thankfully, the industry is taking the challenge very seriously and is examining ways to improve both site security and the equipment replacement process. Mr. Wellinghoff says "there are probably less than 100 critical high-voltage substations that need to be protected from physical attack. It is neither a monumental task, nor would it take an inordinate sum of money to do so."

Defining "inordinate" is not easy, however, especially in the context of other regulatory demands. Utilities will have to find the money, while also spending billions to comply with countless environmental rules of dubious value. The Congressional EMP Commission estimates the cost of hardening the national grid will be about \$2 billion. But all the necessary precautions will likely run into the tens of billions.

Virginia's Dominion Resources alone plans to spent up to \$500 million over the next seven years to harden its facilities, the WSJ reports. Multiply that and 24/7/365 monitoring times numerous other utility companies, facilities and weak points, and the price tag is significant. But the Obama Administration and many members of Congress are intent on spending billions for climate change "prevention" and health and environmental rules that will bring minuscule benefits, because the risks are exaggerated to illusory.

Responsible federal and state legislators, utility companies and citizen groups need to make protecting America's electrical transmission system and civilization against terror attacks a high priority – and a central topic in the 2014 campaign debates and elections.

If others want to make "dangerous manmade climate change" their central theme, voters will decide which issues truly merit our uppermost attention.

Paul Driessen is senior policy analyst for the Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow and author of Eco-Imperialism: Green power - Black death. Dr. Roger Bezdek is an internationally recognized energy analyst and President of Management Information Services, Inc., in Washington, DC. ●

Featured Activist Tool

[I Can't Believe You Said That!!](#)

A message from Tom DeWeese

**I Can't
Believe
You Said
That!**



Hundreds of liberals speak their minds.

Fred Gielow

I have been given an exceptional gift that I want to share with you. A friend of mine, author Fred Gielow, has given me permission to sell his amazing book, "I Can't Believe You Said That," for a greatly discounted rate.

Let me tell you about this incredible book. It features quotes by hundreds of liberals in all of their ignorant glory. People like Jimmy Carter, Bill Maher, Al Sharpton, Chris Mathews, Michael Moore and hundreds more.

The book features outrageous quotes that show the stupidity and hateful positions held by some of the nation's most influential and celebrated leaders and commentators.

Take this one, for example: (Guess what Hollywood celebrity said this)

"Our country is founded on a sham: Our Forefathers were slave-owning rich white guys who wanted their way. So when I see the American flag, I go, 'Oh my God, you're insulting me.' That you can have a gay parade on Christopher Street in New York, with naked men and women on a float cheering 'We're here, we're queer' - that's what makes my heart swell. Not the flag, but a gay naked man or woman burning the flag. I get choked up with pride."

Or this one: (Guess what "Civil Rights Leader said this)

"The Muslim American people are praying to the almighty God to grant victory to Iraq."

Or this one: (By a leading Environmentalist)

"I think (private property) should be in the public domain. We should get it all. Be unreasonable. You can do it. Yesterday's heresy is today's common wisdom, So I would say, let's take it back. Let's take it all."

These are just a few of the hundreds of quotes offered in Fred Gielow's amazing, fully documented book. It is a valuable reference manual when you need to include quotes in a speech or to have a fully-charged verbal weapon to throw back in a debate. How can such hate speech and idiocy be defended? Above all - YOU need to know your enemy and how they think. This book will give you that edge.

Fred has provided me just over a hundred of these books - the last of his supply. So there are no more available. Quantities are limited. They usually sell for \$19. But I am authorized so sell them to freedom advocates for just \$14. Buy one today, save some money and help the American Policy Center as you are arming yourself for coming battles.

Get your copy today at www.americanpolicy.org and go to the APC store. ●