

Winter Patriot

These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph.



~~~ Thomas Paine, "The Crisis", December 23, 1776

~~~

Friday, February 9, 2007

Gatekeepers Bury Dancing Israeli Movers And Bogus Art Students On DN!



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We got a **slithering slice** of potentially explosive 9/11 truth from *Democracy Now!* on Thursday, when Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzales spoke with



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Yahoo News

blog gateway

PkBlogs dot Com

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usa

What Really Happened

usa

Information Clearing House

Christopher Ketcham, Marc Perelman and Alexander Cockburn about the "dancing Israelis of 9/11" and the mysterious Israeli "art students", as well as about Christopher's article "Cheering Movers and Art Student Spies: What Did Israel Know in Advance of the 9/11 Attacks?" which was published in Counterpunch after failing to find a home at either Saloon dot com or The Nation. They also talked about how and why these stories have been suppressed for so long.

If that sounds like a lot of ground to cover, you're with me so far. Fifteen minutes. Ready set go.

Welcome to a very double-edged view of the broadcast. On the one hand it's great to see this story getting some publicity, but on the other hand **look what they've done to it!**

In airing a couple of stories that have been suppressed for years, they've managed somehow, in my opinion, to suppress *the big story* even further.

In other words, the core material was excellent but the presentation was awful. Good stuff in a bad package.

Remove Packaging

I always laugh when I pick up a bag of frozen veggies and I see the words "Remove Packaging". Right! As if I was gonna cook the plastic bag!

In this case the packaging is a combination of tactics (or bad decisions) (or perhaps "good [i.e. safe] tactical decisions") including: trying to fit too many guests and too many topics into a short segment, discounting the most crucial evidence available, failing to ask the most obvious questions, and applying the most transparent spin.

Examples of each are easy to find, and we may encounter some of each as we go along. But on the whole I am most interested in finding the nuggets of truth amid the spin. In this case (as in other similar cases) the most sensible way to proceed in my view is to *pay strict attention to what these reporters say they have observed*, and no attention at all to what they think these things mean. In some cases, *their interpretation makes no sense at all*, and the thought has crossed my mind that perhaps it's deliberate.

So there's a lot of parsing going on. And the best I can tell, the following quotes are as spin-free as possible:

groningen

Atlantic Free Press

usa

The Raw Story

usa

BuzzFlash

vancouver

Peace Earth Justice

usa

The American Monitor

**news and/or
propaganda**

usa

New York Times

usa

Boston Globe

usa

CNN

usa

Houston Chronicle

canada

CBC

canada

CTV

uk

BBC News

uk

Guardian Unlimited

uk

Guardian Politics

uk

Reuters

france

**International Herald
Tribune**

pakistan

Online News

pakistan

Newsline

russia

Pravda

qatar

Aljazeera

israel

Ha'aretz

* iran

**Islamic Republic News
Agency**

**news and
commentary**

chris floyd

Empire Burlesque

Who Were "The Movers" And What Were They Doing?

Christopher Ketcham:

Three of these guys were seen on the morning of September 11, just after the first plane hit the North Tower, quote-unquote, "celebrating" on the New Jersey waterfront. Now, that's -- I put the quotes around that, because it comes from a FBI BOLO, or "be on lookout," an alert that was put out regarding these men that day. The celebration apparently consisted of high-fiving, according to one FBI official, of holding up cigarette lighters, as if they're at a rock concert. So, remember, the plane has just hit the tower, exploded in the tower, and these three men are behaving rather oddly.

Later in the day, they were picked up. Two other men apparently joined them in a van. They were -- the case was immediately handed over to FBI counterintelligence. The men were held for 71 days. They were repeatedly interrogated. They repeatedly failed lie detector tests. And then, after those 71 days was up, they were sent home, apparently under pressure or because of pressure brought by the Israeli government and by certain players in the US government.

Amy Goodman:

You quote the officer who arrested them, named DeCarlo. You say, according to DeCarlo's report, this officer was told without question by the driver of the moving van, Sivan Kurzberg, "We are Israeli. We are not your problem. Your problems are our problems. The Palestinians are the problem."

Christopher Ketcham:

Right. Well, what's interesting there is that, you recall after the first plane hit, no one really thought that this was a terrorist attack. I mean, most people thought -- and I was there, you know, on

gandhi

Bush Out

gandhi

Riding The Juggernaut

gandhi

Howard Out

larisa alexandrovna

At-Largely

bob koehler

Common Wonders

william blum

Killing Hope

dahr jamail

Iraq Dispatches

juan cole

Informed Comment

kurt nimmo

Another Day In The Empire

river

Baghdad Burning

william bowles

Investigating 'New' Imperialism

glenn greenwald

Unclaimed Territory

luke ryland

Wot Is It Good 4

jonathan schwarz

A Tiny Revolution

bob parry

Consortium News

greg palast

The Writings Of Greg Palast

???????

Unknown News

ken silverstein

Washington Babylon

peter mayer

New @ Serendipity

various

Online Journal

daithi mac lochlainn

Gaelic Starover

bluebear2

Lair Of The Blue Bear

agent 99

neufneuf

location undisclosed

Ranger Against War

steve burks

Shooting Straight

jeff huber

the Brooklyn waterfront watching this whole thing. Everyone thought it was an accident. These guys, when they were interrogated by FBI, told them that -- essentially said that they immediately knew it was a terrorist attack. And they actually told the FBI that the reason they were celebrating was because the attacks would be beneficial to Israel, that it was, quote, "a good thing for Israel" -- that's according to the FBI spokesman who spoke on the record about this -- and that it would bring sympathy for Israel's political agenda in the Middle East.

Marc Perelman:

I was able to confirm that, according to the FBI, two of those movers were identified as Mossad agents. And they were interrogated about it.
...
They were sent home to Israel in, I think, November, if I remember, allegedly for immigration violations.

Who Were The "Art Students" And What Were They Doing?

Christopher Ketcham:

These so-called art students were young Israeli men and women who were traveling the country. They were identified by the Drug Enforcement Agency as repeatedly attempting to penetrate government offices, including DEA offices, and to sell, to try to sell art, these cheap knockoff oil paintings, to government officials.

Now, after September 11th, when, in the wake of these sudden attacks, investigators began to go back and look at the nexus of art student activity with the nexuses of the activities of the future hijackers, of the 9/11 hijackers, and what they found was that the art students, in many cases, were living in very close proximity to the September 11 hijackers. Many of these art students were moving large amounts of cash, some of them were reportedly, according to Le Monde, carrying cell phones provided them by an Israeli vice consul in

Pen And Sword

selected resources

* 9/11 documentaries and videos

Jonhs dot net

space

NASA: Planetary Photojournal

russ kick

The Memory Blog

russ kick!

The Memory Hole

paul thompson

Cooperative Research

jim fetzer et al

Scholars For 9/11 Truth

sibel and friends

National Security Whistle Blowers Coalition

official stuff

Military dot Com

michel chussodovsky

Global Research

tarpley & chaitkin

George Bush: The Unauthorized Biography

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nightmares

al-Q'aeda Doesn't Exist

eric hufschmidt

9/11: Painful Deceptions

ty rauber and ryan thurston

Who Killed John O'Neill?

webster tarpley

The 9/11 Issue: Key to Stopping World War Three

aaron russo

America: Freedom To Fascism

9/11 families

9/11 Press For Truth

bbc

Timewatch: Operation Gladio

robert menard

Bursting Bubbles of Government Deception

bbc

The Power Of Nightmares

bill moyers

Capital Crimes

sibel edmonds

KTM

the US. Many of them were highly trained in electronic intercept and intelligence work that was far beyond the compulsory military training required by Israeli law.

So far so good, but now look at some of the packaging I've removed:

Trying To Do Too Much Too Fast Too Quick Too Soon

Amy Goodman:

Let's go to Alexander Cockburn. You have published this piece. It is titled "Cheering Movers and Art Student Spies: What Did Israel Know in Advance of the 9/11 Attacks?" [1] Who were the Israelis living next to Mohammed Atta? [2] What was in the van on the New Jersey shore? [3] How did two hijackers land on watch lists weeks before 9/11? [4] Who shut down FOX News's Carl Cameron? We just have two minutes, but talk about [5] the way the media has covered this, [6] why you chose to cover it, and [7] that last story of FOX.

Thus Amy Goodman gives Alexander Cockburn seven questions and two minutes to answer them. It's hardly an invitation to go into anything at any depth but it does give him his choice of question to answer and virtually no chance of being challenged in a follow-up. So in effect it gives him a chance to rant about the way the story's been neglected elsewhere and how wonderful Counterpunch is to run it at all, especially since the two other gatekeeper publications mentioned above won't touch it.

It's also interesting to watch Christopher Ketcham trying to push the story along and Marc Perelman doing what appears to be *damage control*:

Discounting Crucial Evidence

Marc Perelman:

Obviously, the circumstances around the

sibel edmonds wins the

PEN Newman Award

we know

9/11 Mysteries

john albanese

Everybody's Gotta Learn Sometime

kurt nimmo & ralph schoenman

The Underlying Politics of 9/11 (Part One)

kurt nimmo & ralph schoenman

The Underlying Politics of 9/11 (Part Two)

9/11 in dutch (subtitled)

Zembla

london 7/7/05

Ludicrous Diversion

graphic violence

Peace, Propaganda and the Promised Land

alex jones

Terror Storm (full version)

alex jones again

Terror Storm torn to pieces

avery, rowe and bermas

Loose Change

mark iradian

Screw Loose Change

selected writers

empire burlesque

Chris Floyd

consortium news

Robert Parry

common wonders

Bob Koehler

information clearinghouse

Manuel Valenzuela

robert-fisk.com

Robert Fisk

selected articles

thomas paine

The Crisis

* larisa alexandrovna

Senate Intelligence chairman quietly 'fixed' intelligence, and diverted blame from White House over Iraq

* larisa alexandrovna

interrogation, there was a lot of panic after 9/11. People were looking for suspects everywhere. So the reports about exactly how they were behaving and what they said -- I mean, we should be a little bit careful about this, because -- and so, what I tried to do is go beyond the reports about them smiling and high-fiving, and so on, because I had my doubts about this. I still have them, by the way.

Nobody dared to speak up to counter this, but it seems transparent sham to me. Discounting the reports of the FBI because it was 9/11 and everybody was a bit excited is atrocious! Please!! These are trained professionals we're talking about, and they've been under stress once or twice before. After 9/11 they were alert and functioning 110%, for the most part. We're not talking about startled amateur eyewitnesses here.

And how about the reason given here?

...we should be a little bit careful about this, because -- and so...

I'm terribly sorry to say I don't find that reason even the slightest bit convincing. Please give me something better than "we should be a little bit careful about this, because -- and so..."

Avoiding Obvious Questions

Why does nobody ask: If the movers weren't dancing and high-fiving, holding their lighters up and worshiping the smoking ruins, why were they arrested in the first place?

Does it seem to you that they may have been shepherds of the hijackers, so to speak, handlers and caregivers at the same time, maneuvering them into place and making sure they got there safely and in plenty of time?

Possibly even protecting them from the FBI long enough to let them do the deed, and celebrating when it was done?

There's a whiff of that in the aroma of this operation, isn't there?

Or am I the only one who smells it?

Through leaks and smears, Senate chairman protects White House to blame CIA, Democrats

david armstrong

Dick Cheney's Song of America

jay bookman

The president's real goal in Iraq

Michel Chossudovsky

America's War for Global Domination

Sibel Edmonds

FBI & 9/11

* Maureen Farrell

Modern History You Can't Afford to Ignore: Part I: 1937-1990

* Maureen Farrell

Modern History You Can't Afford to Ignore: Part II: 1990-2000

* Maureen Farrell

Modern History You Can't Afford to Ignore: Part III: 2001-2005

Chris Floyd

Into the Dark: The Pentagon Plan to Foment Terrorism

Chris Floyd

Darkness Visible: The Pentagon Plan to Foment Terrorism is Now in Operation

Chris Floyd

Mother Lode

Chris Floyd

The Rendering

Chris Floyd

Core Values

Chris Floyd

Gut Check

Chris Floyd

Abu Ghraib as Normalcy

Mark Gaffney

Will Iran Be Next?

Patrick Henry

Liberty or Death

Naomi Klein

Baghdad Year Zero

Neil Mackay

Bush Planned Iraq 'Regime Change' Before Becoming President

* Josh Marshall

Practice to Deceive

Transparent Spin

Marc Perelman:

My reporting was narrow, was about those movers and what were they doing. And the conclusion was that they were essentially spying on radical activists in the region, and that *they had been let go, because the American authorities had determined that they did not have foreknowledge of the attacks*, which is different than what [Ketcham's] article says, because it implies that they were essentially shipped to Israel because of the Israel lobby, and because they knew, whereas what I have been able to find out is that they were sent home because they did something they were not supposed to do and without the knowledge of the American government.

Right. Sure. They were released because they had no foreknowledge but they were celebrating because why? Why were they the only people in New York who seemed to realize that the first impact was a terrorist attack and not an accident? Because they lacked foreknowledge?

Sure, Marc. And a pat on the head for you from AIPAC, no doubt.

Alexander Cockburn:

The main thing, Amy, is that basically the story, which Perelman and others did do good work on, has been systematically suppressed by the media for a very long time, starting with FOX News, which killed off Cameron [...]

They didn't actually kill him off, of course, but they scrubbed this report:

siv o'neall

A View of America From Across the Ocean

william rivers pitt

The Project for the New American Century

harvey wasserman

Senator Byrd is correct to equate Bush with Hitler

bernard weiner

How We Got Into This Imperial Pickle: A PNAC Primer

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* [Tom Toles: America's Most Common Eating Disorder](#)

* [Iran to US: If You Attack We'll Respond; US to Ira...](#)

* [John Edwards Will Keep His 'Liberal Feminist Blog...](#)

* [From US To 'Allies' Re Afghanistan: Uncle Sam Want...](#)

* [Iran's Intelligence Minister Says Iran Has Identif...](#)

* [Two Suspects Released Without Charge In British 'B...](#)

winter patriot series

rashid rauf and

The 'Liquid Bombers' Series

legal immigrants, illegally detained

The 'Bella Maryaonvsky' Series

9/11

Are These People Crazy?



from every place it appeared. As I understand it, this video -- no longer available in the FOX archives (or any other place where they have influence) comes from a blogger who snagged it as it went by.

Back to **Alexander Cockburn**:

[...] ABC News, which dropped it. And, obviously, there are thousands of questions, which Ketcham goes into in great detail, which should be the subject of congressional hearings and investigations, such as, *was the Mossad essentially being subcontracted by the CIA to work in the United States on spying, which would be illegal?*

Sure, Mr. Cockburn. Really. They were *subcontracted by the CIA*. That's beautiful.

Especially since it contradicts the spin coming from

Marc Perelman:

Sometimes friendly governments have agreements, where they can kind of like spy together. Apparently, this was a case where it was not happening.

Nobody is immune, not even

"vote!"

How To Survive The Midterm "Elections"

* derrick shareef on air grenades

Derrick And The Detonators

* matin siraj

Remember Me To Herald Square

the worst of winter patriot

"baby-killers"

A Perfect Double-Cross

the blackest op of all

9/11 Was A Hoax: How and When I Knew It

fear and loathing after 9/11

Trouble

lost for words

Oh War / Merry Christmas

challenging ohio

The Triumph of Bullshit

2005 inaugural address

Burn

jonathan kenney

The Hero Who Wasn't

saddam in a cave

The Capture That Wasn't

dust in the wind

Read 'Em And Weep

ten thousand arrested

'Operation FALCON'

Raises Disturbing Questions

torture: policy and rhetoric

Absurd And Offensive

riding with the bad boys

'Amazing' Progress: Death Squads Spreading In Iraq!

rage and despair

One Day Forward, 900 Years Back : Democracy Murdered In Broad Daylight

dear sir knucklehead

Note To Terrorist

Wannabes: Real al-Q'aeda

Recruiters Don't Offer Strangers \$40K

reverend charles morris

A Faith-Based Approach To The Reality Of Climate Change

pay attention

Christopher Ketcham:

Now, the upshot of all this available evidence is this: the Israeli government likely was conducting some kind of spy operation on US soil in the run-up to the September 11th attacks. The purpose of the operation was to identify and track Muslim extremists, possibly including members of al-Qaeda.

If al-Q'aeda exists at all...

Translucent Spin

On second thought it strikes me that perhaps the whole exercise here was not to get any new or valuable information out via DNI! but to create an infomercial for the Counterpunch newsletter. Christopher Ketcham's article certainly doesn't appear to be available online.

If this was simply crass commercialism in the name of democracy then it wasn't the first time I've seen *that*.

Alexander Cockburn:

It's absolutely extraordinary that Ketcham's story, which has been worked on, which is a very long and complex story, could not find any market until **Counterpunch, which is what we're here for, could published it.** Obviously, the main reason is the word "Israel." People drop it like a hot potato. As soon as you hear people say it's a good thing for Israel, the whole lobby came in and had those people whipped out of their jail and sent back to Israel. And since then, all questions regarding it had been systematically checked off. I think that's the sort of, you know, journalistic **patty-cake** --

Patty-cake? Not quite the word I had in mind. But onward...

Who Were The "Movers"? Who Were The "Art Students"?

A History Lesson For Dumsfeld

counterspin

Still In Denial: Bob Woodward's Modified Limited Hangout

it's unanimous

No Wonder There's Nobody To Vote For

what a privilege

Bush Signs Away The Birthright Of All Americans

* iran is next

Bring On The Horse Manure, It's Time For Another SOTU

monthly archives

December 2004

January 2005

February 2005

March 2005

April 2005

May 2005

June 2005

July 2005

December 2005

July 2006

August 2006

September 2006

October 2006

November 2006

December 2006

January 2007

February 2007

headlines

Let's forget Israel for a moment. Seriously. I don't care. I don't like to classify people by race or religion or anything else really; I think as soon as you start making sweeping generalizations you're better off keeping your mouth shut. So forget what country these "movers" and "art students" came from. And forget any notion of motive or skill.

Just look at what's been reported and picture the "movers" and "art students" simply as "foreign nationals" and try to imagine...

If I and (apparently) most of my readers are right, and 9/11 was a black op -- what could have been the role of these movers? And who were the art students really?

The explanation that seems simplest to me runs like this:

The movers were part of the cover; they ran interference to make sure the plot succeeded. They were dancing and cheering because their plot had worked! What could be clearer? Would they be dancing and high-fiving, would they be saying "this is good for our country", if they thought it would be *bad* for their country? How stupid do you think we are, anyway?

The "art students" look like very highly trained foreign espionage agents. It appears they were either trying to plant bugs in US government offices, or bringing money to US office-holders, or financing the hijackers, or protecting the hijackers, or some or even all of the above.

The cheap knock-off oil paintings were the props supporting their legend -- just something to get them in the door.

Why would the "art students" live near the "hijackers"? Were they trying to restrain them? If they were trying to track them and restrain them and prevent an attack, why wouldn't they be working *with* the FBI, rather than without the knowledge -- let alone consent -- of the US authorities? What could be plainer? What else could they be doing?

Just suppose, for a moment, that they had been worried about a possible attack against the US, and that they had infiltrated the country surreptitiously in order to stop the attack. Why would they be trying to infiltrate government offices? If they represented a friendly nation, why would they doing whatever they were doing *under* the American radar unless the intent were sinister?

As for the movers, if they were trying to prevent a possible terrorist attack against the US, why would they be dancing and high-fiving and holding their lighters in salute to the burning towers? What else could their activities possibly signify? And if they weren't celebrating why were they arrested? And there just happened to be a couple of bona-fide foreign intelligence agents in

the group. How *coincidental!*

Now tack on the geopolitical: Which countries' political agendas were advanced by the world's reaction to 9/11?

Now tack on the espionage angle: Which countries' intelligence agencies are sophisticated enough and slick enough to run an op like this, and almost get away clean?

Now tack on more geopolitical: Which foreign countries have enough clout to have their intelligence agents sprung quietly and spirited away?

How many foreign countries fits this complex description? In other words, how plausible is this story?

Do you see my point?

Do We See A Pattern Emerging?

So-called reputable journalists lay out dots but claim they're connected in ways other than they really are. Bloggers come along and rearrange the connections.

Is this the only way journalism can continue in this country? Not only this country, but in the entire world?

Are Alexander Cockburn and Christopher Ketcham and Marc Perelman all quaking in their boots lest they say too much and wind up like **Anna Politkovskaya**?

Recently award winning journalist Peter Lance **did something quite similar**, with his book **Triple Cross**. He starts out with all sorts of indications that al-Q'aeda is an instrument of NATO intelligence, if it exists at all, and winds up making it all Patrick Fitzgerald's fault!

Respected researchers such as Peter Dale Scott now **quote** Triple Cross but without mentioning the aspects of it which if not obviously wrong are at least open to **a vastly different interpretation** than the twist Lance gives them. But hey! At least he got it published. He got those dots in the public record.


And now courtesy of Democracy Now! we have more of the same: Amy Goodman, Alexander Cockburn, Marc Perelman and Christopher Ketchum have all laid pieces of the puzzle in plain sight, and I thank them for that. But somehow I can't shake the feeling that they have interpreted their material in a very bizarre fashion.

But hey! At least they got it published.

Such is power in American journalism at the moment, friends.

It's not as bad as it was in USSR during the Stalinist era, but we keep getting closer.

Labels: **9/11**, **Israel**

[link] by **Winter Patriot** @ 7:11 AM 

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big dan: Yes, this is excellent!

Kira: You've probably linked to this piece somewhere, WP, but I'll run the risk of being redundant [seems...

Kira: I feel so sorry for the Afghan people -- Opium is just about the only product they can sell. Too ba...

Kira: Another good Jim Lobe article:
http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle_East/EE09Ak01.html Neoco

Kira: Love that Tom Toles cartoon. STAND BACK!!! Looks like she's gonna BLOW!

Kira: Neocon Paul Wolfowitzless: <http://www.alternet.org/story/15935> Leo Strauss' Philosophy of De

Kira:
<http://www.yuricareport.com/Dominionism/TheDespoilingOfAmerica.htm>
[snip] George W. Bush began t

Kira: Dominionists.

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