

# THE DEWEESE REPORT

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## GOVERNMENT INTIMIDATION DESTROYS A FREE SOCIETY

*For years I have been issuing warnings about the growing government surveillance state. REAL ID and E-Verify have been sold as weapons necessary to stop illegal immigration and the threat of terrorism. Now, Congress says it has improved those weapons by creating the PASS Act.*

*Yet, while insisting these straight jackets for all citizens are needed to protect us, the government has refused to do the one thing that would actually reduce these threats - secure the borders. Homelandsecuritynewswire.com reports that the government has set a goal of capturing only 29% of people and goods entering our borders illegally. That's it. As I have warned, the mindset of the government is that it's much more efficient to put us all in chains than to try to actually catch the bad guys.*

*And so, the government is spending its resources (your money) spying on Americans, from monitoring our Face book pages to our credit card purchases. To make its intentions even clearer, The Department of Homeland Security has issued reports profiling nearly all Americans as potential domestic terrorists. And now, Barack Obama says he is considering "preventive detention" for those the government deems dangerous but are not yet ready to arrest. The government is now using biometric identification to monitor those who attend TEA Parties and other protests. Our right to object is being destroyed. This is government by intimidation. No free society can withstand it.*

*Yet, still, many Americans who profess to support limited government and individual liberty, allow themselves to be pulled in by those who tell you REAL ID and E-Verify will make us safer and freer. They refuse to understand that THEY are the target - not illegals. What will it take America, to finally convince you? When will you begin to understand you are not being protected - YOU ARE BEING HUNTED!*

*The following is the dramatic presentation by PA State Representative Sam Rohrer given to the recent Freedom 21 national conference in Oklahoma. Rep. Rohrer is one of the nation's leading experts on the dangers of biometric surveillance and intimidation. He issues the warning that government by surveillance intimidation is the threat that all Americans face. I hope you will heed it! ---Tom DeWeese, Editor*

## REAL ID and the PASS Act America's Growing Surveillance Society

*Address to the 10th Annual Freedom21 Conference - August 14, 2009*

*By PA State Representative Sam Rohrer*

Since I addressed this convention last year about the same topic, much has changed while much has also remained the same. First, let me offer my congratulations and thanks to so many of you who have faithfully fought the good fight for freedom and against the dangerous provisions of REAL ID.

Thousands of hours have been spent resisting REAL ID and all it represents, and I stand before you now to say that those hours have not been spent in vain.

In all, legislative bodies in twenty-six states have spoken out against this government power grab.

Such a stunning reaction against

federal legislation would not have been possible without the hard work of many in this room and many at this conference. Yet, while battles have been won, the war has not.

Today I'd like to provide an overview of where the REAL ID issue stands currently. Most of you probably know *(Cont'd on next page)*

the problems associated with REAL ID and may have even heard my speech on this topic last year. (*The DeWeese Report, Volume 14, Issue 9 - September 2008*) My presentation this year has been geared as a continuation of what I presented last year.

First, I will set the philosophical stage that underlies much of the thinking behind REAL ID and similar ideas.

Next, I will briefly discuss fusion centers and their role in the coming American surveillance society.

From that point, I will focus on the 2009 version of REAL ID and discuss a range of related issues, pointing out significant threats to our personal privacy and security along the way.

I will close by offering my thoughts about the next steps we should each take in resisting REAL ID.

### Preventive Detention

Let me start with this question, “Why is it that honest, law-abiding civilians are so worried about the federal government increasing its knowledge of citizens and their activities?”

After all, if you’ve done nothing wrong, you’ve nothing to worry about, right? - WRONG!

Under true justice, this statement would be fairly accurate, but it no longer is. A basic reason is that the law enforcement and the terrorism fighting community have whole-heartedly embraced a new and dangerous operating philosophy. Now the focus of the law enforcement community has changed to crime and terrorism *prevention* through the use of massive amounts of intelligence.

In fact, on May 21 of this year, a New York Times story noted, “President Obama told human rights advocates at the White House . . . that he was mulling the need for a

‘preventive detention’ system that would establish a legal basis for the United States to incarcerate terrorism suspects who are deemed a threat to national security but cannot be tried.” This startling statement should stop us in our tracks – preventive detention? What happened to the Constitution and its protections? You mean looking inside someone’s head or heart and incarcerating him because someone thinks he might commit a crime in the future? Would this “preventive detention” apply to Americans accused of being right-wing extremists?

This emerging philosophy is known as “Intelligence-led Policing.” Most proponents of this philosophy have come to believe that the more that is known about all people in general, the greater the chance to catch the criminal or terrorist at large in the community before he commits his act of terrorism or crime. In essence, cast the net broadly. Let me clearly state that I believe the causes of crime and terrorism should be a matter of focus.

However, I equally – and just as strongly – believe that law enforcement and intelligence goals must be balanced with the Constitutional rights of American citizens.

Granting government in any form including police too much authority will turn America into a police state where citizens are stripped of their constitutional rights and a presumption of guilt is established.

Focusing on the principle of individual autonomy derived from God-given rights, our Founders and subsequent court decisions established and confirmed this historic balance by agreeing that citizens must be presumed innocent until proven guilty “beyond reasonable doubt.” The danger with the “Intelligence-led Policing” view is that, *without the protection of this*

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*proper balance*, the basic right of the presumption of innocence is destroyed, and with it our Freedom.

Because, once this foundational concept is discarded, like falling dominoes in a row, other major changes begin. The entire mindset in Washington has developed into a philosophy which advocates nearly total government knowledge of all citizens' information.

### **Fusion Centers and the Web of Intimidation**

Such a transformation has been crystallized within the law enforcement community in the form of "fusion centers" and how they have operated in the years following 9/11. These amorphous institutions were created to simplify information transfer between local, state, and federal officials. In fact, the official Fusion Center Guidelines state: *"The principal role of the fusion center is to compile, analyze, and disseminate criminal/terrorist information and intelligence . . . to support efforts to anticipate, identify, prevent, and/or monitor criminal/terrorist activity."*

You can easily spot the "Intelligence-led Policing" and "preventive detention" philosophies underpinning those guidelines, but more to my point is what these fusion centers have produced.

The Missouri Information and Analysis Fusion Center produced a document with which you may be familiar in February of this year called "The Modern Militia Movement."

This report, allegedly aimed to inform law enforcement officials throughout Missouri, actually

linked militia members with supporters of third party political candidates Ron Paul, Bob Barr, and others. This document smeared all supporters of those candidates as potentially dangerous militia members who might incite violence against law enforcement officers or government officials.

Another report issued by a Virginia Fusion Center noted that dangerous student radicalization could occur at colleges and universities, specifically two "Historically Black Colleges" and "Regent University, a private, evangelical Christian institution."

Both of these fusion center reports illustrate the danger of unbalanced "Intelligence-led Policing" and show

### **Let me start with this question, "Why is it that honest, law-abiding civilians are so worried about the federal government increasing its knowledge of citizens and their activities?"**

more importantly why even those who do nothing wrong should be very worried when government has expansive knowledge and control. Should your daughter or granddaughter attending law school at Regent University have fewer rights because she chose a school based on its conservative religious beliefs? A centralized and top-heavy drive to prevent crime can easily result in such Constitutional violations.

Once these fundamental changes from assumed innocence to assumed guilt and law enforcement to preventative detention occur, freedom gives way to a surveillance society mentality, and the operational problems of fusion centers. But

significant changes have occurred in other federal government initiatives which advance the surveillance society in America.

### **Keep Smiling or You May Be Locked Up**

The first of these initiatives is nicknamed FAST (Future Attribute Screening Technology).

This technology uses an array of sensors to measure physiological characteristics such as heart rate, breathing rate, facial expressions, and pupil dilation to determine whether or not a person intends to commit a crime.

The Department of Homeland Security plans to implement this technology in airports and at major event locations. Again, you can see the emphasis on prevention underlying this massive privacy violation. People's heart rates climb and pupils dilate for a multitude of reasons. The real effect will be a massive loss of freedom as innocent Americans are detained for wearing the wrong facial expressions or showing nervousness about flying.

A second initiative is Enhanced Driver's Licenses (or EDLs). This is another portion of the federal government initiative built on Real ID which drastically increases federal government knowledge of everyday life.

These new licenses double as a passport with Mexico and Canada and contain an RFID chip that is read when any border is crossed. However, the significant convenience for the consumer is more than outweighed by the resulting privacy concerns.

As a recent Associated Press article noted, *(Cont'd on next page)*

the RFID chips in Enhanced Driver's Licenses can be easily skimmed by someone holding a reader within thirty feet or more of the license.

As technology improves, these licenses will be readable from a much greater distance. Currently four states and two Canadian provinces issue these licenses, but more states and provinces will likely do so in the future. Enhanced driver's licenses are another topic entirely, but they serve to show increasing breadth of government knowledge and control over American citizens.

### **PASS Act - Wolf in Sheep's Clothing**

Now let me turn to the key federal government initiative which drastically increases government knowledge and control - the "Providing for Additional Security in States' Identification Act" (PASS ID). Influential players in the federal government have switched horses and begun promoting this act. Introduced June 15th and now out of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, this alternative allegedly corrects the abuses of REAL ID while still improving overall security.

Be assured that this switch does not take me or anyone else who has studied this issue by surprise. REAL ID was a poorly conceived and hastily passed bill - for months we have known that it would be scrapped in favor of PASS ID. Accordingly, I have studied PASS ID and determined that it is no improvement. The tactics have changed, even as the administration has changed, but the end result remains the same. Through PASS ID, the leaders of the federal government will accrue to themselves unprecedented knowledge about and control over the American people.

This license will enroll Americans in a global system of biometric identification.

Predictably, the tactics have not changed. Senator Joseph Lieberman, chairman of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, exercises vast control over hearings in that committee, including the committee hearing about PASS ID.

When determining which experts would be allowed to testify in committee about PASS ID, just recently on July 15th, he refused to allow anyone opposed to PASS ID to testify.

All those testifying represented organizations which supported either PASS ID or REAL ID.

There was no debate on whether the federal government should mandate regulations for state's driver's licenses - that premise was a foregone conclusion. The main question was what those regulations should look like. PASS ID was written to eliminate enough objections from opponents of REAL ID to ensure that federal regulations would be imposed on the states.

Not surprisingly, PASS ID was just recently voted out of committee.

We also learn that both the National Governors Association (NGA) and the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) both support PASS ID. Those organizations, which were opposed to REAL ID and should defend state constitutions and individual freedom, now support PASS ID because some cost concerns have been eliminated from the legislation, as if cost were the primary concern. In fact, the more important privacy and Constitutional concerns remain.

The blatant bias for PASS ID during the Senate committee hearings exhibits the increasingly arrogant approach of many in the federal government. They exercise extraordinary faith in the laws and regulations passed by Congress to remedy security problems in each of the fifty states. As a seventeen-year state legislator, believe me, I know the consequences of the federal government forcing solutions to complex problems upon the states. The solution will always be too "broad-brushed" to be either effective or workable and will also violate some aspect of the Constitution. The best solution to problems including state-issued drivers' licenses simply must come from the states.

As I mentioned previously, PASS ID fails to improve REAL ID. In fact, it keeps the most egregious portions of REAL ID intact.

First, PASS ID allows the federal government to regulate a traditionally state-determined process, in violation of the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the US Constitution.

Second, Section 242 of PASS ID requires each state to, "*subject each person who submits an application for a driver's license or identification card to mandatory facial image capture.*"

Third, PASS ID gives enormous power to the Secretary of Homeland Security. The language reads, "*All authority to issue regulations, set standards, and issue grants under this subtitle shall be carried out by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation and the States.*"

These regulations, which should be granted a lengthy comment period during which time groups can point out problems with PASS

ID, are supposed to be finalized only *nine months* after the date the legislation passes. Additionally, the traditional rule-making process will likely be circumvented, allowing for no public comment about PASS ID regulations.

Fourth, six years after PASS ID regulations are issued, federal agencies will be prohibited from allowing citizenstousenon-compliant licenses for official purposes. This is the same REAL ID tactic to force states into compliance.

If you read through PASS ID, you will note toward the end the following provision, *“Nothing in this section may be construed to—(1) authorize the creation of a national database of driver’s license information; or (2) authorize States direct access to the motor vehicle database of another State.”*

This portion of the legislation is often trumpeted as an important privacy protection but it offers nothing of the sort. The truth is, massive data-sharing goes on between states and the federal government on a daily basis already, whether or not direct access is statutorily allowed. In fact fusion centers were created for the purpose of facilitating information transfer between state, local, and federal government agencies. Creating a new national database would be superfluous since in reality it already exists.

In an excellent article opposing PASS ID, the Electronic Privacy

Information Center (EPIC) lists several further problems which bear repeating now.

First, the data collection and retention requirements raise significant privacy concerns.

These requirements are nearly indistinguishable from the data requirements of the REAL ID Act. As with REAL ID, the PASS ID data requirements will encourage and simplify the identity theft process.

Second, PASS ID requires no physical security protections for the machine readable zone (MRZ) on the back of the license, only the promise of prosecution after someone steals that information. This machine-readable zone will provide identity thieves with a barcode scanner easy access to your personal data.

### Cameras, Cameras Everywhere

Finally, the massive amount of information collected and stored as a result of PASS ID will provide government with the use of large amounts of personal data – “achieving the effect of a national database.”

Of major impact is that facial recognition technology, the biometric portion of REAL ID also mandated by PASS ID, can be used to track people in real time, through networks of surveillance cameras linked to databases containing facial recognition templates. Proof for that statement comes from a 2003 Carnegie- Mellon University study, the introduction of which declares, *“In the context of sharing video surveillance data, a significant threat to privacy is face recognition software, which can automatically identify known people, such as from a database of drivers’ license photos, and thereby track people regardless of suspicion.”*

The private commercial sector is already using facial recognition technology in conjunction with surveillance cameras.

3VR is a leading company

which markets such technology. According to the 3VR website, this technology can: *“capture, index and catalog Facial Images; track suspects using face similarity search; build, manage and share watch lists of faces; receive notifications when the system recognizes a watch list individual; and maximize hard drive space by saving video and images associated with face events for longer.”*

According to a January 2008 *Popular Mechanics* article, *“Twelve bank companies employ 3VR systems at numerous locations, which build a facial template for every single person that enters any branch.”*

Few people probably realize what is happening when they enter a bank with such a system in place. But such a system controlled by governments and potentially operating world-wide is the direction this technology is headed.

An extensive surveillance camera network capable of tracking people has already spread across the country.

According to the same *Popular Mechanics* article, an estimated 30 million surveillance cameras pepper areas across the nation, from tiny Dillingham, Alaska (population 2,400) to New York City with its multiple thousands of cameras. A few cities – like Brookline, NH – have refused the cameras, but most areas of the country have installed them.

Exactly how advanced are these surveillance cameras?

Well, according to a *Chicago Sun-Times* article, new cameras being installed in Chicago are so advanced they can rotate

*(Cont’d on page 8)*

# ABSOLUTES....!

## North American Union Alive and Well Under New Name

*By Tom DeWeese*

On August 8, 2009, Barack Obama met with Mexican President Felipe Calderon and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper in what they called a “North American Leaders Summit.” Apparently, Obama has decided to drop the hot potato name “Security and Prosperity Partnership” label from the Bush era, but the intent was the same – merge the economies of the three nations.

At an August 8, 2009 news conference sponsored by the Coalition to Block The North American Union in Guadalajara, Mexico, Former Representative Tom Tancredo said, “The meeting of the three heads of state in Guadalajara, Mexico, should arouse the interest and concern of Mexican citizens as well as Americans and Canadians.” Tancredo went on to say, “We can all applaud the benefits of expanded commerce and trade without supporting an integration of legal codes, regulatory standards and financial institutions. Ambitious goals of economic integration on the European model are totally unrealistic and are in truth a Trojan Horse for a political agenda that has little to do with economic progress for Americans, Mexicans or Canadians.”

During his presidential campaign, Obama was forced to fire from his campaign staff economics professor Austan Goolsbee. He was fired after the media learned that Goolsbee had traveled to Canada to reassure Canadians that Obama’s campaign promise to renegotiate NAFTA were just campaign rhetoric. Now, after the election Goolsbee is back in the administration serving as chief economist and staff director of the newly created Presidential Economic Recovery Advisory Board – and Obama is back to negotiating economic integration with Mexico and Canada. Another example of “Obama Change.” Change the name. Keep the policy.

Below is Tom DeWeese’s statement at the August 8th Guadalajara news conference:

*Mr. Obama,*

*The American people have made it quite clear.*

*They oppose the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP).*

*They oppose illegal immigration and want the border secured.*

*They oppose the concept of common borders, harmonized governments, combined militaries, massive highways that bypass our communities, and Public/Private Partnerships that create government-sanctioned monopolies and fascist cartels.*

*Above all, Americans opposed the secrecy of the Bush Administration in its efforts to create such policies. You, Sir, promised change. Now is not the time for business as usual, making deals behind closed doors with foreign nations and global corporations.*

*Americans want a sovereign, independent nation and elected representatives who put American interests and security first, as you pledged to do when you took office.*

*It’s time to listen to the American people, just as you promised.*

...THESE THINGS REALLY ARE HAPPENING!

## Environmental Facts the Greens Will Never Mention

*By Tom DeWeese*

**ITEM:** Compact fluorescent light bulbs, mandated to replace the century-old reliable incandescent bulb (at four times the cost) contain poisonous liquid mercury over 300 times the EPA's standard accepted safety level. In addition, days after a bulb has been broken, vacuuming or simply crawling across the carpeted floor where the bulb was broken can cause mercury vapor levels to shoot back upwards of 100 times the accepted level of safety.

These figures are according to a report by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) after a woman was quoted \$2000 for cleanup of a broken compact fluorescent bulb in her house. In short, it basically takes a HAZMAT team to clean up when a bulb is broken. Worse, as the bulbs are used by more Americans, land fills will become toxic waste dumps, forcing massive government response to deal with normal disposal of the filthy things.

Apparently that is how the "green" industry intends to create jobs. These toxic bulbs are bad for the environment, bad for the economy and bad for your health. Who benefits? General Electric and Sylvania, corporations which lobbied Congress to ban the incandescent bulb so they could market the much more profitable "green" bulbs. They make more money and they get to tout their "good environmental stewardship." They even get awards for it.

Time to demand that Congress rescind the coming ban on incandescent bulbs and bring back safety and common sense. Remember, the "green" bulbs were forced on us to cut back on energy use to protect us from global warming. That too is being proven to not exist. Follow the money.

**ITEM:** Meanwhile, the European Union, always a few years ahead of the US in enforcing tyranny, has begun its ban on the incandescent bulb. The response was an immediate outcry by citizens, both because of the dangers and the costs. Nine days after the ban was to be on place. The furor has failed to subside. Europeans are hoarding still available supplies of incandescent bulbs. Another sign of the crumbling green "ecoligarchy." Perhaps someday soon, all of their lies will be exposed and people around the world will get out the organic tar and feathers.

**ITEM:** Even the Sierra Club calls wind farms "Cuisinarts in the sky as the blades slash birds and bats right out of the sky. They have become a major threat to endangered raptors like Eagles.

But as the numbers of wind mills grow from mandated government programs, a new threat has emerged. It seems the massive spinning blades affixed to towers 200 feet high can appear on Doppler radar, looking like a violent storm or even a tornado.

The situation has been reported in several National Weather Service sites across the country, even leading to a false tornado alert near Dodge City, Kansas.

The problem today is a minor one, but growing. It is estimated that to provide enough energy from wind power to reduce energy shortages in California, it would take wind farms equaling an area the size of Connecticut. That could cause a lot of false tornado warnings. Will Americans become accustomed to the false panics and tragically ignore a real warning someday, causing a wind farm Katrina? Going green causes a lot more problems than it solves – especially since many of the perceived environmental dangers are non-existent.

**ITEM:** Another green lie exposed. "The amount of carbon emissions caused by world forest destruction is likely far less than the 20 percent figure being widely used before global climate talks in December, said the head of the Brazilian institute that measures Amazon deforestation. Gilberto Camara, the director of Brazil's respected National Institute for Space Research, said the [IPCC's] 20 percent tally was based on poor science but that rich countries had no interest in questioning it because the number put more pressure on developing countries to stem greenhouse gases." ---Stuart Grudgings, Reuters, August 21, 2009

**REAL ID...** (Cont'd from pg 5)

independently and “pick up a face in a crowd six blocks away.”

Certain ultra-long range surveillance cameras are advertised online as being able to precisely identify a human more than 3.5 miles away!

### **Government By Intimidation**

Again, many people assume that as long as they are not criminals, they have nothing to fear. Again, not true – as I have said, the whole mindset in Washington has changed. Just watch as more of these privacy invading, freedom destroying programs are pushed through in the future.

Imagine the consequences of a police force using real time surveillance cameras to determine the identity of participants at a rally opposing some government policy. Imagine being questioned for completely legal behavior that only looked suspicious on the surveillance camera. As American citizens, we have been guaranteed the First Amendment “right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” I believe that such knowledge and power already infringe on this basic right. American citizens also have a clear expectation of privacy implicit in the Fourth Amendment – “The right of the people to be secure in their persons . . . shall not be violated.” Surveillance cameras operated by law enforcement officials have already been documented abusing certain persons’ right to privacy and security of person. Also concerning, a Privacy International

report ranking privacy protections of countries around the world listed the US in the worst group – among the United Kingdom, China, and Russia.

### **International Databanks**

You may wonder how the federal government could gain access to driver’s license photos to make tracking people by surveillance camera possible. Currently, the Driver’s Privacy Protection Act (DPPA) makes information in state DMV databases available to law enforcement and federal agencies. The network which facilitates this transfer of information is NLETS,

## **Once the fundamental changes from assumed innocence to assumed guilt and law enforcement to preventative detention occur, freedom gives way to a surveillance society mentality...**

the International Justice and Public Safety Network, a not-for-profit organization owned and run by the states.

According to the NLETS website, this information exchange system links 30,000 agencies, nearly 700,000 terminals, and over 1 million users.

Additionally, NLETS “will soon allow users in the US to electronically access INTERPOL files in Lyon, France.”

In all, roughly 90 million messages are transacted each month.

A new NLETS initiative called the NLETS Interstate Sharing of Photos, or NISP, allows all participating states to access driver’s

license photographs from other states. This massive data-sharing between states and countries could easily provide the infrastructure to allow the federal government to link the facial recognition photo found in your state DMV database to a government-sponsored surveillance camera network. Having INTERPOL connected to the system opens the door to international surveillance.

### **You Are The Target**

This developing surveillance society received a major push under the previous administration. During those years, the National Security Administration was given broad access to massive amounts of private telecommunications information via AT&T for the purpose of fighting the war on terror. Fighting terrorists is a good thing, but using an unconstitutional and invasive means to do so, when it spreads the net to innocent citizens, certainly is not. This action, however

well-intentioned, left the door wide open for abuse of whomever the current President deems a threat against the United States.

It seems like nearly every piece of legislation that comes out of Washington these days involves some sort of information gathering on Americans. Even the seemingly innocuous “Cash for Clunkers” program authorized the Federal Government to take certain information from computers which logged on to the Cars.gov website.

And, lest we forget, combine all these dangers with the recent positions taken by the United States Department of Homeland Security. That government agency

issued two startling documents earlier this year which you probably remember.

The first was called, "Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment." That DHS report noted, "*The possible passage of new restrictions on firearms and the return of military veterans facing significant challenges reintegrating into their communities could lead to the potential emergence of terrorist groups or lone wolf extremists.*"

Notice how military veterans and those who oppose further firearm restrictions are singled out as potential threats to the US.

Also notice how this DHS document defines "right-wing extremism:" "*Rightwing extremism in the United States can be broadly divided into those groups, movements, and adherents that are primarily hate-oriented. . . and those that are mainly antigovernment, rejecting federal authority in favor of state or local authority, or rejecting government authority entirely. It may include groups and individuals that are dedicated to a single issue, such as opposition to abortion or immigration.*"

The second report issued by DHS was called the Domestic Extremism Lexicon.

This lexicon used a very broad brush to paint numerous groups as extremist.

These groups include not only abortion opponents, but also such liberal groups as animal rights activists, anti-war protestors, and environmental activists. Even the White House has begun calling those in opposition to the President's socialized medicine

agenda "mobs" who use "scare tactics." These dangerous definitions point out the increasing danger to both the left and right of a government that is growing ever larger and more intrusive.

### Fighting Back

Even to the more casual observer, it is increasingly easy to see the direction in which America is headed. Many people believe that more knowledge, control, and surveillance equals more safety. They blindly assume that as long as they do nothing wrong, they have nothing to fear. The tradeoff that many do not consider, and that is the reason I oppose REAL ID and PASS ID is the resulting loss of freedom inherent in these ideas. Make no mistake, PASS ID is an attack on freedom. It keeps the most onerous provisions of REAL ID and is a major component of the massive surveillance society being set up in America and around the world. So what can be done about it?

First, understand that these issues we're discussing in this conference are issues that stem from anti-freedom philosophies. Many promoters of these philosophies are aggressively pushing this nation toward fascism. We must be just as committed and aggressive – the stakes are high.

Secondly, continue to educate yourself. Spend the time necessary to find and read good, credible resources and always think for yourself rather than accepting the opinion of another.

Thirdly, pass on what you learn to others. In this way, you can duplicate your efforts, getting greater "return" on the time you have invested to stay up-to date and factual about current events.

Also, continue to support organizations such as the Stop REAL ID Coalition as they serve to enlarge our efforts by spending time we don't have and using expertise we don't possess to achieve that common goal of defending our liberties.

When our freedoms are at stake, inaction is the worst course of action. To win this fight, we need each person to do as much as possible. The cameras of a total surveillance society are moving ever closer. Without the American people pushing back against these encroaching efforts of the federal government, we will wake up one day, in the not too distant future, wondering what happened to the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

Allow me to close with a quote from one of our Founding Fathers, Samuel Adams. "*The liberties of our country, the freedoms of our civil Constitution are worth defending at all hazards; it is our duty to defend them against all attacks. We have received them as a fair inheritance from our worthy ancestors. They purchased them for us with toil and danger and expense of treasure and blood. It will bring a mark of everlasting infamy on the present generation – enlightened as it is – if we should suffer them to be wrested from us by violence without a struggle, or to be cheated out of them by the artifices of designing men.*" -Samuel Adams

Again, thank you for inviting me to speak here. May God yet choose to bless America!

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*Representative Samuel E. Rohrer is a Pennsylvania State Representative from the 128th district in Berks County. For more info visit - <http://samrohrer.org/>* 

# INSIDER'S REPORT

## "Secure Flight," Insecure Travel Rights

By Michael Ostrolenk, Robert E. Smith, Richard Sobel and Jan Towe

Starting this year, Americans will have to get government approval to travel by air. As Privacy Journal revealed last fall, henceforth "Permission Now Needed to Travel Within U.S." Getting a reservation and checking-in for air travel will soon require Transportation Security Administration authorization. That permission is by no means assured: For example, if your name matches a "no-fly" list, even mistakenly, you can be denied the right to reserve a seat on a flight. If your name is on a "selectee" list, you and your possessions will be searched more thoroughly before you can board. What is going on here?

Protecting air safety is essential, but professional screening at airports already provides for it. Giving the TSA as an official agency the additional authority to decide who gets to go where reaches beyond safety into overextended governmental power. This newly minted "Secure Flight" rule fundamentally imbalances long-standing citizens' rights both to travel and to be left alone. If your name appears among hundreds of thousands on "watchlists," you assert that the government should not require ID to fly, you don't want to reveal your date of birth for concern about identity theft, or you don't choose to declare your gender, you can stay home.

By combining the requirement for government photo IDs in order to fly with checking government watchlists including potentially every passenger, "Secure Flight" puts the federal government into the business of licensing travel. All travelers will need government OK in order to board a flight, or take a cruise. What the government can allow one day, it can forbid the next. All things considered, isn't this a higher-tech and later-day version of South African domestic passports or eastern European checkpoints? In fact, because of the high technological capacity of the U.S. version, aren't its implications for travel control of plane, train, bus and subway travel much more far reaching? It's incredible that something like this is happening relatively unrecognized in America.

While some people consider the requirement to show ID or reveal a birth date a small trade-off for security, what is at stake here is the right to travel. That fundamental freedom of movement appears in the Articles of Confederation in the right to freely enter and leave all the states of the then small union. It was so fundamentally a part of American citizenship that the privileges and immunities clauses of the Constitution included it without explicitly mentioning it again for the more perfect union. With a large and expansive nation now ranging from Hawaii and Alaska to Washington DC, that right to travel nationally, and petition the distant government, is even more

fundamental. Yet some courts maintain that if you can walk, you don't need the right to fly. People have the right to walk around freely without carrying a national ID; why do they have to show one to travel? The Supreme Court has yet to rule on the scope of the right to travel but lower courts have tended to restrict it more narrowly than the Founding Fathers would approve.

Clearly, the air ID and "Secure Flight" rules mean you cannot travel any distance reachable only by air without official permission. Moreover, the system can easily be extended to Amtrak as a government railroad, which already requires government ID in order to purchase a ticket. It can further be extended to urban rapid-transit networks tied to travel cards, and private inter-city buses requiring IDs to buy tickets or board coaches. These are the bases for an internal passport system in the U.S.

There are a lot of practical issues here too. The assumption that any "no-fly" list includes all potential wrong doers is implausible, and first time criminals would by definition not appear until it's too late. Many people on these lists are there because their names are similar to those who are suspect for other reasons. There are perhaps a few hundred people whose past activities merit keeping them off the streets, let alone flights; the small group is better caught through search warrants and good police work before they come to the airport. To demand that 750 million annual passengers have to get government permissions to fly creates a needle in-a-haystack approach to locating a few potential wrongdoers (none so far have been caught by the matching). "Secure Flight" is simply an ineffective use of scarce resources that sweeps much too broadly over people's most basic rights to travel and be let alone.

What can you do? Like other regulations quickly promulgated at the end of an outgoing administration, these rules need to be delayed and reconstituted. Contact your Senators, Representatives and the White House to suspend such ill-considered regulations now. Insist that the government create a system that makes flying safe without granting federal officials the final say over permission for citizens to travel. Otherwise, the traveling public may be detoured onto a perilous downhill road to being permanently grounded.

*Michael Ostrolenk is director of the Liberty Coalition. Robert Ellis Smith is publisher of Privacy Journal. Richard Sobel is director of the Cyber Privacy Project, and Jan Towe writes and travels anonymously.*



# ABSOLUTES....!

## **DON'T PANIC OVER SWINE FLU!**

*"Everything we've seen in the U.S. and everything we've seen around the world suggests we won't see that kind of number if the virus doesn't change."*

**Dr. Thomas R. Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, urging people not to panic over estimates of 90,000 people dying from swine flue this fall.** 

***And all Americans can finally rest easy,  
knowing their healthcare is taken care of...***

Obama's health care plan will be written by a committee whose head says he doesn't understand it, passed by a Congress that hasn't read it and whose members will be exempt from it, signed by a president who smokes, funded by a treasury chief who did not pay his taxes, overseen by a surgeon general who is obese, and financed by a country that is broke. What could possibly go wrong? *Author unknown* 

## **U.S. NAVY IS SINKING**

**"Our fleet today has shrunk from 600 to 270 and is heading for 150.** We have cut carriers from Reagan's 15 to Obama's 10.

*"But we can't argue with geography. The seas still cover 70 percent of the world, and our vital trade and allies are far more global than in TR's day. With this shrinking fleet, we can no longer deter piracy and guarantee freedom of the seas.*

*"It is indeed wise to talk with our enemies, but we must understand that **successful diplomacy is the shadow cast by power, especially naval power.**"* Source: The Howard Phillips Issues and Strategy Bulletin, 7/31/2009 ; John Lehman (Secretary of the Navy in the Reagan administration and a member of the 9/11 Commission), New York Post, 7/21/09. 

## *Ballad to My Freedom Fighter*

*By Virginia DeWeese*

*Editor's note: She's back! In the March issue of "The DeWeese Report," my 90 year-old mother wrote a poem about her efforts to recover from a fall (Ode to a Can of Kidney Beans). Readers seemed to enjoy it, even prompting others to send me their poems for possible publication. Meanwhile, Mom wrote another one --dedicated to me. I herein indulge her creative juices again. I hope you enjoy it. ----TAD*

*My son is a writer and has a decree  
It's been since his teen years  
"Don't tread on me."*

*He searches for fairness in  
Old laws and new and tells  
Us thru speeches or an  
Interview.*

*But he's famous for writing  
And using his pen  
To try to alert us about  
What and when.*

*A watchdog of liberty I think  
Him to be.  
After hearing his message  
I hope you'll agree.* 

# SPOTLIGHT ON TYRANNY



## Obama Administration to Impose Liberal UN Curriculum



*By Allen Quist - EdWatch*

On July 24, 2009, the U.S Department of Education (DOE) announced that the “centerpiece of the Obama administration’s education reform efforts” in its “\$4.35 billion Race to the Top,” will include “adopting internationally benchmarked education standards.” These will be national standards, said the press release, keyed to international standards and will be incentivized to the states with federal “stimulus” dollars.

By the term “education standards” DOE means content standards; meaning curriculum—the content schools must teach. By “national education standards” DOE means that schools in all 50 states will teach the same content. This will create a de facto federal curriculum. The Department of Education will financially reward those states that teach what DOE wants taught. The Department can be expected to insist that the values taught in the national curriculum conform to the very liberal ideology of the Obama administration.

According to the announcement, this federal curriculum will consist of “internationally benchmarked” standards. The only extant comprehensive “internationally benchmarked” education standards are those developed by UNESCO, the UN’s education arm. The UNESCO website clarifies that its education standards conform to the treaties and agreements of the UN. This means that its curriculum includes, for example, the requirements of the UN’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) which says, “Education shall . . . further the activities of the United Nations” (Art. 26:2).

American schools used to teach the fundamental values of the United States—including the inalienable, God-given rights of life, liberty and property, as guaranteed by our Declaration of Independence and Constitution. Not any more. Now our students will be indoctrinated in the UN’s definition of human

rights. As clarified by the UN’s UDHR, our rights now may not “be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations” (Art 29:3). Our children will be taught that they have only those rights the UN says they have.

The UNESCO standards also include the UN’s Earth Charter which further defines internationally benchmarked standards. The Charter says these standards must entail what it calls “sustainability education” (Art 14:b). The Charter explains that “sustainability education” entails the “promotion of the equitable distribution of wealth within nations and among nations” (Art. 10:a), nuclear disarmament (Art. 16:d), gay marriage (Art. 12:a), legalized abortion (Art. 7:e), adoption of an “international legally binding instrument on environment” (The way Forward), and indoctrination in pantheism (Art. 14d and Art. 16:f).

The National Governor’s Association is enabling the Obama administration’s plans by calling for “voluntary national education standards.” Goals 2000 of 1994 was “voluntary,” too, but most legislators were unaware of the fine print in the companion bill, HR6, which required that states would lose all their federal education funding if they failed to comply. That is why all 50 states joined Goals 2000. The Obama administration has made it clear that it views “voluntary national standards” the same way.

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