

A Bridge in Baltimore: A Speculative Analysis

[A Bridge in Baltimore, Part Two: A Speculative Analysis](#)

by [Joseph P. Farrell](#), [Giza Death Star](#)

April 3, 2024

On Monday last [I attempted to gather](#) together some significant and representative articles about the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore harbor after one of its load-bearing pylons was struck by the container ship *Dali* as it was attempting to leave the harbor. I indicated then that I would offer, in Part Two of the blog, a speculative analysis of what I think might have happened, and, by implication, who might have been behind the incident.

I say “incident” because I do not, as of this writing, believe for a moment that this was a simple and sad accident as the goobernment and the F.I.B. (Federal Investigation Bureau) would have us believe. The government and its spokesmen are inveterate liars, and judging by the articles so many of you gathered and sent and which composed our article “round-up” in Part One, there are many out there who had the same initial reaction to the F.I.B.’s announcement as I: we simply don’t believe the “it-wasn’t-terrorism” narridigm.

But such events require more than just skepticism of government “obfuscations” in order to argue for the incident having been deliberately planned.

In Monday’s blog, I briefly mentioned that in order to understand the event, one might have to seek to situate it in a much wider context than even current geopolitical events such as the Moscow terrorist attacks. I did not, however,

specify what that wider context might be, other than to include in the “round-up” of articles an article noting that global positioning systems in the Baltic region of Europe appeared to have been subject to massive jamming and spoofing over a 63 hour period, interfering with aircraft and ship positions during that period. Most assessments agree that this is the result of Russian electronic warfare measures, and on that score, I would concur.

But it is the capability *itself* that I wished to highlight by including that article, because that capability alludes to three other episodes in recent years that have also exercised my attention, and long-time regular readers here might recognize what they are: the *USS Donald Cook* Incident, the *USS Fitzgerald* Incident, and the *USS John McCain* Incident. In each of these incidents, a US Navy warship was involved. In the last two incidents, merchant ships collided with the warships under circumstances that I regard as peculiar and unusual, and while time and space do not permit me to review all those details here, the explanations of the Navy and the press at the time of the latter two incidents explained them as accidents and the result of poor decisions and training on the part of the officers and crews of the warships, in addition to the poor training on the part of the merchant vessels’ crews that collided with them. Aiding in these explanations are the fact that they occurred in some of the busiest shipping lanes in the world: the Malacca straits near Singapore (in the case of the *McCain*) and the busy waterways near Tokyo and Yokohama, Japan (in the case of the *Fitzgerald*). At the time of both incidents, I argued the behavior of the merchant ships that actually did the colliding with the US navy warships was suggestive of those ship’s steerage having been technologically (and perhaps remotely) accessed and controlled, and that the collisions may have been deliberate. At the time, some friends who had spent time in the Navy assured me that my speculations were nonsense, and that the accidents were, indeed, accidents. However, I remained then,

and remain now, unpersuaded, and continue to believe that my speculations in this regard may be viable explanations. The relevance of those speculations to the Francis Scott Key Bridge Incident will be immediately apparent to the reader. We'll return to that point in a moment.

What convinced me that such speculations were a possibility were the two *USS Donald Cook* Incidents. The first Incident, if the reader does not recall, occurred while the Aegis-class frigate was in the Black Sea in the tense weeks' and months' aftermath of the Maiden coup. An "obsolescent" Russian Sukhoi-22 fighter jet approached the ship on a very low altitude attack trajectory, and then apparently engaged some sort of electronic warfare technology *that completely shut down* the *Donald Cook's* sophisticated electronics, leaving the vessel essentially a helpless bit of floating metal in the Black Sea.

Message received: the *Donald Cook* managed to restore enough of its electronics to limp to the Romanian port of Constanza (for "rest of the crew" as we were told at the time). A few months later, in the Baltic, the Incident was repeated, again with the *Donald Cook* and, once again, a Russian Sukhoi-22 fighter jet which approached at very low altitude on a mock attack run, and again, interfered with the warship's electronics. Apparently the "crew rest" in Constanza, Romania had not fixed the problem. Message *not* received. (And sorry, no, I am not buying the idea that the US navy deliberately provoked the incidents to learn about Russian electronic capabilities, and that the US Navy is perfectly capable of countering them.)

This technological ability implies the possibility that a ship's systems might be remotely accessed, interfered with, and possibly even commandeered to the extent that a crew no longer has control of the ship. And this in turn implies the possibility that such an event may have occurred with the *Dali's* collision with the pylon of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore. That *something* was happening on

the *Dali's* bridge and engine rooms is apparent from the video that, by now, we have all seen: the ship makes its way down the channel, loses power, regains it, loses it again, regains it, smoke begins to pour out of a funnel toward the stern, the ship then appears to turn out of the main channel and to starboard and thus toward the southern pylon of the bridge, power goes out and on again, the ship hits the pylon, and the bridge collapses, taking the lives of some pot hole repair crews with it. Notably, as all of this is occurring, road traffic on the bridge continues until it suddenly stops in time for the bridge to be vacant of road traffic just before the collision. This is also a crucial point, for it means that there was communication between the ship and the shore, and that authorities were alerted to a problem on the ship, and to stop traffic from entering the bridge. This in turn means that the crew *knew there was a problem, and that a collision was possible*. This implies, in its turn, that the crew recognized either that they had lost control of the ship or were about to.

So what do we have? We have (1) power losses, (2) smoke indicating that the ship's big diesel engines might be being restarted, or some other possibility, (3) a probable notification of shore personnel that controlled access to the bridge by someone in the ship's crew, or possibly by the harbor pilot, to shut the bridge down, and finally(4) a starboard turn of the ship directly toward the southern pylon. We must not assume that the communication from the ship to the shore to alert the bridge controllers to shut down traffic occurred on the ship's communications systems. If there was interference with the ship's electronics (suggested by the power outages), other systems – cell phones, radios, &c – in the possession of the crew might not have been effected and hence might have been used. You'll note that, in the articles gathered thus far, we have heard little to nothing about the composition of the crew other than that the ship's master was, suggestively, Ukrainian. We do not know who the harbor

pilot(s) was or were, and we know nothing about the crew nor what they might have observed on the ship as all this was transpiring. I find this point to be extremely suspicious, for it might indicate that the crew has been sequestered and deliberately kept from public view in order to insure "they are able to read their lines correctly." I suggest that these peculiar facts align with the idea of a commandeering of at least some of the ship's systems by technology, and a crew seeking to regain control of the ship (hence the power outages and warning of shore personnel). Technology is indicated for a very different reason, namely, the requirements of Lloyd's of London and other major insurers that such ships have redundant systems for steering and so on. For a ship to collide with a bridge pylon *after* a perfectly executed starboard turn might indicate not only the failure of redundant systems to work to avoid collision; it might also mean that the steering was operating, but the warnings from the ship to shore to shut the bridge down might further indicate that the crew lost *control* of it.

This type of argumentation makes the *other* indications of a well-planned and executed infrastructure attack even more compelling: (1) the fact that, by collapsing the bridge, US military sealift capability is affected by stranding two sealift ships in the Baltimore harbor, (2) the possible collapse of the bridge onto a major underwater energy pipeline, (3) the closure of the harbor itself, (4) the symbolic nature of collapsing a bridge named for the composer of the lyrics to the USA's national anthem, and finally, and not least (5) the timing of the attack for a time *when the least possible collateral loss of life* would occur. Imagine if the attack had occurred at 5PM, or 7AM, at the height of the evening or morning rush hours, and you get the idea: the loss of life would have been much much higher. If one argues, as I am, that the Incident was a deliberate attack and not an "accident", then this factor of timing indicates the type of player or agency involved: one (1) capable of planning and

executing such an event, (2) in possession of the technology to do it (if indeed a technology was involved), and (3) someone deliberately trying to inflict serious damage while minimizing loss of life.

In this respect the speculations of Tom Luongo, whose article I included in Monday's blog, are well worth pondering. Was it Russia? Are we looking at a potential retaliation by that country for the Moscow terrorist attack? Possibly. Certainly the attempt to minimize collateral loss of life might indicate this. The one key factor that would argue against this being a Russian operation is the timing: there would not appear to be enough time between the Moscow attacks and the Francis Scott Key Bridge Incident to organize such a complex operation, and to position the personnel and (if I am correct) the technology to do it. On the other hand, arguing in *favor* of a Russian operation is the simple fact that only Russia has demonstrated a technological electronic capability that might include the ability to commandeer a ship's control systems. (Here, I must make mention of those UFO incidents over Malmstrom Air Force Base, and in Wyoming, where UFOs allegedly remotely and electronically interfered with the electronics of a flight of Minutemen ICBMs, changing their targeting data entirely remotely. As has been noted by Richard Hastings in his book *UFOs and Nukes*, the Air Force contracted with Boeing to find out what had happened, and Boeing was able to reproduce the incident remotely, implying both that such technology is not ipso facto "extraterrestrial", and that remote electronic commandeering of such systems is possible). So if it was Russian, what about the timing? We must not rule out the possibility that if this *is* a Russian response or "horizontal escalation" for the West's activities in the Ukraine since 2014, that this might be a response to *older* incidents than the Moscow terrorist attacks, such as the West's attacks on the Kerch Strait bridge. Viewing it in this fashion removes the problem posed by the timing of it as a retaliation for the Moscow Terror attacks. It might be retaliation for some other,

older attack on Russia.

Might this be someone *else's* attack? Luongo makes an intriguing case that it may have been, up to and including the sclerotic powers of Europe like the U.K. or France, whose "leaders" like Boris Johnson or President Macron have given ample public testimony to their desire to see the Ukrainian war linger on and on, with the US's continuing financial support, a support which has obviously wavered in recent months. Could it even be a third party, a non-state actor, intent on sewing enough chaos and confusion – and ill-will – into Russo-American relations? Again, possibly.

In the final analysis, a reasonable case can be made for all these possibilities, but in my opinion, not enough information is yet known to indicate which of these possibilities might be the most likely.

But one thing seems to emerge clearly from the collapsed wreckage, the bent and twisted girders, of the namesake bridge of the author of the USA's national anthem lyrics: this was no accident. If you believe the F.I.B., then I have a bridge in Baltimore to sell you. So let's call it what it is: it isn't the Francis Scott Key Bridge Incident. It's the Francis Scott Key Bridge Attack. So why the fib of the F.I.B.? Think geopolitics... and insurance... and independent insurance investigators ...

See you on the flip side...

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Cover image credit: Adm. Linda L. Fagan, commandant of the Coast Guard, Vice Adm. Peter W. Gautier, deputy commandant for operations, Governor Wes Moore, governor of Maryland, and Mayor Brandon Scott, mayor of Baltimore, transit by Coast Guard boat to assess the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse in Baltimore, Maryland, March 29, 2024. The Key Bridge

was struck by the Singapore-flagged cargo ship Dali early morning on March 26, 2024. (U. S. Coast Guard photo by [Petty Officer 1st Class Brandon Giles](#))

James Corbett: Is Opposing Israel Anti-Semitic?

[James Corbett: Is Opposing Israel Anti-Semitic?](#)

by [James Corbett](#), [The Corbett Report](#)

March 11, 2024

The genocide in Gaza continues and world reaction is turning against the state of Israel. But does this mean the world is growing anti-semitic? Join James for an important exploration of the situation in Palestine and why there can be no exceptions made for anyone when it comes to basic morality.

Documentation:

March Open Thread	
Time Reference:	00:33

Comment by THE LILAC DRAGONFLY	
Time Reference:	04:09

[Will the Al-Aqsa Flood Drown Us All? – #NewWorldNextWeek](#)

Time Reference:	07:17
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[Israel's 9/11 on The Last American Vagabond](#)

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[Israel, Propaganda and Apocalypse on The Truth Expedition](#)

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[Interview 1869 – The Flour Massacre and the Gaza Holocaust \(NWNW 547\)](#)

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[Israel Bombs Areas of Southern Gaza Where It Told Palestinians To Flee](#)

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<u>□□□□ □□□□ (Truth News)</u>	
Time Reference:	15:53

<u>Israeli Apartheid: "A Threshold Crossed"</u>	
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<u>Israel Must Comply with Key ICJ Ruling Ordering it Do All in its Pow</u>	
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<u>BBC Report Debunking IDF Al-Shifa Hospital / Hamas Headquarters Prop</u>	
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'This is Martial Law'—US Soldiers Force Women from Car at Gunpoint for Pumping Gas Past Curfew

['This is Martial Law'—US Soldiers Force Women from Car at Gunpoint for Pumping Gas Past Curfew](#)

by [Matt Agorist](#), [The Free Thought Project](#)

April 19, 2021

Minneapolis, MN – On April 11, 2021, just miles from where George Floyd took his last breaths on Earth as they were squeezed from his body by officer Derek Chauvin, [Daunte Wright](#) was targeted by police over an alleged expired tag. Because the American police state is a violent behemoth which knows no self-restraint, a few moments into the stop and Wright would be killed at the hands of those who claim to protect him.

The unjust nature of Wright's death sparked massive backlash in the form of protests and riots leading to Mayor Jacob Frey of Minneapolis declaring a state of emergency.

With the curfew implemented and hundreds of protesters arrested for simply being outside too late, the unrest tapered off last week. However, videos have surfaced showing some rather shocking scenes unfold as Minneapolis and the surrounding areas turned into an outright militarized police state.

Even folks who were not involved in the protests have been rounded up under what many are saying appears to be martial

law. Over the weekend, video surfaced of the heavy handed militarized tactics being used by both police and military who were called in to quell the unrest. It is nothing short of shocking.

According to the person who posted the video, several women, not affiliated with the protests, were attempting to gas up their vehicle – apparently after curfew – when heavily armed soldiers surrounded their car. The soldiers then ordered the women from the car with AR-15 rifles pointed at their heads.

As the completely harmless women, one of them in yoga pants, are ordered out of the vehicle, they are then forced to kneel on the ground with their hands on their heads. The scene was akin to a raid on the Taliban in Kabul, but happened in Minneapolis, and instead of the Taliban, it was innocent women in yoga pants.

Naturally, the footage has sparked criticism online with many comparing the scene to martial law.

“Whoever ordered this idiocy shld be unceremoniously & summarily removed from office. Arresting ppl at a MN gas station–pointing military grade assault rifles in their faces–is just outrageous. No elected official shld ever get away w this,” one Twitter user wrote.

“When there is widespread civil unrest, a state basically has 2 options: 1 – make a few concessions to public demands, or 2 – use tyrannical force to quell the unrest. And it’s quite obvious the direction our ruling class wants to go as public anger and despair continues to grow,” another tweet read.

Predictably, the debate online devolved into Twitter users blaming Donald Trump or Joe Biden – depending on which side of the political trough they choose to feed. Unfortunately both of them miss the point as this militarized police state is bipartisan. It was here long before Trump and began ramping up

under George W. Bush during antiwar protests and came to a head under Obama during the [Ferguson unrest](#).

There was one difference, however and some folks pointed out how the mainstream media didn't even pick this story up at all now that Trump is out of office.

"This is the "return to normalcy" people were wanting. Because last year...whats happening in Minnesota, Portland, and Chicago right now would be on every news station and would be the top topics on Twitter. But now that the orange man is gone...we can talk about Cats again," wrote one Twitter user.

Though this person is likely pro-Trump, his point holds merit. The national guard ordering women out of their car at gunpoint for pumping gas after curfew is most assuredly a national story – yet we couldn't find a single mainstream media outlet who covered it.

When you watch the video below, remember as the mainstream media fills the airwaves with divisive propaganda, they are choosing not to show Americans the massive police state being constructed around them.

Yikes [#minneapolis pic.twitter.com/m4HZ0C9zWK](#)

– Goddess (@MazvitaJames) [April 17, 2021](#)

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Lies, Damned Lies, Statistics, and Murder: The Real Nature of Government

[Lies, Damned Lies, Statistics, and Murder: The Real Nature of Government](#)

by [Gary D. Barnett](#)

March 26, 2021

“People do not expect to find chastity in a whorehouse. Why, then, do they expect to find honesty and humanity in government, a congeries of institutions whose modus operandi consists of lying, cheating, stealing, and if need be, murdering those who resist?” ~ [H. L. Mencken](#)

Political power, let's call that government, can only be achieved if those few holding that power convince the people at large, let's call them subjects, to voluntarily consent to be ruled. By creating elections, the government in essence claims power by consent, as voting in this flawed and corrupt system means accepting that system and accepting the outcome. That acceptance, while implied, is meant to serve as the law of the land, and why would it not, given that the people line up by the millions to choose their own masters? If the people can be fooled into believing that such a farce is the basis of their liberty, then they can be managed and controlled quite easily.

As any with even a modicum of intelligence left can see, this entire setup is based on lies, propaganda, and deceit, but the

people continue to participate in this ludicrous process throughout their entire lives; all the time expecting a better result. This is true of those that vote and many that do not.

Most simply accept the system due to indoctrination and a lifetime of brainwashing. This of course, is the definition of insanity, and so long as the masses remain in this state of confusion and compliance, public insanity will be the driving force of the government's success in acquiring and holding power over them.

The preposterous nature of the lack of understanding of freedom by the masses is our biggest problem. This ignorance of liberty has been evident since the so-called "Founders" created this centrally controlled nation-state and their own set of rules for the people to live by at the very secret Constitutional Convention. This is astounding. There has been a steady decline in what partial freedom did exist in the past, but jumping forward to today, all that can be said is that little if any freedom now exists. The decimation of freedom of the individual has been accomplished incrementally, but the continuous assault against the natural rights of Americans has been unrelenting in its march toward the totalitarianism that now consumes this country. This was all planned long ago.

Now we face a total crushing of all liberty at the hands of the state, and few have been able to grasp the absolute urgency of this situation, as most are still of the belief that all will be fine, and we soon will return to the normal amount of tyranny that has escalated for decades on end without resistance. For all those that take this uninformed and absurd position, maybe you should consider just some of the things happening right before your eyes, instead of "hoping" that all will magically be remedied.

In one form or another, we have been locked down for over a year. That has changed somewhat in some areas, but is still in effect for many in one form or another. Quarantines, business

closings, and home imprisonment were ordered, and will be ordered again. Mask wearing is still mandated in many areas across many states, but people are still wearing them even if not ordered to do so, so mass compliance and cowardice is evident. Travel outside this country has been nearly shut down, and mandated testing by bogus tests and mask mandates are required, and even domestic travel has become a nightmare. Governments in Europe and the U.S. are aggressively seeking legislation for immunity passports, or "papers," and Europe is very close to approving 'vaccination' proof or 'demanding immunity' proof now. It is claimed that this will expand freedom, when just the opposite is the case, as this is just more propaganda. Mass surveillance is expanding, as is censorship of everyone not going along with the state's dishonest narrative, which is an obvious sign that the government and its partners are attempting to eliminate all truth and free speech. Multiple mass shootings have been taking place, and these seem likely to be staged false flag events, or at least possibly allowed by the enforcement agencies and the FBI. Evidence has already surfaced that they had advance knowledge about the alleged shooter in Boulder. This will be used to set up gun control and gun confiscation in the near future, all under the guise of safety. The telegraphing of continued tyranny is apparent as well, as now the new falsely claimed threat will be mutant variants of a virus that does not exist. These claims are meant to prepare the sheep for more extreme tyranny at the hands of the state. More incidences of police violence against those not willing to comply with mask mandates are occurring, and police brutality is once again increasing. Even Dr. Judy Mikovits was manhandled and injured by airport security in communist California, this even though she had on a special mask given to her by her doctor. Squatters and people unwilling to pay their rent are being protected by the state at the expense of homeowners, as the government in many instances has disallowed eviction due to not paying rent or mortgage payments. This is just a short list.

The toxic and life-changing concoction falsely called a 'vaccination,' is nothing less than a way to poison society, alter the genetic makeup of Americans, and is most certainly causing infertility, sickness, anaphylactic shock, body and mind crippling, and in many cases deaths of individuals taking this shot. More pressure is being applied to get a high percentage of the population injected, and as time goes by, this toxic poison will be required in order to travel and move about, work, enter stores and businesses, to gain access to finances, food, stimulus checks, and many other daily vital functions. In other words, the push to force Americans to get injected with this so-called Covid experiment are already underway, and are expanding every day.

In the midst of all this totalitarian madness, many more agendas are being pursued by the controlling and governing classes, including possible war, monetary restructuring and eliminating cash, gun control, bogus climate change policies that rely on economic destruction and control, government land grabs, the mass transfer of private property from citizens to government due to government mandates causing bankruptcy, the rollout of 'smart' technology that is very detrimental to society, and much more.

The final agendas will include mass extermination of much of the population, transformation of the human mind and body through transhuman alteration, and technocratic control of the planet by the most evil among us.

The people can stop this by practicing en masse total disobedience and dissent at every level possible. Numbers are important, and as more awaken, as is beginning to happen, more dissent should be forthcoming; so much so that with a small percentage of Americans, this debacle we face can be turned around, and this government can be made impotent. Without a mass effort, we will all come to know what slavery and servitude really means, and all will be targeted, whether black, white, Democrat, Republican, left, right, men, women,

gay, straight, and all those others of every culture and ethnicity. None will be spared, so acting and working together to regain freedom is imperative!

Unity and cooperation can win the day, while fighting amongst ourselves will only guarantee tyranny and misery. We must work together in any way possible to defeat this evil enemy called the state, and if we do not, oppression, violence, and killing will be a certainty in our future. This can be done without violence, but if we wait too long, fighting will become necessary; it will be brutal and ugly, but this governing system must be dismantled and its power abolished, as it can never be reformed.

"No price is too high to pay for the privilege of owning yourself." ~ Friedrich Nietzsche

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James Corbett: Exposing Biden's SECRET Plans!!!

[Exposing Biden's SECRET Plans!!!](#)

by [James Corbett](#), [The Corbett Report](#)

March 27, 2021

You don't need a crystal ball to predict the future and you don't need secret, anonymous sources to know what the globalists are planning to do. Don't miss this week's edition of The Corbett Report podcast where James peels backs the curtains on the open conspiracy and details what's likely to happen in the coming years.

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No, President Biden, We Are Not the Government

[No, President Biden, We Are Not the Government](#)

by [Adam Dick](#), [Ron Paul Institute](#)

March 15, 2021

People who desire the protection of freedom from overreaching government have much to be concerned about in President Joe Biden's Thursday [speech](#) focused on coronavirus and coronavirus-related government actions. Yet, likely the most dangerous to freedom proposition in Biden's speech is an assertion he made that goes far beyond coronavirus-related matters – that the United States government is the same as “us,” the American people.

Biden declared in the speech:

Look, we know what we need to do to beat this virus: Tell the truth. Follow the scientists and the science. Work together. Put trust and faith in our government to fulfill its most important function, which is protecting the American people – no function more important.

We need to remember the government isn't some foreign force in a distant capital. No, it's us. All of us. “We the People.” For you and I, that America thrives when we give our hearts, when we turn our hands to common purpose. And right now, my friends, we are doing just that. And I have to say, as your President, I am grateful to you.

Biden is far from the first politician to assert that the American people are the government. Over forty years ago – in

1974, Murray Rothbard examined this absurd, dangerous, and often repeated claim in his essay "The Anatomy of the State." Rothbard's essay begins with a section titled "What the State Is Not" that reads like a direct response to the claim in Biden's speech. Rothbard wrote:

The State is almost universally considered an institution of social service. Some theorists venerate the State as the apotheosis of society; others regard it as an amiable, though often inefficient, organization for achieving social ends; but almost all regard it as a necessary means for achieving the goals of mankind, a means to be ranged against the "private sector" and often winning in this competition of resources. With the rise of democracy, the identification of the State with society has been redoubled, until it is common to hear sentiments expressed which violate virtually every tenet of reason and common sense such as, "we are the government." The useful collective term "we" has enabled an ideological camouflage to be thrown over the reality of political life. If "we are the government," then anything a government does to an individual is not only just and untyrannical but also "voluntary" on the part of the individual concerned. If the government has incurred a huge public debt which must be paid by taxing one group for the benefit of another, this reality of burden is obscured by saying that "we owe it to ourselves"; if the government conscripts a man, or throws him into jail for dissident opinion, then he is "doing it to himself" and, therefore, nothing untoward has occurred. Under this reasoning, any Jews murdered by the Nazi government were not murdered; instead, they must have "committed suicide," since they were the government (which was democratically chosen), and, therefore, anything the government did to them was voluntary on their part. One would not think it necessary to belabor this point, and yet the overwhelming bulk of the people hold this fallacy to a greater or lesser degree.

We must, therefore, emphasize that “we” are not the government; the government is not “us.” The government does not in any accurate sense “represent” the majority of the people. But, even if it did, even if 70 percent of the people decided to murder the remaining 30 percent, this would still be murder and would not be voluntary suicide on the part of the slaughtered minority. No organicist metaphor, no irrelevant bromide that “we are all part of one another,” must be permitted to obscure this basic fact.

If, then, the State is not “us,” if it is not “the human family” getting together to decide mutual problems, if it is not a lodge meeting or country club, what is it? Briefly, the State is that organization in society which attempts to maintain a monopoly of the use of force and violence in a given territorial area; in particular, it is the only organization in society that obtains its revenue not by voluntary contribution or payment for services rendered but by coercion. While other individuals or institutions obtain their income by production of goods and services and by the peaceful and voluntary sale of these goods and services to others, the State obtains its revenue by the use of compulsion; that is, by the use and the threat of the jailhouse and the bayonet. Having used force and violence to obtain its revenue, the State generally goes on to regulate and dictate the other actions of its individual subjects. One would think that simple observation of all States through history and over the globe would be proof enough of this assertion; but the miasma of myth has lain so long over State activity that elaboration is necessary.

You can read Rothbard’s complete essay [here](#).

U.S. Federal “COVID” Spending Just Hit \$41,870 Per Taxpayer. Did You See That Much in Benefit?

[Federal “COVID” Spending Just Hit \\$41,870 Per Taxpayer. Did You See That Much in Benefit?](#)

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sourced from [Activist Post](#)

March 11, 2021

President Biden just [signed](#) his sweeping [\\$1.9 trillion spending package](#) into law. Once this bill hits the books, total taxpayer expenditure on ([ostensibly](#)) COVID relief will [hit \\$6 trillion](#)—which, roughly estimated, comes out to [\\$41,870](#) in spending per federal taxpayer.

Did you see anywhere near that much in benefit?

The sheer immensity of this spending is hard to grasp. For context, \$6 trillion is more than one-fourth of what the US economy produces in an entire year, [according to Fox Business](#). The COVID spending blowout is at least eight times bigger than the (inflation-adjusted) [price tag](#) of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s “New Deal.”

Moreover, the COVID spending bills have all lost huge sums of money to [unrelated carve-outs, politician pet projects, corporate bailouts, fraud, waste, and worse](#).

In the latest \$1.9 trillion package, more than [90 percent of the spending](#) is not directly related to containing COVID-19. Only [1 percent of the money](#), about \$15 to \$20 billion, is

spent on vaccines. Meanwhile, hundreds of billions go to bailing out poorly managed state governments' budget holes that predate the pandemic and [\\$86 billion rescues failing pension plans](#). Meanwhile, billions more go to Obamacare expansion and [subsidizing public schools long after the pandemic](#).

And that's just scratching the surface.

The Math Doesn't Add Up

The numbers here really are quite damning.

For the same \$6 trillion in expenditure, the government could have given every federal taxpayer a \$41,870 check. Or, to think about it a bit differently, it could have written every American roughly an [\\$18,181 check](#).

Let's compare this to what most Americans actually received.

Only someone who fully collected expanded unemployment benefits throughout the pandemic and received all \$3,200 in total of the stimulus payments likely received more than \$18,181 in direct benefit from this spending package. And that's a relatively small fraction of the public.

Because of the way the government used outdated (and arbitrary) income data to determine eligibility, many more taxpayers saw nothing or little in exchange for their \$41,870 share of the cost, perhaps just the initial \$1,200 stimulus or none at all. (Meanwhile, [billions in checks went to dead people](#)).

So, for almost all Americans, the actual benefits of the multiple pieces of lengthy stimulus legislation come in far, far below the figure that they would have received if the entire pile of money was just even split up and sent out.

How can that possibly be considered a success? In fact, it's actually a net negative.

Trade-Offs Are Inescapable

Too often, the stimulus conversation is simply framed around whether we should give money to a certain group of people or program—rather than also including the trade-offs and costs.

The question isn't just: Should we send people \$1,400 "stimulus" checks? It is, instead: Should we send people \$1,400 stimulus checks at the cost of taking the equivalent amount (or more if you factor in waste) from other people? It's not just whether we should send \$350 billion to state and local governments—but should we do so at the cost of taking an average of [\\$2,442](#) per federal taxpayer?

The Government is Not Santa Claus

Money doesn't grow on trees. Or, as the great economist Ludwig von Mises put it, the government "does not have the powers of the mythical Santa Claus."

"The truth is the government cannot give if it does not take from somebody," Mises wrote in *Bureaucracy*. "They cannot spend except by taking out of the pockets of some people for the benefit of others."

The government cannot create wealth out of thin air. It can only give anyone anything via three ways:

- Directly increasing taxes, which discourages economic growth and directly takes money away from people
- Running up debt, which means much higher taxes in the future plus interest, creating a drag on economic growth
- Printing money, which "[stealth taxes](#)" the public via inflation

There's no such thing as a free lunch, and, much to the chagrin of spend-happy politicians', Santa Claus is not real. Government spending doesn't create wealth; it only transfers wealth, generally destroying a lot of it in the process.

So, unless Americans are actually seeing equal or greater benefit from spending compared to its cost, it's a raw deal for taxpayers. And for the federal government's "COVID" spending binge, it's not even close.

Don't believe me? Well, did you see \$41,870 in benefit from these programs? Or even \$18,181?

For almost everyone, the honest answer is no.

Brad Polumbo ([@Brad_Polumbo](#)) is a libertarian-conservative journalist and Opinion Editor at the Foundation for Economic Education.

My Umpteenth Reading of the Anti-Federalist Papers

[My Umpteenth Reading of the Anti-Federalist Papers](#)

by [Joseph P. Farrell](#), [Giza Death Star](#)

March 12, 2021

I'm departing from my normal practice today and am not blogging about an article that readers sent me, but rather, just to share a few interesting quotations that, I hope, will be thought-provoking.

Recently I received a catalogue of books from Dover

Publications, and in its "thrift books" section, it included a collection of some of the Anti-Federalist papers. Dover's "thrift books" are little paperbacks very reasonably priced. This little edition of some of the Anti-Federalist papers cost only six dollars, so I purchased it, and have to say that the papers collected within it were nicely chosen and ordered.

But beyond this, one thing struck me in this latest re-reading; the prescience of some of the anti-federalists with where we are now.

For example, over and over again in the little Dover edition, the warning cry against the Philadelphia convention's creature was that it would inevitably issue in aristocracy; perhaps we might call it today a "plutocracy". "John DeWitt" in his third essay of 5 November 1787 "To the Free Citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts" stated this:

Now therefore is unquestionably the proper time to examine it (the current constitution), and see if it really is what, upon paper, it appears to be. If with your eyes open, you deliberately accept it, however different it may prove in practice what it appears in theory, you will have nobody to blame but yourselves; and what is infinitely worse, as I have before endeavoured to observe to you, you will be wholly without a remedy.

...

Upon attentive examination you can pronounce it nothing less, than a government which, in a few years, will degenerate to a complete Aristocracy, armed with powers unnecessary in any case to bestow, and which in its vortex swallows up every other Government on the Continent. In short, my fellow-citizens, it can be said to be nothing less than a hasty stride to Universal Empire in this Western World, flattering, very flattering to young ambitious minds, but fatal to the liberties of the people. (Dover edition, pp. 48-49.)

George Mason, one of the more well-known anti-federalists, was even more succinct in his predictions, being one of Virginia's delegates to the Philadelphia convention, and one of three delegates to the convention who refused to sign the document on the convention's conclusion, along with Elbridge Gerry and Edmund Randolph. We are constantly reminded of the usual narrative that their refusal was based solely on their concern that the document lacked a Bill of Rights. However, over and over the warnings of "aristocracy" and "corruption" occur, sometimes within, and sometimes outside of, a context of concern about such a lack of a Bill of Rights. No such context for Mason's remarks occurs here:

This Government will commence in a moderate Aristocracy; it is at present impossible to foresee whether it will, in its Operation, produce a Monarchy, or a corrupt oppressive Aristocracy; it will most probably vibrate some Years between the two, and then terminate in one or the other. (Boldface emphasis added)

Beyond this general warning, what comes across in this edition and arrangement of some of the anti-federalist papers is that the concern about "aristocracy" is a general template informing their opposition to the system, and that this was the root of their concern about the absence of a Bill of Rights, their critiques of the preamble, their concerns about the power of the judiciary and the open door to judicial activism (or, in some cases, the lack of judicial action), and so on.

In the current situation, people are turning to renewed study of the document and its promoters and advocates.

But I would offer that it is now even more important to revisit the sadly all-but-forgotten papers of the loyal opposition...

See you on the flip side...

Lawyers' Committee Targets Sham FBI Probe of 2001 Anthrax Attacks

[Lawyers' Committee Targets Sham FBI Probe of 2001 Anthrax Attacks](#)

by [Craig McKee](#), [Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth](#)

March 9, 2021

We know that the anthrax attacks of 2001 were *not* carried out by Muslim terrorists, but what many of us may not know is that these attacks provide strong evidence that 9/11 wasn't either.

Exposing this connection could become much easier if the Lawyers' Committee for 9/11 Inquiry (LC911) is successful in getting the U.S. Congress to launch a new investigation into the hugely significant but often overlooked anthrax attacks.

To this end, LC911 has laid out its rationale for wanting the case reopened in a 78-page [petition](#) that was sent to Congress on October 15, 2020. The petition is accompanied by 69 [exhibits](#). All of this material can be viewed on the LC911 website (LC911for911.org).

LC911 contends that the official narrative of the anthrax attacks is false and that it, like 9/11, involved both a cover-up of what really happened and accusations against innocent parties.



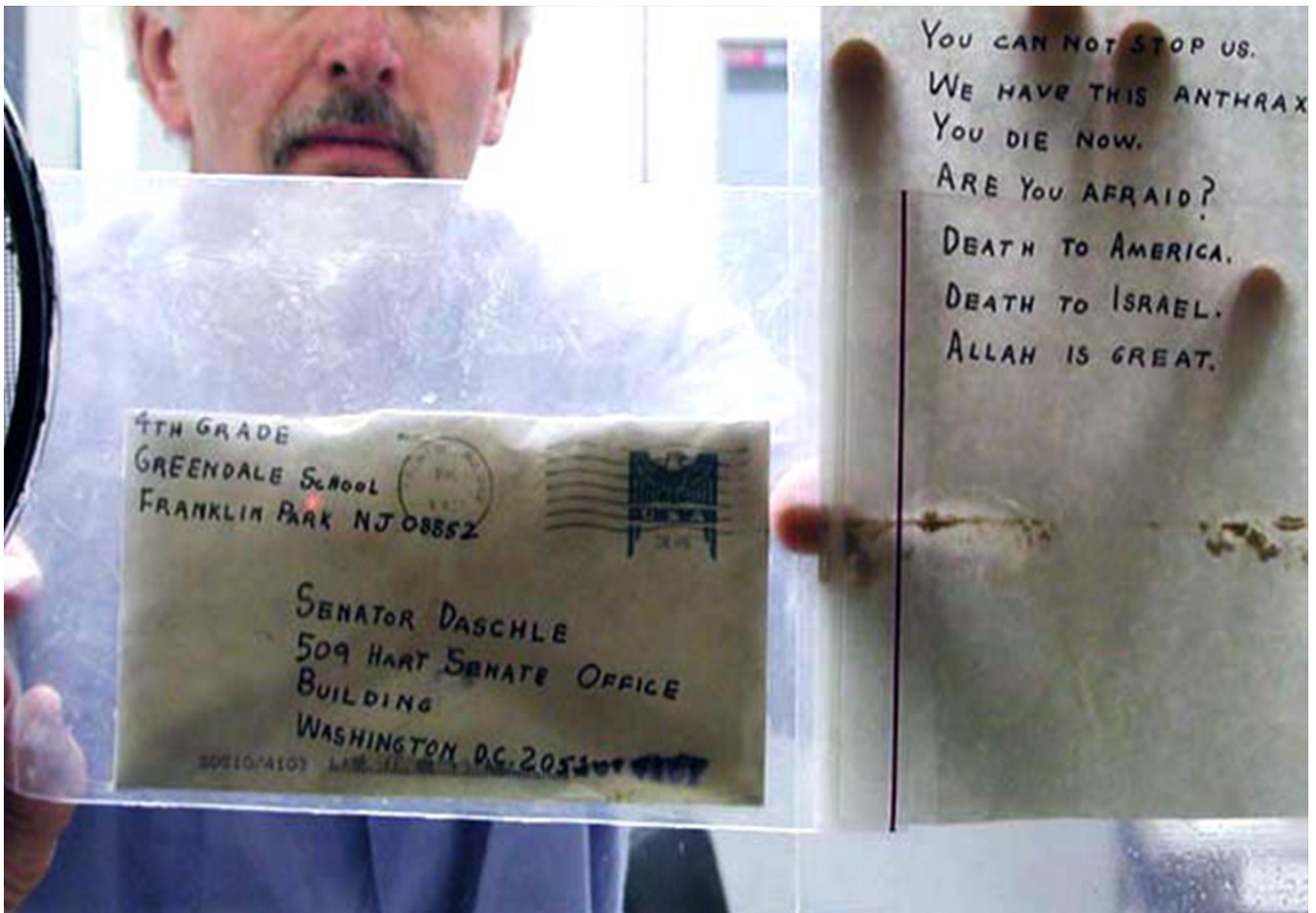
“It’s after 9/11, but we look at it as being connected,” LC911 president David Meiswinkle, who is also a member of his organization’s anthrax committee, explained in an interview. “We did anthrax in part because no one has done it. There is no Architects & Engineers [for 9/11 Truth] for anthrax.”

An essential finding of LC911’s investigation is that the man the FBI and the Department of Justice claim was the sole perpetrator of the attacks, Dr. Bruce Ivins, not only wasn’t responsible but *couldn’t have been*.

Ivins was a microbiologist who worked on anthrax vaccine development at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) at the Fort Detrick military base in Maryland until his apparent suicide in July 2008. It was only after his death that he was publicly named by the FBI as its primary suspect.

The first wave of letters containing dried anthrax spores was sent one week after 9/11 to a number of locations, including several media outlets. A second wave went out the following

month, and these contained a much deadlier variety, with spores that are so concentrated (one trillion spores per gram) that they behaved almost like a gas, Meiswinkle explains.



Among the targets of this second wave were U.S. senators Patrick Leahy and Tom Daschle. Both were resisting the effort to get the Patriot Act passed, and LC911 contends they were targeted to accelerate passage of the bill, something that Vice-President Dick Cheney was pushing hard for.

Five people died in the attacks, including two postal workers, and 17 were injured.



The five victims of the attacks, all fatal, from left to right: Joseph Curseen, Thomas Morris, Jr., Otilie Lundgren, Robert Stevens, Katherine Nguyen.

The letters themselves contained references to 9/11 and suggested that both 9/11 and the anthrax attacks were the work of Muslim terrorists. Then anthrax used was also determined to be from the Ames strain, which is known to be used by the U.S. military, although it is also held by other countries.

Four of the actual letters were recovered, two from the first group of letters and two from the second.



The two from the group first read:

09-11-01

THIS IS NEXT

TAKE PENACILIN NOW [sic]

DEATH TO AMERICA

DEATH TO ISRAEL

ALLAH IS GREAT

The ones from the second group contained similar language and presentation:

09-11-01

YOU CAN NOT STOP US.

WE HAVE THIS ANTHRAX.

YOU DIE NOW.

ARE YOU AFRAID?

DEATH TO AMERICA.

DEATH TO ISRAEL.

ALLAH IS GREAT.

It is significant that, in accusing Ivins, the U.S. government was admitting that the anthrax attacks, which the letters appeared to blame on Muslim extremists, were actually most likely to have originated in a U.S. military facility.

The 9/11 link to anthrax

Prominent 9/11 researcher Graeme MacQueen, also a member of LC911's anthrax committee and author of the 2014 book *The 2001 Anthrax Deception: The Case for a Domestic Conspiracy*, says the fact that we know the anthrax did not come from Muslim terrorists is hugely revealing about 9/11.

"What we're being told is that on September 11th real Islamic terrorists attacked New York and Washington and killed a bunch of people," he says, "and starting about a week later, fake Islamic terrorists – because they pretended in their letters to be Islamic terrorists – who were people actually embedded

in the U.S. military, attacked and killed a bunch of people in Washington and New York.

“It strains credibility. It would make anyone ask, if the second one was fake then maybe the first one was too.”

[MacQueen says](#) LC911 took a different approach with its petition than he did in his book, focusing on scientific evidence that can be positively verified.

“[The book and the petition] complement each other, you could say, but they are not the same.”



In *The 2001 Anthrax Deception* (chapter 7, page 134), MacQueen addresses a stunning link between the anthrax attacks and 9/11 in the form of a connection between several of the alleged 9/11 hijackers and the first person to die in the anthrax attacks.

One of the anthrax letters was sent to the now-defunct Sun newspaper in Boca Raton, Florida. The paper was owned by American Media Inc., the same company that owns the National Enquirer. Robert Stevens was a photo editor at the Sun, and he

was the first to die after coming into contact with the anthrax.

Mike Irish was the paper's editor in chief, and he had known Stevens for 25 years. Mike Irish's wife, Gloria, was a real estate agent who helped two of the alleged hijackers (Marwan al-Shehhi and Hamza al-Ghamdi) find apartments in the summer of 2001. Each of these apartments was shared by two of the alleged "hijackers." Al-Shehhi was said to be a close friend of alleged Flight 11 pilot Mohammed Atta, who he once stayed with in Hamburg, Germany.

Gloria Irish had previously found a house for Stevens. The assertion that it's just a coincidence that the first anthrax victim shared a real estate agent with two alleged 9/11 hijackers isn't credible, MacQueen contends.

In addition, Mike Irish, a licensed pilot, was a former member of the Civil Air Patrol based at the airport in Lantana, Florida. This is the same airport where Atta is supposed to have rented a plane in 2001. Stevens lived in Lantana.

The connections between Gloria Irish and the alleged hijackers were actually reported by several major media in October 2001, but this was before the anthrax attacks had come to light and before the connection to Stevens was clear.



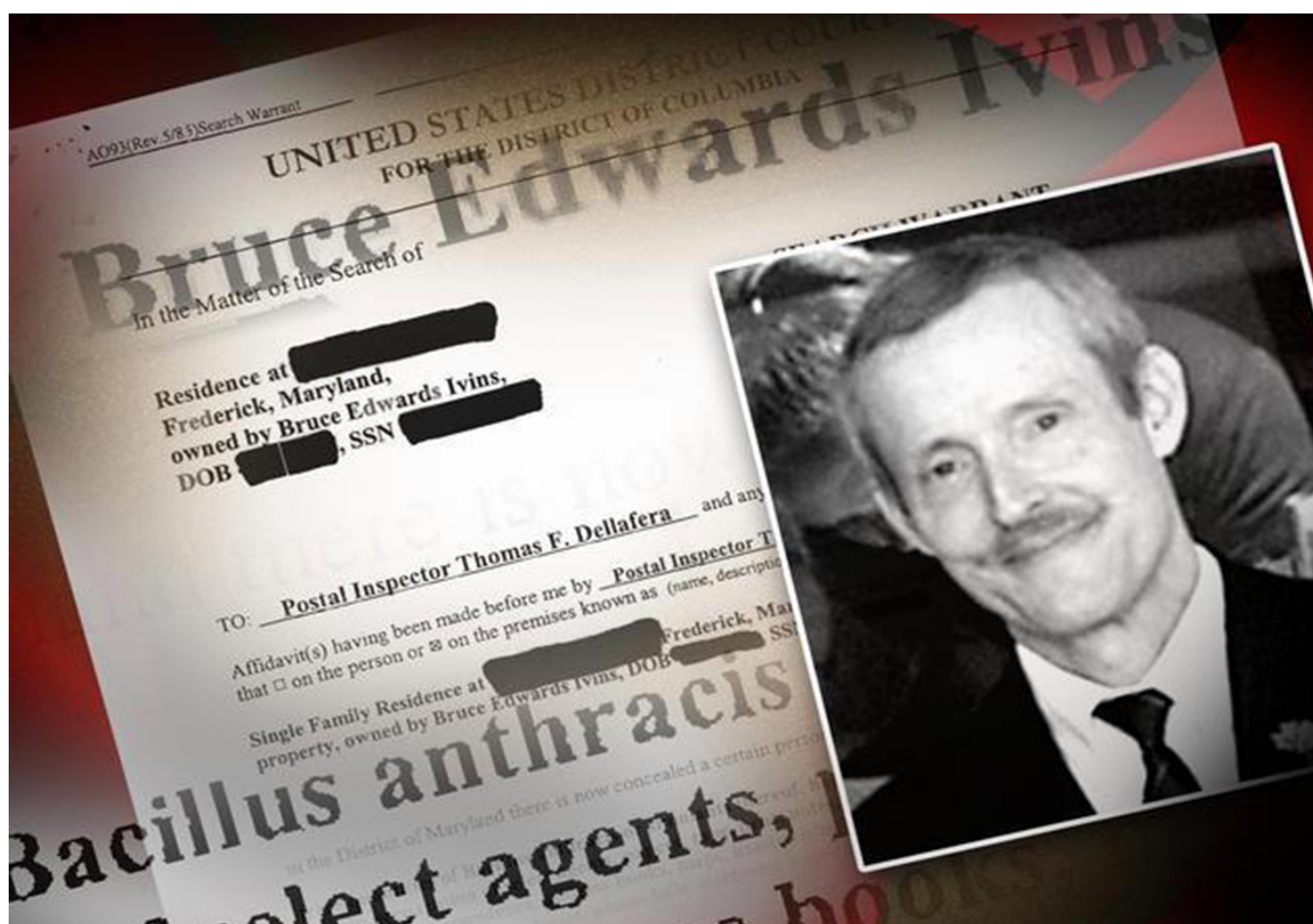
Ivins' colleagues say he was innocent

While Bruce Ivins was publicly accused of the crime only after his apparent suicide, LC911's research shows that the FBI had previously targeted other scientists with harassment and surveillance. All of them, Meiswinkle contends, appear to have been innocent of any involvement.

He explains that one of the ways LC911's anthrax committee developed its bank of evidence was by connecting with four scientists who worked with Ivins at Fort Detrick. These four – two were colonels and one was a lieutenant colonel – have provided statements as well as important documents to LC911 that the public has not seen before.

The USAMRIID scientists, Meiswinkle says, "all agreed that Ivins was the patsy, basically, the fall guy. And he was innocent. They knew him. They knew he couldn't do that, that he didn't have the capability to do it."

LC911 also reached out to Richard Lambert, was in charge of the FBI's "Amerithrax" investigation from 2002–2006. Lambert, who, in a federal court complaint, detailed obstruction by his FBI superiors, told LC911 representatives he met with that they would have to get Congress to subpoena the 2,000-page report he produced for the FBI because the material is classified. While he could not divulge what is in the report, he was able to confirm that 16 of those pages contain information exonerating Ivins.



LC911 petition: five conclusions

LC911 lists five primary conclusions it has reached about the anthrax attacks and the FBI investigation of the attacks in the [executive summary](#) of its petition to Congress, which states:

1. The FBI's sole identified anthrax killer, Dr. Bruce Ivins, a distinguished scientist with a 28-year career

at U.S. Army's Medical Research Institute, was innocent and an unfortunate scapegoat of FBI contrivance.

2. The FBI intentionally, by concealing and avoiding key evidence, steered its investigation away from the most likely suspects, personnel associated with Dugway Proving Grounds, Batelle Memorial Institute, and their contractual CIA partner, and institutions and individuals associated with them, and concentrated on the least likely suspects, scientists from the United States Army Medical Institute of Infection Diseases (USAMRIID), and prematurely concluded its investigation upon the death of Dr. Ivins.
3. Congressional involvement is necessary as the Department of Justice has a conflict of interest in investigating its own alleged misconduct.
4. Those responsible for the anthrax attacks are still at large and the Nation remains in peril.
5. The attacks appear to have been intended to rush passage of the United States Patriot Act, thus undermining civil liberties, facilitating a War on Iraq predicated on nonexistent weapons of mass destruction and inaugurating the War on Terror, which continues to this day.

Anthrax committee member Dr. Meryl Nass has been an expert on the subject of anthrax and anthrax vaccines for 30 years. She took an additional interest in this case because she was friends with Ivins, who she is convinced was framed by the FBI.

"The fact that he was a friend of mine gave me a reason to pursue this all these years," she said in an interview.

"The vast majority of the country thinks the case was never solved or that Ivins did it," she adds. "That's unfortunately how Americans are about many issues. They've been covered once with a flurry of activity and then facts come out gradually that challenge the original narrative, and people never become aware of these facts."

She explains that not only did Ivins work exclusively with liquid anthrax – not the powdered variety used in the attacks – but the FBI could not find even a trace of either of the contaminant bacterium present in the first set of letters nor the silicon signature found in the second used in the attacks in Ivins' Fort Detrick workplace. She says it would be impossible to remove such traces, if they existed.

“The FBI had fumbled along building a case against one perpetrator after another,” she says. “And they went from one person to another with no direct evidence for any of them.”

Nass says she learned from the Fort Detrick scientists that Ivins' apparent suicide made him an easy and convenient “culprit” for the FBI to settle on.

“I learned basically that the FBI had been harassing several of them,” she says, “and that they felt there had been several people that the crime could have been pinned on, and that Bruce was the first one to break and to commit suicide, and that gave the FBI their man.”

The pressure on Ivins during this period was enormous, she adds.

“You take someone who is frail emotionally, and you pound on them for a year. You tell them you are about to accuse them of multiple murders and that you have the powers of the federal government to pin this on them.”

The FBI commissioned the National Academy of Science's National Research Council (NRC) to assess the scientific basis for its conclusion that Ivins was the guilty party. The NRC's 2011 report fell short of supporting the FBI's claim that it had conclusively proven Ivins' guilt, however.

The FBI claimed it had conclusively proven that the anthrax batch Ivins was working with at Fort Detrick, known as RMR-1029, was where the spores used in the attacks had come

from. The NRC report contradicted this claim, stating that while the anthrax spores used in the attacks were “consistent with” spores Ivins worked with, there was no proof that they were the same.

Nass points out that on page 55 of the report, “consistent with” is defined: “The expression “consistent with” is frequently used in this report and conveys the weakest level of certainty (greatest amount of uncertainty). In general, when the term “consistent with” is used, it means that an association may or may not be present; the available data can neither rule out nor confirm an association.”

Nass says that since 2001, biological warfare research has hugely expanded around the world.

“The preponderance of this massive bio-defense infrastructure that has developed in the United State, China, and elsewhere is, to a great extent, a consequence of the anthrax letters.”

LC911 board member and 9/11 researcher Barbara Honegger – who chronicled the connections between the anthrax attacks and 9/11 in a 2008 [article](#) – appeared at AE911Truth’s “Justice Rising: 9/11 in 2020” conference last September (along with fellow board members Meiswinkle and Mick Harrison) – to discuss LC911’s anthrax work.

During her talk, she said the attacks could offer the breakthrough needed to expose the 9/11 deception.

“... the government first wanted you to believe that it was a foreign organization, al-Qaeda, that was behind the anthrax attacks but only long enough to get their Patriot Act rushed through Congress,” she said, “Then and now they want you to believe that 9/11 and the anthrax attacks are completely unrelated, that a lone nut terrorist named Bruce Ivins did the entire thing himself.”

She suggests that the lie that Ivins was responsible is being

used by the government to hide the fact that the same “domestic terrorists” – or at least some of the same ones – that were responsible for 9/11 also pulled off the anthrax attacks.

Meiswinkle says the goal is ultimately to get the evidence in front of a grand jury. LC911 has already submitted a grand jury petition concerning the World Trade Center evidence and plans to address both the Pentagon and Shanksville elements of 9/11 in the months ahead. It is also considering focusing on government obstruction, which he says is present in both 9/11 and the anthrax attacks.

If successful in getting Congress to investigate the anthrax attacks, LC911 could not only exonerate an innocent man, but it could open the eyes of many to the fact that these lesser-understood attacks provide powerful insights into the truth about 9/11 itself.

James Corbett: Visual Learning, Used in Government Propaganda, Is a Key Tool for Presenting Info & Waking People Up

[James Corbett: Visual Learning, Used in Government Propaganda, Is a Key Tool for Presenting Info & Waking People Up](#)

[How to Present Info for Visual Learners – #SolutionsWatch](#)

by [James Corbett](#), *[The Corbett Report](#)*

March 2, 2021

A picture is worth a thousand words, and it is often the case that a well-crafted image can get the point across much more effectively than a lengthy diatribe. Joining us to demonstrate this concept is the author of “[Government – The Biggest Scam in History](#),” which makes the case in a compelling, image-based way that government of every flavour has been a scam of inter-generational organized crime since the beginning.

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David Icke w/ John Smith: Overcoming Fascist Government Mandates & Reopening for Business Under Common Law

[Common Law Court's John Smith Talks With David Icke About How Businesses Can Reopen Under Common Law and Overcome the Fascist Impositions of the State](#)

by [David Icke](#)

February 28, 2021

Original video available at David Icke [BitChute](#) and [Banned.Video](#) channels.

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Illegally-Detained Montreal Man Defies "Orders" and Walks Out of Quarantine Hotel

Illegally-Detained Montreal Man Defies "Orders" and Walks Out of Quarantine Hotel

[This Montreal man walked out of a quarantine hotel](#)

by [David Menzies](#), [Rebel News](#)

February 25, 2021

Meet Montreal-based salesman Shmarya Plotkin. He makes several trips via automobile every year to New York state, given that the lion's share of his customer base is in the U.S.A. He's been making these trips without incident for some 25 years. But recently, when driving back to Quebec, things went

sideways – big time.

Firstly, he encountered a gruff border agent who asked Shmarya if he had bought anything in the U.S.

Since Shmarya is an honest man, he provided an honest answer, that he had indeed bought a few boxes of pasta costing about \$15. So much for honesty being the best policy. This seemed to inexplicably trigger the border guard, to such an extent that he told Shmarya he had to be immediately quarantined at a Montreal hotel! What's more, he had to drive there without making any stops, even though Shmarya's house was on the way, and he wanted to grab some food and a change of clothing. But he was sternly told that there were no exceptions to this rule.

When he got to the hotel, the front desk employees didn't even know the property was being used as a quarantine facility! Shmarya was eventually told to go to a side entrance that was manned by a security guard.

The room he was placed in was tiny and hot, no matter how he tinkered with the thermostat. By this time, Shmarya was famished, but when his meal came, it was ghastly, and in a quantity that would make a budgie pine for more. (Shmarya was forbidden to have a delivery service bring food to him.)

Eventually, he reached a boiling point, and decided to leave the hotel where he'd been ordered to quarantine. When he encountered interference from a security guard, he called media outlet TVA – and the police. The police told the security guards they could not forcibly confine him, and soon Shmarya was making a beeline home to his wife and children. It was, in a word, a nightmare. And it was perpetrated for absolutely no good reason.

Check out my interview with Shmarya [here](#). And take heed of the moral of the story: there is nothing that prevents authorities from lying to you – such as telling you that you MUST stay

captive in a quarantine hotel...

[Fight the Fines Canada](#)

As Americans Wait for \$2,000 Checks, Biden Has No Problem Bypassing Congress to Bomb Syria

[As Americans Wait for \\$2,000 Checks, Biden Has No Problem Bypassing Congress to Bomb Syria](#)

by [Matt Agorist](#), [The Free Thought Project](#)

February 26, 2021

In her first interview after her defeat in the 2016 presidential election by Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton [called on the United States to bomb Syria](#). Only hours later, in lock step with his formal alleged 'rival,' Trump sent 59 Tomahawk missiles hurling into Al-Shayrat air base in Homs, Syria using two US Navy destroyers. This illegal act of war was carried out in less than three months into his presidency on April 4, 2017.

This strike came with zero approval from Congress, zero

investigation into the alleged crimes of Assad, and, in spite of Trump's longstanding history standing against US meddling in Syria.

In true war hawk fashion – [following in the footsteps of his predecessor](#) – President Joe Biden, in less than two months into *his* presidency, launched an airstrike in the same country. Like Trump before him, Biden carried out this act of war with absolutely zero Congressional approval and, according to several sources, without evidence.

Naturally, every mainstream outlet in the country began running with the same narrative handed down to them from the Washington. This was in spite of any clear connection.

(CNN) — The US military struck a site in Syria on Thursday used by two Iranian-backed militia groups following [rocket attacks on American forces](#) in the region in the past two weeks, according to a US official.

The strikes mark the military's first known action under President Joe Biden. [The site was not specifically tied to the rocket attacks](#), but were believed to be used by Iranian-backed Shia militias operating in the region.

These strikes are unconstitutional and dangerous. There's no general authority for a president to launch airstrikes, and President Biden hasn't claimed they were necessary to stop an imminent attack. Our Constitution demands he get approval from the representatives of the people. <https://t.co/zE21bZ0zlk> – Justin Amash (@justinamash) [February 26, 2021](#)

Just like Trump did during Obama's presidency, during Trump's presidency, Biden decried Trump's foreign policy only to get into office and march in lockstep with the US war machine.

If Biden could take his own advice on this one, that would be great... <https://t.co/8reZTk6Lt0> – Rachel Blevins (@RachBlevins) [February 26, 2021](#)

As Dave DeCamp writes for [Antiwar.com](https://antiwar.com):

According to Reuters, [the US bombed a structure in Syria](#) belonging to what it described as an “Iran-backed militia.” Two anonymous US officials told Reuters that the attack was approved by President Biden.

The airstrike is being presented as retaliation for recent rocket attacks in Iraq, including one in Erbil, the capital of Iraqi Kurdistan, that killed a contractor. The US often blames these types of attacks on Iran-aligned groups, but there are many forces inside Iraq that have their own reasons to fire on the US.

Kataib Hezbollah, an Iraqi Shia militia aligned with Iran, [denied any role in the Erbil attack](#). With Iran seeking sanctions relief from the new administration, orchestrating such an attack does not seem to be in their interest.

The Biden administration has yet to publicly attribute blame for the Erbil attack, but US media outlets [were quick to blame the incident on Iran](#) despite a lack of evidence.

“Don’t concede the point that whoever Biden just bombed in Syria had anything to do with recent rocket attacks on US bases in Iraq. Plenty of Iraqis have their own reasons to fire on the US. How would you feel about an occupying force that’s been bombing your country for 30 years?” DeCamp Tweeted.

It wasn’t just Biden who decried Trump when he was at the helm of the US war Machine either, Biden’s press secretary Jen Psaki, also decried it.

You should ask yourself this question at the press conference today. <https://t.co/LzUis11BIE> – Matt Agorist (@MattAgorist) [February 26, 2021](#)

To those paying attention, Biden’s actions on Thursday were

entirely predictable. His supporters, however, are now a bit confused.

So, [@JoeBiden](#) bombs Syria and kills the minimum wage hike, confirming every fear progressives had. Soon they'll renege on getting \$2000 checks to everyone in the middle class by limiting who gets it (to appease their donors). The establishment is back! And it absolutely sucks. – Cenk Uygur (@cenkuygur) [February 26, 2021](#)

Biden promised to forgive their student loans, hand out \$2,000 stimulus checks, raise minimum wage, get the kids out of cages, and help America heal after four years of Orange man bad. Instead, however, he is continuing the wars in the Middle East, bolstering the police state, and giving billions to the military industrial complex. Oh, and kids are [still in cages](#).

The \$2,000 checks are going to Raytheon and Lockheed Martin instead of those who need them, and you should have seen it coming.

In the land of the free, war is the common ground on which the partisans find resolve.

Unfortunately, the masses are so easily distracted and manipulated into fearing whatever boogiemán the state throws at them like COVID, the 'insurrection', Antifa, defunding the police, or Trump 2024. This fear and distraction, in turn, feeds the military industrial complex while laying waste to human rights – both abroad and domestically. But the masses typically do not care as long as war is elsewhere and as long as the new war machine comes peeled off those MAGA stickers and replaced them with BLM and LGBTQ+ stickers.

“The past was alterable. The past never had been altered. Oceania was at war with Eastasia. Oceania had always been at war with Eastasia.” – George Orwell, 1984

James Corbett: Precedent Trump

[James Corbett: Precedent Trump](#)

by [James Corbett](#), [The Corbett Report](#)

February 26, 2021

So here we are in 2021, living in the smoking wreckage of Pax Americana. What was the meaning of the last four years? What lessons have been learned, and how will those lessons be applied going forward? What, in other words, was Precedent Trump?

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[Candidate Trump embraces “Lock Her Up” Chant](#)

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[President Trump praises Bill and Hillary on inauguration day](#)

President Trump: "That plays great before the election. Now we don't care!"

"We're gonna drain the swamp of Washington, we're gonna have fun doing it."

Trump appoints Bolton

"And we are going to drain the swamp of corruption in Washington, D.C."

Trump appoints Pompeo

"We are going to DRAIN . . . THE . . . SWAMP!"

Trump appoints Giuliani

"It is time to drain . . . the swamp."

Trump appoints Haspel

"NATO is obsolete, it's old, it's fat, it's sloppy"

"And I said it's obsolete"

"But they asked me about NATO, I said it's obsolete"

"Recently I have said that NATO was obsolete."

"It's no longer obsolete."

"We've destabilized the middle east and it's a mess."

Trump announces strikes on Syria

"The war in Iraq was a big, fat mistake."

Trump's speech on Afghanistan

Candidate Trump talks about vaccine/autism link

President Trump launches Operation Warp Speed

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U.S. Never-Ending Wars: Thirty Years Ago, America's "First War" Against Iraq

[U.S. Never-Ending Wars: Thirty Years Ago, America's "First War" Against Iraq](#)

by [Professor Michel Chossudovsky](#), [Global Research](#)

January 24, 2021

Thirty years ago. The so-called "Gulf War" (Iraq War I) was launched against Iraq on January 17, 1991.

Extensive crimes against humanity have been committed.

*On January 16, **President George H. Walker Bush** announced the start of what was called "Operation Desert Storm", which was portrayed as "a peace-making operation" allegedly "to expel occupying Iraqi forces from Kuwait".*

Remember: [The 1991 Gulf War: The Massacre of Withdrawing Soldiers on "The Highway of Death"](#)

There for 60 miles every vehicle was strafed or bombed, every windshield is shattered, every tank is burned, every truck is riddled with shell fragments. No survivors are known or likely. The cabs of trucks were bombed so much that they were pushed into the ground, and it's impossible to see if they contain drivers or not. Windshields were melted away, and huge tanks were reduced to shrapnel.



Those extensive crimes against humanity were the beginning of *a long and unending war against the people of Iraq.*

Historians often refer to the **One hundred years war** between England and France which in fact lasted more than **One Hundred years.** (1337-1453).

They also refer to devastation and destruction underlying **The Thirty Years' War** (1618-1648) which led to the Westphalia Peace Treaty in 1648.

A Thirty Years Wars against Iraq was launched on January 17, 1991. It was called "The Gulf War". It was heralded as a humanitarian intervention. A no fly zone was established. The Northern Republic of Kurdistan gained de facto "autonomy", it became a US sponsored proxy state.

It was the onslaught of what should be identified by historians as:

The 30 years criminal war of the US against the people of Iraq. (1991-)

Reviewing the history of US aggression against Iraq, we can distinguish three distinct stages:

Iraq Wars I (January 1991), **Iraq War II** (March 2003) and **Iraq War III** (August 2014), over several US presidencies, all of which are characterized by extensive crimes against humanity:

- Iraq War I: The Gulf War (January 1991 launched under George H. W. Bush), invoking Iraq's military occupation of Kuwait;
- Iraq War II: The War on Iraq (March 2003 under President George W. Bush), invoking Saddam's "Weapons of Mass Destruction"
- Iraq War II: The August 2014 War on the Islamic State (ISIS) under president Obama, consisting of a massive carpet bombing endeavour which was casually described by the media as an anti-terrorist operation.

These three so-called wars were part of a Thirty Year War which is still ongoing. It is a never-ending war.

The war on Afghanistan did not start in October 2001.

The US declared war on Afghanistan in 1979 under the label of the Soviet-Afghan War, which was sustained by US support to Al Qaeda's Mujahideen referred to by **President Ronald Reagan** as "Freedom Fighters".



President Reagan Meets leaders of Afghanistan's Mujahideen at the White House (1980s)

Let us be under no illusions: The US has supported Al Qaeda and its affiliated organizations for almost half a century [since the heyday of the Soviet Afghan war.](#)

The US has been at war with Afghanistan for over forty years.

Reflecting on Joe Biden. Firm Supporter of Never Ending Wars

In 2003, Joe Biden as Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee firmly endorsed the Bush Administration's decision to invade Iraq in 2003 on the grounds that **Saddam Hussein** "had weapons of mass destruction".

"The American People were deceived into this war", said [Senator Dick Durbin](#). Do not let yourself be deceived again by Joe Biden.

UN Weapons Inspector [Scott Ritter in a July 2002 statement](#) said:

"Sen. Joe Biden is running a sham hearing. It is clear that

Biden and most of the Congressional leadership have pre-ordained a conclusion that seeks to remove Saddam Hussein from power regardless of the facts, and are using these hearings to provide political cover for a massive military attack on Iraq. **These hearings have nothing to do with an objective search for the truth, but rather seek to line up like-minded witnesses who will buttress this pre-determined result... This isn't American democracy in action, it's the failure of American democracy.**

Without Joe Biden's endorsement of the WMD narrative, would the Democrats have endorsed the invasion of Iraq?

See the video above.

Obama's "Operation Resolve" directed against ISIL-ISIS-Daesh (August 2014)

I should mention that during his tenure as Vice President, Joe Biden was firmly supportive of the carpet bombing of Iraq ordered by President Obama starting in August 2014 under a "Fake" anti-terrorist operation against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL-ISIS-Daesh). On August 7, 2014: "President Obama authorises the first air strikes to protect US diplomats and aid Iraqi government forces".

What sheer nonsense. Why is this anti-terrorist operation "Fake"? ISIL-ISIS-Daesh is an al Qaeda affiliate, a creation of US intelligence.

The operation was directed against Iraqi and Syrian civilians. It resulted in extensive destruction of the civilian infrastructure of both countries. ISIS was the pretext which was heralded by the media.

And in September 2014, Obama announced the formation of "an anti-ISIS coalition" with the participation of NATO member states as well as US allies in Middle East (including Israel, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Bahrain, etc).

The incursion of the Islamic State (IS) brigades from Syria into Iraq starting in June 2014 was part of a carefully planned military-intelligence operation supported covertly by the US, NATO and Israel.

The counter-terrorism mandate was a fiction.

The Islamic State was protected by the US and its allies. If they had wanted to eliminate the Islamic State brigades, they could have “carpet” bombed their convoys of Toyota pickup trucks when they crossed the desert from Syria into Iraq in June.

[Read the full article at Global Research](#)

The Unwelcome Return of the Real Purveyors of Violence

[The Unwelcome Return of the Real Purveyors of Violence](#)

by [Ron Paul](#), [Ron Paul Institute](#)

January 18, 2021

With the mainstream media still obsessing about the January 6th “violent coup attempt” at the US Capitol Building, the incoming Biden Administration looks to be chock full of actual purveyors of violent coups. Don’t look to the mainstream media to report on this, however. Some of the same politicians and bureaucrats denouncing the ridiculous farce at the Capitol as if it were the equivalent of 9/11 have been involved for decades in planning and executing real coups overseas. In

their real coups, many thousands of civilians have died.

Take returning Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland, for example. More than anyone else she is the face of the US-led violent coup against a democratically-elected government in Ukraine in 2014. Nuland not only passed out snacks to the coup leaders, she was caught on a phone call actually plotting the coup right down to who would take power once the smoke cleared.

Unlike the fake Capitol “coup,” this was a real overthrow. Unlike the buffalo horn-wearing joke who desecrated the “sacred” Senate chamber, the Ukraine coup had real armed insurrectionists with a real plan to overthrow the government. Eventually, with the help of incoming Assistant Secretary of State Nuland, they succeeded – after thousands of civilians were killed.

As we were unfortunately reminded during the last four years of the Trump Administration, the personnel is the policy. So while President Trump railed against the “stupid wars” and promised to bring the troops home, he hired people like John Bolton and Mike Pompeo to get the job done. They spent their time “clarifying” Trump’s call for ending wars to mean he wanted to actually continue the wars. It was a colossal failure.

So it’s hard to be optimistic about a Biden Administration with so many hyper-interventionist Obama retreats.

While the US Agency for International Development (USAID) likes to sell itself as the compassionate arm of the US foreign policy, in fact USAID is one of the main US “regime change” agencies. Biden has announced that a top “humanitarian interventionist” – Samantha Power – would head that Agency in his Administration.

Power, who served on President Obama’s National Security Council staff and as US Ambassador to the UN, argued

passionately and successfully that a US attack on the Gaddafi government in Libya would result in a liberation of the people and the outbreak of democracy in the country. In reality, her justification was all based on lies and the US assault has left nothing but murder and mayhem. Gaddafi's relatively peaceful, if authoritarian, government has been replaced by radical terrorists and even slave markets.

At the end of the day, the Bush Republicans – like Rep. Liz Cheney – will join hands with the Biden Democrats to reinstate “American leadership.” This of course means more US overt and covert wars overseas. The unholy alliance between Big Tech and the US government will happily assist the US State Department under Secretary of State Tony Blinken and Assistant Secretary of State Nuland with the technology to foment more “regime change” operations wherever the Biden Administration sees fit. Finish destroying Syria and the secular Assad? Sure! Go back into Iraq? Why not? Afghanistan? That's the good war! And Russia and China must be punished as well.

These are grave moments for we non-interventionists. But also we have a unique opportunity, informed by history, to denounce the warmongers and push for a peaceful and non-interventionist foreign policy.

The Pentagon Speaks

[The Pentagon Speaks](#)

by [Jacob G. Hornberger](#), [The Future of Freedom Foundation](#)

January 13, 2020

sourced from [Ron Paul Institute](#)

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have spoken. Issuing a remarkable [memorandum](#) to all members of the Armed Forces, the JCS have declared that Joe Biden will be the new president of the United States. The memo may have been not only one to military personnel but also to President Trump: No matter how convinced you are that the election was stolen from you, don't even think about remaining in power because we will ensure your forcible exit from the White House.

Unfortunately, relatively few people, including libertarians, comprehend that the Pentagon, along with the CIA and the NSA and, to a certain extent, the FBI, are the part of the federal government in which ultimate power is being wielded. They are the ones who are ruling the roost in America. That's why that memo is so important. It's declaring how things will be.

This overwhelming power is usually exercised behind the scenes in order to make Americans feel comfortable that their government is different from other national-security governments. While the national-security branch of the government is driving the overall direction America will take, especially with respect to foreign affairs, it permits the other three branches to maintain the appearance of power. The idea is to convince Americans that the federal government operates the same as a national-security state as it did when it was a limited-government republic.

But it's a lie, a very dangerous lie, one that unfortunately is lived by all too many Americans, especially those within the mainstream press.

If you haven't read the book [National Security and Double Government](#) by Michael J. Glennon, you owe it to yourself to do so. This is Glennon's thesis – that the national-security establishment is the part of the federal government that is wielding and exercising the ultimate power within the governmental structure. At the same time, however, it permits the legislative, judicial, and executive parts of the

government to continue appearing to be in charge.

Glennon is not some crackpot writer. He is professor of international law at the Fletcher School at Tufts University. He has served as a consultant to various congressional committees, the US State Department, and the International Atomic Energy Agency. You can read a more complete biography [here](#).

If Glennon is right – I am firmly believe that he is – then it requires people, including libertarians, to reevaluate everything they understand about the country, especially foreign affairs.

Consider, for example, the many laments against America's "forever wars." It's a popular mantra, including among libertarians. But what good does it do to complain about "forever wars" if the root cause of such wars is left in place, where it is in charge?

In other words, the national-security establishment needs those forever wars, just as it needed the Cold War. Any national-security state necessarily depends of fear, crises, chaos, and emergencies – or "threats" of such things to sustain its existence, its power, and its money. They will always find something for people to be afraid of, even if they have to instigate it. Communism, terrorism, drug dealers, illegal immigrants, Muslims, Russia, China, North Korea, Cuba, ISIS, al-Qaeda, Iran, Syria, insurrectionists, revolutionaries, invaders, or whatever. Without such fearful things, people are apt to ask why they need a national-security state instead of a limited-government republic, which was the type of governmental structure on which America was founded.

What is the distinguishing characteristic of a national-security state, as compared to a limited-government republic? Power – raw, unadulterated power. With its vast military and

arsenal of weaponry, along with extreme powers of assassination and surveillance, a national-security establishment has the means of imposing its will on government and on society. No one wields the countervailing power to resist.

This why precisely why our American ancestors opposed the creation of a national-security state or what they called "standing armies." They understood that once such a governmental apparatus comes into existence, there is no practical way for the citizenry, even a well-armed citizenry, to oppose it. In fact, if the Constitutional Convention had proposed a Constitution that called into existence a federal government that was a national-security state, rather than a limited-government republic, there is no way that Americans would have approved the Constitution.

Practically from the beginning of the conversion to a national-security state, the other three branches have deferred to the overwhelming power of the Pentagon and its vast military-industrial complex, the CIA, and the NSA. All three of those branches have understood the nature of power.

For example, in the 1950s the Pentagon insisted that the Supreme Court grant it a state-secrets doctrine. Ordinarily, that is a legislative function; that's the way things are ordinarily done in a democracy. The Supreme Court went along with what the Pentagon wanted, thereby circumventing the legislative process.

Consider assassination. The Constitution did not delegate such a power to the federal government. The Bill of Rights expressly prohibits the federal government from killing anyone without due process of law. Nonetheless, when the national-security establishment insisted on having the power to assassinate people, including Americans, the Supreme Court acceded to its demand.

Look at Gitmo, where people have been held for more than a decade without trial. Never mind that the Bill of Rights requires the federal government to grant people speedy trials. That doesn't matter when it comes to the military and the CIA. The federal judiciary is not going to interfere.

Congress has proven to be just as deferential. For one thing, Congress is filled with people who could be considered to be self-designated assets of the national-security establishment. This especially includes the military and CIA veterans. They are almost certain to go along with whatever the national-security establishment wants. For those who strenuously object, they encounter the threat of having military bases or projects in their districts canceled, in which case the mainstream media in their districts will go after them with a vengeance. And there is always the possibility of being "Hoovered" with the threat of having friendly assets in the mainstream press reveal compromising secrets about one's personal life.

And woe to any president who takes on the national-security establishment. They all know this. That's why there hasn't been a president since John F. Kennedy willing to challenge them. For a while it looked like Trump was going to do so but it wasn't long before Americans saw that he too quickly fell into line.

It's time for Americans to do some serious soul-searching and to ask themselves some penetrating questions: Is a root cause of America's many woes the fact that it is a national-security state, just like China, Russia, and North Korea? Is it time to restore America's founding system of a limited-government republic? Which governmental structure is more likely to lead to liberty, peace, prosperity, and harmony?

Jacob G. Hornberger is founder and president of The Future of Freedom Foundation. He was born and raised in Laredo, Texas, and received his B.A. in economics from Virginia Military Institute and his law degree from the University of Texas. He was a trial attorney for twelve years in Texas. He also was an adjunct professor at the University of Dallas, where he taught law and economics. In 1987, Mr. Hornberger left the practice of law to become director of programs at the Foundation for Economic Education. He has advanced freedom and free markets on talk-radio stations all across the country as well as on Fox News' Neil Cavuto and Greta van Susteren shows and he appeared as a regular commentator on Judge Andrew Napolitano's show Freedom Watch. View these interviews at LewRockwell.com and from [Full Context](#).

Joseph P. Farrell: On the July 6 Events, the History of the US Constitution & Where We Go From Here

[Joseph P. Farrell: On the July 6 Events, the History of the US Constitution & Where We Go From Here](#)

[News and Views From the Nefarium Jan 7 2021](#)

by [Joseph P. Farrell](#), [Giza Death Star](#)

January 7, 2021

[Original video is available at [Giza Death Star Community YouTube channel](#). As a service to protect truth from censorship and to share widely, mirrored copies of this video are available at Truth Comes to Light [BitChute](#), [Brighteon](#), [Lbry/Odysee](#) channels. All credit, along with our sincere thanks, goes to the original source of this video. Please follow links provided to support their work.]

Truth Comes to Light Editor's references and excerpts:

Excerpts:

"...But 2021 is certainly off to a rocky start. And I really don't have any prepared remarks because, first of all, it's very difficult for me to express what I'm thinking and feeling right now in the wake of the absolute disaster of the American federal elections of last year, and what we saw yesterday – the spectacle that we saw yesterday – of the mob storming the capitol.

Now, you may think that, when I refer to 'the mob' storming the capitol that I'm referring to those people that pushed their way into the capitol building and basically shut down a session of Congress. I'm not referring to them because, primarily, what it appears to my eyes to have been, was a few agents provocateur infiltrating a rally and driving it into that sort of activity. The mob that I'm referring to is the mob called Congress and what we saw in terms of police behavior breaking up protestors, who as far as I could tell...were protesting rather peacefully."

"We have now witnessed, in my opinion, an election that is not only fraudulent, but stolen. We have a man who is essentially a grifter, and as far as I'm concerned, an agent

of influence for communist China. We have republicans and democrats who are not even willing to look at, nor address the concerns, of the millions of voters that they just disenfranchised.”

“Now, they’re going to try to portray this as a return to normal. And in a certain sense, it is. But, at best, at best, if this is a return to business as usual, grift as usual, approach of the swamp – and that’s the best case scenario. The worst case scenario is we’ve just had a coup d’etat and what we now have in charge of this country is a shill for communist China.”

“America likes to view itself as the “exceptional” nation, as if are exempt – by dint of our constitution and political superiority and administrative genius – to the ways of history that befall all corrupt governments. Particularly those that are founded in ideologies that are, quite frankly, against the laws of the cosmos or the laws of God or whatever you prefer to say.

The idea that we are an exception to that rule has inculcated in this country and in this culture, if you want to call it that, a kind of hubris that is so divorced from reality that I think there will be geopolitical consequences to this election, right now, that we can scarcely imagine. Because what we’ve revealed ourselves to be, to the world, is a banana republic, operating under the color of law.”

Following his reading from [Conceived in Liberty, Volume 5: The New Republic](#), by Murray N. Rothbard, who wrote about the

constitutional convention and our current system of government:

“In other words, what he’s saying is it was an oligarchy cloaking itself as a republic under color of law, that was designed to create an empire and ultimately, ultimately, with so many short circuits in it that any so-called populist expression of national will could be short circuited. So, in other words, what we saw yesterday is built-in. It’s endemic to the system. It’s endemic to the system. And it’s time to wake up and realize that maybe those Anti-federalists had a point and that the Hamiltonians had fastened an absolute monster onto this country.”

As he is about to read excerpts from [Why America Failed: The Roots of Imperial Decline](#) by Morris Berman:

“Berman makes the point, in this book, that American culture is essentially a hustling culture. It’s a grift. It’s all in the pursuit of economic power. And we certainly saw what that culture operates like yesterday. “

“So, in other words, the other thing I’m suggesting to you is that the adolescent behavior, the constant pursuit of progress, is also, so to speak, inbuilt into this current constitution. This is why you saw what you saw yesterday with the adolescent mob of Congress doing what it did and overriding the actual will of most of the electorate in a stolen election. “

“I do know that any way forward must take an honest, thorough, moral search of the foundations of this culture

and, more importantly, of this country and of its polity. Because no progress can be made without that. So, we can wrap ourselves in the flag like many of those protestors that we saw on tv yesterday. And we can talk about constitution. But we'd better realize that maybe some of that document might be the problem."

**Final Chapter of [Conceived in Liberty, Volume 5: The New Republic](#) by Murray N. Rothbard
(Segments read by Joseph are highlighted.)**

Conceived in Liberty

38. Was the U.S. Constitution Radical?

It was a bloodless coup d'état against an unresisting Confederation Congress. The original structure of the new Constitution was now complete. The Federalists, by use of propaganda, chicanery, fraud, malapportionment of delegates, blackmail threats of secession, and even coercive laws, had managed to sustain enough delegates to defy the wishes of the majority of the American people and create a new Constitution. The drive was managed by a corps of brilliant members and representatives of the financial and landed oligarchy. These wealthy merchants and large landowners were joined by the urban artisans of the large cities in their drive to create a strong overriding central government—a supreme government with its own absolute power to tax, regulate commerce, and raise armies. These powers were sought eagerly as a method of handing out special privileges to commercial groups: navigation acts to subsidize shipping, tariffs to protect inefficient artisans stampeded by national depression from foreign manufactured goods, and a strong army and navy to pursue an aggressive foreign policy designed to force the opening of West Indies ports, the Mississippi River, and the

Northwest. And, to pay for all of these bounties, a central taxing power would be harnessed that could also assume and pay the public debt held by wealthy speculators. But government, by its nature, cannot supply bounties and privileges without taking them from others, and these others were to be largely the hapless bulk of the nation's citizens, the inland subsistence farmers. In western Massachusetts, taxes to pay a heavy public debt owned by wealthy men in the East had produced Shays' Rebellion. Now, a new super government was emerging and carrying out on a national scale the mercantilist principle of taxation, regulation, and special privilege for the benefit of favored groups ("the few") at the expense of the bulk of producers and consumers in the country ("the many"). And while to acquire sufficient support they had to purchase allies among the mass of the people (e.g., urban artisans), the major concentration of benefits and privileges would undoubtedly accrue to America's aristocracy.

As part of the agreed-to division of the coming spoils, the northern nationalists, though permanently abhorring slavery in a region where it was not viable and was being abolished, rather swiftly moved to protect and even encourage slavery in other regions in order to obtain support of the southern nationalists and thus the Constitution. To these nationalist leaders, abandoning the slave to his fate was a small price to pay for a strong central government to further markets for northern merchants and shippers.

Dispute has long raged among historians as to whether the Constitution was the completion, the fulfillment, of the spirit of the American Revolution, or whether it was a counterrevolution against that spirit. But surely it is clear that the Constitution was profoundly counterrevolutionary. The American Revolution has, in recent years, been depicted by "revisionist" historians as solely a struggle for independence against Great Britain on behalf of rather abstract principles of constitutional law. But legal principles are seldom

passionately held and fought for unless instinctively bound up with conflicts in politico-economic reality. The Americans were not anti-British; on the contrary, the need to declare independence was acknowledged very late and almost reluctantly. The Americans were struggling not primarily for independence but for political-economic liberty against the mercantilism of the British Empire. The struggle was waged against taxes, prohibitions, and regulations—a whole failure of repression that the Americans, upheld by an ideology of liberty, had fought and torn asunder. It was only when independence was clearly necessary to achieve their goals did the American Revolution take final form. In other words, the American Revolution was in essence not so much against Britain as against British Big Government—and specifically against an all-powerful central government and a supreme executive.

In short, the American Revolution was liberal, democratic, and quasi-anarchistic; for decentralization, free markets, and individual liberty; for natural rights of life, liberty, and property; against monarchy, mercantilism, and especially against strong central government. From the very beginning of that Revolution and even before, wealthy financial oligarchs in New York and Philadelphia, beginning with Benjamin Franklin, had toyed with the idea of a strong central government in America that would grant them mercantilist powers over the people. In the last phase of the war, Robert Morris, the “grandfather of the Constitution,” came within an inch of imposing a nationalist-mercantilist regime upon a revolutionary nation fighting for its existence.

The Articles of Confederation were themselves a concession to nationalism as against the original Continental Congress, but basically they had kept the Congress chained to a leash, and so nationalist power was checked. But with the postwar breakup of the liberal Adams-Lee Junto, the aftermath of wartime destruction, and the opportunity provided by the depression of the mid-1780s, the nationalists fished in troubled waters and

succeeded in imposing a counterrevolution.

It has also been charged by recent historians that there was really no continuity between the contending forces during the Revolution (radicals versus conservatives) and the opposing camps in the struggle over the Constitution. But, in the first place, the continuity of ideas is striking: from the very beginning, it was the dream of the Right, once remaining with the British government became impossible, to remold America into a form as close as possible to the powerful government of Great Britain. In leadership personnel, the sticking point is that the Right in 1776, the ones most reluctant to break with England (the Morrisises, the Dickinsonses, the Jays, the Schulyers—in short, the Philadelphia and New York oligarchy along with the Pendletons and Washingtons in Virginia) were the leaders of the reaction throughout the period and the leaders in the drive for a Constitution. The leaders of the Right in 1776 were also the leaders of the Right in 1789.

The difference between the two periods—and the significant break in continuity—was the shift of large numbers of radical leaders during the war into the conservative ranks a decade later. Indeed, one of the prior reasons for the defeat of the Antifederalists, though they commanded a majority of the public, was the decimation that had taken place in radical and liberal leadership during the 1780s. A whole galaxy of ex-radicals, ex-decentralists, and ex-libertarians, found in their old age that they could comfortably live in the new Establishment. The list of such defections is impressive, including John Adams, Sam Adams, John Hancock, Benjamin Rush, Thomas Paine, Alexander McDougall, Isaac Sears, and Christopher Gadsden. Perhaps an explanation of many of the defectors (Sam Adams, Sears, McDougall, Gadsden, and Paine) was the rightward shift of the big-city artisans who provided these men with their political power base.

Conversely, the Left in 1788 was very apt to have been on the Left in the early years of the Revolution. Among those

faithful to the liberal cause: Luther Martin, James Warren, Elbridge Gerry, George Clinton, Abraham Yates, generally the Clintonians in New York, the Constitutionalist Party in Pennsylvania fighting against the counterinsurgency of the conservative Republican Party (except for defections like Paine), Richard Henry Lee, Patrick Henry, and Thomas Person of the old radical Regulator movement in North Carolina. An important test of this hypothesis would be to find individuals or groups who were on the Right in 1776 but had shifted sharply leftward by 1788. Prominent men in that category are undoubtedly rare indeed.

If, then, the Constitution was a counterrevolution, what kind of a reactionary movement was it? Contrary to the famous "Beard Thesis," it was not at all a struggle between a sound-money "creditor class" against a small-farmer "debtor class" in favor of inflation and paper money. These were categories that Beard impermissibly smuggled from his experience of the monetary struggles of the late nineteenth century. It is impermissible to speak of debtor and creditor "classes," for these are categories that shift from month-to-month and even day-to-day. Consequently, while it is true that paper money is likely to be favored by debtors, the aggressive debtors were far more likely to be wealthy merchants and great planters than rural farmers far removed from the seats of financial and political power. Wealthy mercantilists have higher credit ratings, can do more with borrowed money, and have much stronger political connections that allow them to secure favorable legislation. In truth, most groups, especially most of the wealthy, favored paper money; the difference came largely in the ways in which that money could be emitted and in whether legal-tender laws would accompany them. The oppressive form of debt, against which, for example, the Shaysites rebelled, was not private debt but public debt, i.e., against the fastening of a Revolutionary War debt owned by the wealthier classes upon the masses and small farmers who would be taxed to pay for it.

The Constitutional counterrevolution, then, was not a struggle of sound-money men against inflationists or creditors against debtors. Jackson Turner Main's brilliant demonstration that it was a conflict of commercial versus non-commercial factions can be subsumed under a broader truth. It was, as Patrick Henry grasped, a struggle of power and privilege, and to a lesser extent, of aristocracy against democracy. Those familiar categories can also be subsumed in the Liberty versus Power dichotomy, for while aristocracy was the most determined to acquire special privileges, they could not have won without the lures of apparent privileges offered to the urban artisans.

Contrary to Forrest McDonald, the Antifederalists have received a poor historical press, and even the most supposedly extreme Antifederalist historian dedicated his book on the formation of the Constitution to James Madison. He concluded his book as follows:

Today, Americans continue to debate, as they have ever since the eighteenth century, about the division of power between the states and the central government, and about the role the latter should play in the economy and social life of the nation. Such debate had validity in an earlier and simpler age, but it is now little more than a romantic exercise. Although the Constitution itself remains what it was, the realities of political life in the twentieth century have created an all-powerful national government in fact.

And Staughton Lynd, though utilizing the commercial/non-commercial view of the struggle, and sympathetic to the individualist-libertarianism of the Antifederalists, concludes that Federalism was right by turning to "'positive, planful government'" to "'promote, guide, and discipline' all economic enterprise towards national goals." All this was justified, and even an aggressive internationalist policy was needed "to protect American economic independence" and secure "national economic development."

Professor Cecilia Keyna has derided the Antifederalists as “men of little faith,” i.e., little faith in political power.⁶ Some recent historians have termed the Federalists “radicals” and liberal reformers, and the Antifederalists “conservatives” because the Federalists favored a sharp change in the status quo, while the Antifederalists did not. But to base the concept of radicals versus conservatives solely on the formal fact of change, regardless of context, is to (a) blur the critical difference between revolution and counterrevolution and (b) to arrive at such conceptual absurdities as designating Francisco Franco’s rebellion in the Spanish Civil War of the 1930s as “radical,” while the Spanish Loyalists were “conservative.” But the point is that this “little faith” was precisely in the tradition of the American Revolution. Bernard Bailyn writes of the revolutionary thinkers:

Most commonly the discussion of power centered on its essential characteristic of aggressiveness: its endlessly propulsive tendency to expand itself beyond legitimate boundaries. ... The image most commonly used was that of the act of trespassing. Power, it was said over and over again, has “an encroaching nature”; ... power is “grasping” and “tenacious” in its nature; “what it seizes it will retain.” Sometimes power “is like the ocean, not easily admitting limits to be fixed in it.” Sometimes it is “like a cancer, it eats faster and faster every hour.” ... It is everywhere in public life, and everywhere it is threatening, pushing, and grasping; and too often in the end it destroys its benign—necessarily benign—victim.

What gave transcendent importance to the aggressiveness of power was the fact that its natural prey, its necessary victim, was liberty, or law, or right. The public world these writers saw was divided into distinct, contrasting, and innately antagonistic spheres: the sphere of power and the sphere of liberty or right. The one was brutal, ceaselessly active, and heedless; the other was delicate, passive, and

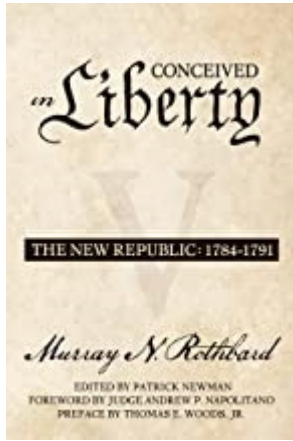
sensitive. The one must be resisted, the other defended, and the two must never be confused.

The Federalists, on the other hand, in their faith in quasi-monarchical power, especially with themselves in the driver's seat, are strongly reminiscent of the Tories—another indication of continuity in the ideological struggle and of the Federalist movement as a reaction against the spirit of the American Revolution. Forrest McDonald is the latest historian to treat the adoption of the Constitution as a counterrevolution in restoring Toryism. However, in contrast to earlier historians of a similar view, McDonald extravagantly eulogizes this process. Apparently for McDonald, the American Revolution was the first step down the inevitable road to Bolshevism, a fate from which America was saved only by the “miracle ... of all ages to come” of the Federalists, “giants” “who spoke in the name of the nation.” Happily for McDonald, the giants triumphed instead of those “who, in 1787 and 1788, spoke in the name of the people and of popular ‘rights.’”

Overall, it should be evident that the Constitution was a counterrevolutionary reaction to the libertarianism and decentralization embodied in the American Revolution. The Antifederalists, supporting states' rights and critical of a strong national government, were decisively beaten by the Federalists, who wanted such a polity under the guise of democracy in order to enhance their own interests and institute a British-style mercantilism over the country. Most historians have taken the side of the Federalists because they support a strong national government that has the power to tax and regulate, call forth armies and invade other countries, and cripple the power of the states. The enactment of the Constitution in 1788 drastically changed the course of American history from its natural decentralized and libertarian direction to an omnipresent leviathan that fulfilled all of the Antifederalists' fears.

With the ratification of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the new government was now a fact and the Antifederalists would never again agitate for another constitutional convention to weaken American national power and return to a more decentralized and restrained polity. From now on American liberals, relying on the Bill of Rights and the Tenth Amendment, would go forth and do battle for Liberty and against Power within the framework of the American Constitution as states'-righters and Constitutionals. Their battle would be a long and gallant one, but ultimately doomed to fail, for by accepting the Constitution, the liberals would only play with dice loaded implacably against them. The Constitution, with its inherently broad powers and elastic clauses, would increasingly support an ever larger and more powerful central government. In the long run, the liberals, though they could and did run a gallant race, were doomed to lose—and lose indeed they did. In a sense, the supposedly unrealistic radicals who would totally reject the Constitution and try to rend it asunder (in different ways and from very different perspectives, e.g., the Whiskey Rebels, William Lloyd Garrison, John Brown, and the secessionists of the South) would be far more perceptive about the realities and the potentials of the American constitutional system than those liberals working within it.

References:



Conceived in Liberty, Volume 5: The New Republic by Murray N. Rothbard is available as a [free PDF download](#) at Mises Institute – or hardcover or ebook form: [Conceived in Liberty, Volume 5: The New Republic](#)

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There Are No Such Things as

Constitutional Rights

[There Are No Such Things as Constitutional Rights](#)

by [Gary D. Barnett](#), [GaryDBarnett.com](#)

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“A man’s natural rights are his own, against the whole world; and any infringement of them is equally a crime, whether committed by one man, or by millions; whether committed by one man, calling himself a robber, (or by any other name indicating his true character,) or by millions, calling themselves a government.” ~ Lysander Spooner (1867). “No Treason: No. 1-”, p.7

In the midst of this fraudulent pandemic, there has been a renewed call to look to the Constitution for answers. This is a smoke and mirrors solution that does not address the real problem. Constitutional rights do not exist, and if they did, those so-called rights would be worthless. Rights cannot be written into law or claimed due to a political document because they would have no merit.

The rights of man are natural, and all rights stem from the single factor of life itself, for if man has a right to life, all other natural rights are inherent as well. A right to life means that one has a right to defend his life. It means that one has a right to support and sustain his life. This means he has a right to property, the highest form of property being self. It means he has a right to move about freely, to work, to protect others, to speak and congregate in order to protect and defend life. All individual and natural rights are inherent due to humanity, not to any other men or documents drafted by men.

This seems simple enough, but Americans seem to clamor for

direction and approval by those that wish to rule over them. Instead of accepting that a right to life is natural, and cannot be bestowed by men, people seek approval by some authoritarian class for clarity concerning the legitimacy of something so obvious. This in and of itself destroys the very core of common rights, because having to put into contract or law the guidelines for what is natural is the acceptance that rights do not exist unless sanctioned by a higher body. This is asinine, and the notion of a constitution to spell out what is inherent weakens any position of strength of the individual.

Some have forgotten, and most have no understanding of the history of the Constitutional Convention. This was a coup completed by Hamilton and his followers to create a strong central governing system, where most all power was given to a federal or national government instead of to the individual and the states. Those attending the convention had claimed their task as only to alter and improve the Articles of Confederation, not to scrap the current Constitution of the United States. But there was never any intention of improving upon the current "law of the land," but only to set up a new federal state with unlimited power. Keep in mind that the Articles of Confederation did not allow for a president, did not allow the federal government any power whatsoever to tax, so it was extremely restrictive of any executive or federal power whatsoever.

So if freedom were desired, why then would a new constitution that gave immense powers to the federal government over states and individuals be so revered by those calling themselves Constitutionalsists? Why do any that have read Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, the power's clauses, claim that this document was ever meant to protect the rights of man? How is an unlimited power to tax, to control all commerce, foreign and domestic, to coin and control all money, to provide for the general welfare, to borrow money on the credit of the

United States, to declare and prosecute war, to raise and support militaries, and to make all laws necessary to enforce all these powers and more?

The Constitution is a contradiction at every level, as granting these unlimited powers to the federal nationstate, and then at the same time claiming to protect the freedom of the the individual, is not possible. Every single power "granted" in this horrendous document negates any protection of liberty.

So why is this document that was long plotted through conspiracy, that was secretly written and accepted behind locked and closed doors in the dark of night, that erased all protections of liberty then in place in the Articles of Confederation, and that was signed by politicians, many of whom gained much more power in government after its implementation, so revered? Selling the Constitution in the late 18th century was in effect not much different than selling total tyranny over a fake pandemic today.

If the Constitution was meant to protect individual rights and the freedom of Americans, why are the masses of this population being forced into poverty, loneliness, isolation, quarantine and self-imprisonment? Why are medical martial law and martial law being carried out? Why have the businesses of Americans been forcibly closed down? Why have Americans been forced to avoid contact with all others? Why is mass surveillance of everyone the new normal, and constant threats by government of forced vaccination and mandated behavior in place? Why does anyone think this is a free country due the the totalitarian powers authorized in the United States Constitution?

Lysander Spooner explained this perfectly when he said:

"But whether the Constitution really be one thing, or another, this much is certain – that it has either

authorized such a government as we have had, or has been powerless to prevent it, In either case, it is unfit to exist.” ~ Lysander Spooner (1971). “The collected works of Lysander Spooner”

The Constitution is used, administered, and defined by government, it is interpreted by the Supreme Court, which is made up of nine judges appointed for life also by government. In other words, it is simply a political tool of government used and interpreted to give power to the state, not to its people. It was only intended to fool the people into believing that they had freedom and power only due to a piece of paper drafted by politicians. It is worthless and has absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with the natural rights of man, but in fact is detrimental to liberty because of the assumption that only government can define individual rights through parchment secretly drafted in the dark of night 233 years ago.

We are born with rights and we die with rights, whether any piece of paper exists or not. If rights are claimed to exist because of a constitution , no rights exist at all. The tyranny we face today is because of the Constitution, not in spite of it.

As to the Constitution:

*“It was a bloodless **coup d’état** against an unresisting Confederation Congress....The drive was managed by a corps of brilliant members and representatives of the financial and landed oligarchy. These wealthy merchants and large landowners were joined by the urban artisans of the large cities in their drive to create a strong overriding central government – a supreme government with its own absolute power to tax, regulate commerce, and raise armies.” ~ Murray N. Rothbard–[Conceived in Liberty](#), Vol. 5, [306]*