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The Voice of the White House

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Washington, D.C., August 14, 2008: "Perceiving an opportunity to make mischief with Russia, the American government, through the State Department, the CIA, the National Endowment for Democracy and other groups that are partially, or wholly, supported by the American government, fomented the so-called "Rose Revolution" in the former Soviet state of Georgia with cash and weaponry. Mikhail Sashkashvili, a highly unstable Georgian politician, was lobbied into office as the president of Georgia. He is essentially very erratic, given to wide emotional swings that can cause him to act in an often dangerous manner.

Once their picked man was in office, the United States, in conjunction with Israel, (many top Georgian political leaders are Jewish) moved to develop as Georgia as a possible base of military operations against Russia, or most especially, Iran, (a bete noire of Israel), to secure the vital oil pipelines across that country and to further their policy of containment against Vladimir Putin's growing strength in Russia.

A Georgia, being armed and trained by both the United States and Israel, was then put forward as an applicant for membership in NATO. As expected both in Washington and Tel Aviv, this enraged the Russians. The Bush people and their allies have been gleefully gathering into the American-controlled NATO fold as many of former Russian areas as they can, to further annoy Russia.

A fake "missile shield" program was instituted in some of these countries whose dual purpose was to allow American attack, *not* defense, missiles to be stationed on territory very close to Russia but also to further warn Russia against growing too strong militarily or attempting to interdict their own oil and natural gas into countries, under American control, that Russia might have disputes with.

Eventually, with Putin's upgrading of the Russian military machine, it became obvious to Washington that some kind of a relatively safe military confrontation would be necessary. It was always the public posture of Sashkashvili that he intended to take physical possession of former Georgian territories, South Ossetia and Abkhazia, by force. These provinces had broken away from Georgia when it became independent of Russia in the 1990s and Sashkashvili was determined not only to reincorporate them into Georgia again (entirely against the will of their inhabitants) but to punish them for their independence.

At the time of the Russia/Georgia conflict, there were over 2000 US military personnel and special forces in Georgia, training and equipping Georgian units with American weaponry, over 1000 Israeli troops, mainly intelligence units directed at Iran, over 150 CIA operatives, and many official intelligence surveillance units designed to spy on Russian and Iranian military and civilian radio, satellite and other internal communications. Given the usual poor security chronically evident in such American units, the Russians were early-on well aware of these hostile, but muted, anti-Russian activities.

The savage Georgian artillery and armored vehicle assault on South Ossetia was not unexpected by the Russian military and armored and armored infantry units had been quietly moved into North Ossetia. American attempts to search for a possible Russian military build-up in the area closest to South Ossetia were thwarted by the maintaining of strict radio silence imposed on all Russian military units and unmanned 'Georgian' reconnaissance drones, supplied by Israel, trying to conduct surveillance were promptly shot down, over Russian territory, by Russian military aircraft.

In essence, the Russians sat and waited for the attack and when the terrified residents of South Ossetia fled to Russian protection when the unannounced cannonading of civilian areas by the Georgian Army (during which Russian military peacekeepers were killed) was in progress, they entered South Ossetia in totally unexpected force, engaged the Georgians and drove them out of the country. The Georgians assumed that the Russians would halt at the border with Georgia but were horrified when Russian armored units crossed the border in hot pursuit. Initially shouting defiance, a chastened Sashkashvili fled into hiding and then, foolishly, declared war on Russia (a fact seldom reported in the American media)

In essence, Russia occupied both South Ossetia and Abkhazia, at the frantic requests of their occupants and then struck deep into Georgia, driving the Georgian military in headlong flight. Also fleeing were American and Israeli military, diplomatic and intelligence personnel, causing Sashkashvili to shout that he was being abandoned.

The Americans, and the Israelis, at the higher levels in the field and in Washington, were well aware of the pending Georgian attacks and did nothing to either support or hinder them, but a possible military confrontation by American and Israeli military units with the Russians was completely impossible, hence the American and Israeli frantic withdrawals.

Once this exiting had been accomplished, but not before, both American and Israel shook their fists at Putin and made loud warning speeches to their constituents but in essence, Putin had trumped Bush's ace and he and the war party in America had lost disastrous face. The hitherto monolithic image of the United States as a dominant world military force has been so shattered that a realignment of international thinking is quite certain. And though face-savings pacts and agreements have been signed, in the end, the Russians will retain a large number of well-armed and armored peacekeeping forces in the separatist region of South Ossetia and another breakaway region, Abkhazia, and the forces would have a broader mandate in South Ossetia . Further, there is no prohibition against these area petitioning to become a part of Russia . In point of fact, there is every indication that such requests will be made and certainly will be accepted. Then, any attack by Georgia would be a direct attack on Russia and in that event, the consequences would be monumental in nature.

And if the CIA doesn't give Sashkashvili a fatal heart attack, as they have done before in such circumstances, he will recover his wind and again try to attack Russia . But America cannot just write a shattered and militarily helpless Georgia off as an ally, because of the oil situation. An America , starved for oil and now in fierce competition for the world's remaining supplies, has almost no choice but to try to secure the vital Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline that is routed across Georgian territory.. This pipeline was constructed, at enormous cost, to bypass Russia and deliver oil to western countries. Now, With Russia armed and militant, the security of this pipeline is in serious question and it is this situation, rather than sticking American tongues out at Putin, that will determine the future. And on a lesser note, Israel has been ousted from its premier anti-Iranian base and is making strong representations to Bush to support their return to Georgia again. ”

The Oil Wars

Conflict Narrows Oil Options for West

August 13, 2008

by Jad Mouawad

New York Times



When the main pipeline that carries oil through Georgia was completed in 2005, it was hailed as a major success in the United States policy to diversify its energy supply. Not only did the pipeline transport oil produced in Central Asia , helping move the West away from its dependence on the Middle East , but it also accomplished another American goal: it bypassed Russia.

American policy makers hoped that diverting oil around Russia would keep the country from reasserting control over Central Asia and its enormous oil and gas wealth and would provide a safer alternative to Moscow 's control over export routes that it had inherited from Soviet days. The tug-of-war with Moscow was the latest version of the Great Game, the 19th-century contest for dominance in the region.

A bumper sticker that American diplomats distributed around Central Asia in the 1990s as the United States was working hard to make friends there summed up Washington 's strategic thinking: "Happiness is multiple pipelines."

Now energy experts say that the hostilities between Russia and Georgia could threaten American plans to gain access to more of Central Asia 's energy resources at a time when booming demand in Asia and tight supplies helped push the price of oil to record highs.

"It is hard to see through the fog of this war another pipeline through Georgia ," said Cliff Kupchan, a political risk analyst at Eurasia Group and a State Department official during the Clinton administration. "Moving forward, multinationals and Central Asian and Caspian governments may think twice about building new lines through this corridor. It may even call into question the reliability of moving existing volumes through that corridor."

At the very least, the analysts warn, a newly emboldened Russia may figure even more prominently in shaping the region's energy future.

The latest struggle over Caspian oil started in earnest in the 1990s under Bill Clinton, after the breakup of the Soviet Union . The building of the pipeline that passes through Georgia , the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan line, or BTC, remains one of the signature successes of the American strategy to put a wedge between Russia and the Central Asian countries that had been Soviet republics.

Attempts to get oil out of Kazakhstan through a non-Russia route failed. Most of the oil production from the giant field of Tengiz, for example, in which Chevron is the largest investor, now travels through a pipeline known as the Caspian Pipeline Consortium, which runs along the northern Caspian coastline to the Russian Black Sea port of Novorossiysk . And proposals for new oil and natural gas pipelines in the region have stalled, in part, because of Moscow 's opposition.

Some analysts believe the armed conflict between Russia and Georgia not only is rooted in historical enmity, but it is an outgrowth of Russia 's fears that Georgia , with its pro-Western bent, could prove to be a lasting competitor for energy exports.

"Russians treasured the fact they had a monopoly on oil and gas pipelines from Central Asia, as it gave them considerable clout," said Marshall I. Goldman, a senior scholar for Russian studies at Harvard and the recent author of "Petrostate: Putin, Power, and the New Russia." "By agreeing to having an oil pipeline, Georgia made itself more vulnerable."

A big concern for the future is what will happen to oil from Kashagan, the giant oil field in the Caspian Sea that holds over 10 billion barrels of reserves. Located off Kazakhstan , Kashagan is the most ambitious attempt to date by Western companies to develop new supplies in the Caspian. It will be at least five years before oil starts flowing from there, but the operating consortium, which includes Exxon Mobil and ConocoPhillips, plans to transport some of Kashagan's oil through the BTC pipeline.

That would involve building a new pipeline under the Caspian to connect to BTC. Russia has opposed similar plans in the past.

The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline, 1,100 miles long, transports 850,000 barrels a day of oil, or one percent of global supplies, from Azerbaijan through Georgia and Turkey , ending at the port of Ceyhan on the Mediterranean . Much of the oil is bound for Europe and the United States .

The oil comes from several fields in Azerbaijan , offshore in the Caspian. The line, which cost \$4 billion to build, also carries some oil from Tengiz that is barged across the Caspian.

Before the BTC pipeline was built, the West struggled to find routes that would avoid what Western leaders considered to be potential trouble spots, but it was difficult. The United States did not want the line to pass through Iran , for instance. In the end, the United States government, BP, which operates the pipeline, and other private investors decided the line should proceed on its current route. That gave a boost to newly independent counties and to Turkey , an ally, but it also sent the line through three nations struggling with separatists.

Even before the outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Georgia , analysts were reminded of how precarious even the favored route could be.

Last Wednesday, the pipeline was shut down after it was hit by an explosion in Eastern Turkey . Kurdish separatists claimed responsibility, although it remains unclear what caused the blast.

. There have also been unconfirmed reports in recent days that Russian planes had targeted the pipeline, although BP has said the line was not hit.

BP said on Wednesday that it would take a week to determine how long the pipeline will remain shut. Other investors in the pipeline are Socar, the state-owned oil company of Azerbaijan ; Chevron; ConocoPhillips; StatoilHydro, from Norway ; ENI, from Italy ; and Total, from France .

Russia , which is flush with petrodollars because of the rise in the price of oil, has not been afraid to flex its muscle in recent years to bring its neighbors in line. Two years ago, Gazprom, the national oil company then run by

Dmitri A. Medvedev, now the Russian president, cut off natural gas supplies to Ukraine in the winter because of a price dispute.

That had a knock-on effect in Europe , where many policy makers began questioning their reliance on Russian natural gas, although there was no consensus on what to do. One proposal, favored by the United States , has been to build a natural gas pipeline parallel to the BTC line.

“For the Europeans, the Ukraine gas crisis was like a snooze alarm,” said Frank A. Verrastro, the director of the energy and national security program at the Center for International and Strategic Studies in Washington .

But Mr. Verrastro, a former senior executive with Pennzoil, said it would be very hard now to build a new Western pipeline.

“We got BTC because there was a confluence of commercial and diplomatic interests,” he said. “But the United States didn’t learn the right lessons. They thought that all you had to do was lean on these countries and a new pipeline would happen. But that was an abject failure.”

He added: “There is a shift happening in the marketplace. We need a Plan B. But we don’t have a Plan B.”

Israel backs Georgia in Caspian Oil Pipeline Battle with Russia

DEBKAFfile Exclusive Report

Last year, the Georgian president commissioned from private Israeli security firms several hundred military advisers, estimated at up to 1,000, to train the Georgian armed forces in commando, air, sea, armored and artillery combat tactics. They also offer instruction on military intelligence and security for the central regime. Tbilisi also purchased weapons, intelligence and electronic warfare systems from Israel .

These advisers were undoubtedly deeply involved in the Georgian army’s preparations to conquer the South Ossetian capital Friday.

In recent weeks, Moscow has repeatedly demanded that Jerusalem halt its military assistance to Georgia , finally threatening a crisis in bilateral relations. Israel responded by saying that the only assistance rendered Tbilisi was “defensive.”

This has not gone down well in the Kremlin. Therefore, as the military crisis intensifies in South Ossetia , Moscow may be expected to punish Israel for its intervention.

<http://debka.com/article.php?aid=1358>

Georgia 'still receives Israeli arms'

August 14, 2008

PressTV

Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili says Tbilisi is still receiving military aid from Tel Aviv, rejecting Israeli media reports.

Citing Israeli military officials, the Jerusalem Post reported on August 10 that Israel had rejected frequent requests for arms from Georgia in the months leading up to the outbreak of the South Ossetia conflict.

"Several months ago, we carried out an evaluation of the situation in Georgia and realized that Georgia and Russia were on a collision course. We have good relations with both, and don't want to back either in this conflict," the unidentified officials were quoted by the daily as saying.

Saakashvili, however, denied the report, saying "I haven't heard anything about that and I haven't had time to think about that issue for some days," he told the Israeli daily Haaretz.

The president added "the Israeli weapons have proved very effective".

Saakashvili's remarks come shortly after Reintegration Minister, Temur Yakobashvili's said that Israel joined the "West's betrayal" of Georgia , when it halted its military aid to the country.

Israeli news outlets had earlier reported that Saakashvili had commissioned from Israeli security firms up to 1,000 military advisers to train the country's armed forces.

The report also revealed that Tel Aviv provided Tbilisi with weapons as well as intelligence and electronic warfare systems.

SB/DT

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=66591§ionid=351020606>

Russia : Georgia can 'forget' regaining provinces

August 14, 2008

by David Nowak and Christopher Torchia
Associated Press

TBILISI , Georgia - The foreign minister of Russia said Thursday that Georgia could "forget about" getting back its two breakaway provinces, and the former Soviet republic remained on edge as Russia sent tank columns to search out and destroy Georgian military equipment.

Uncertainty about Russia 's intentions and back-and-forth charges clouded the conflict two days after Russia and Georgia signaled acceptance of a French-brokered cease-fire, and a week after Georgia 's crackdown on the two provinces drew a Russian military response.

Diplomats focused on finalizing a fragile cease-fire between the two nations and clear the way for Russian withdrawal. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice was heading Friday for Georgia to press the president to sign the deal.

Georgian officials accused Russia of sending a column of tanks and other armored vehicles toward Kutaisi , the second-largest city in Georgia , then said the convey stopped about 35 miles out.

"We have no idea what they're doing there, why the movement, where they're going," Georgian Prime Minister Lado Gurgenidze said in a telephone briefing. "One explanation could be they are trying to rattle the civilian population."

The U.S. said a move toward Kutaisi would be a matter of great concern, but two defense officials told The Associated Press the Pentagon did not detect any major movement by Russia troops or tanks. There was no immediate response from Russia itself.

"I think the world should think very carefully about what is going on here," Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili said. "We need to stop everything that can be stopped now."

The Russian president met in the Kremlin with the leaders of the provinces, South Ossetia and Abkhazia, a clear sign Moscow could absorb the regions even though the territory is internationally recognized as being within Georgia 's borders. And Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov issued a blunt message to Georgia and the world that appeared to challenge President Bush's demand a day earlier that Russia must respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia .

"One can forget about any talk about Georgia 's territorial integrity because, I believe, it is impossible to persuade South Ossetia and Abkhazia to agree with the logic that they can be forced back into the Georgian state."

The White House said Thursday that the U.S. position was unchanged and dismissed Lavrov's remark as bluster. Defense Secretary Robert Gates warned Russia was in danger of hurting relations with the U.S. "for years to come" but said he did not see "any prospect" for the use of American military force in Georgia .

As the military and diplomatic battles played out, relief planes swooped into Tbilisi with tons of supplies for the estimated 100,000 people uprooted by the fighting.

U.S. officials said their two planes carried cots, blankets, medicine and surgical supplies — but the Russians insinuated that the United States , a Georgia ally, might have sent in military aid as well. U.S. officials rejected the claim.

Even as the relief rolled in, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon warned the fighting and lawlessness was keeping it from reaching large parts of Georgia. In some places, relief officials were overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of refugees.

"This is too much. It is all too much," said Manana Karelidze, a 50-year-old retired accountant, who said she had waited for days at the Department of Refugees in the Georgian capital for registration and dry pasta. There were hundreds like her.

Russian troops spent the day searching selected cities, forests and fields for military equipment left behind by Georgian forces.

The Georgian ambassador to the United States , H.E. Vasil Sikharulidze, said Russia was employing "scorched-earth" tactics — destroying Georgian commercial and military infrastructure and burning down religious sites beyond the conflict area of South Ossetia .

"What defenses does Georgia have? Because of the cease-fire agreement, which Russia has not honored, Georgian troops are being moved to organize a defensive line 10 kilometers (six miles) away from Tbilisi ," he said.

Sikharulidze said an attack on Kutaisi would be a "catastrophe,"

On the edge of the strategically important city of Gori , Georgian soldiers pointed their weapons at Russian

forces, and explosions and small arms fire broke out in the distance.

Georgia claimed Russians had left the oil port city of Poti , but hours later some forces were still there.

Georgia also accused Russia of using short-range missiles in Poti and Gori, showing reporters purported images of shrapnel. There was no immediate response from Russia .

Russian and Georgian troops briefly patrolled Gori, but relations between the two sides broke down and the Georgians left. At least 20 explosions were heard later near Gori, along with small-arms fire.

It was not clear whether it was renewed fighting or the disposal of ordnance from a nearby Georgian military base. Russia said its troops were there to establish contact with the civilian administration and take over abandoned military depots.

Gori, battered by Russian bombing over the week, lies on Georgia 's main east-west road only 60 miles west of Tbilisi . AP Television News footage showed Russian troops in and near Gori, and Georgia said it was checking the area for mines.

An AP Television News crew heard explosions at a military base in the western city of Senaki and were told by officials from both Russia and Georgia that the Russians were destroying ordnance. Dozens of Russian armored vehicles and troops later set up for the night under camouflage on the main road from Senaki north to Zugdidi.

The same APTN crew followed Russian troops on the outskirts of Poti as they searched a field and a forest at an old Soviet military base for possible Georgian military equipment.

Georgia 's coast guard said Russian troops burned four Georgian patrol boats in Poti on Wednesday, then returned Thursday to loot and destroy the coast guard's radar and other equipment.

Another APTN camera crew saw Russian soldiers and military vehicles parked inside the Georgian government's elegant gated residence in the western town of Zugdidi . Some of the Russian soldiers wore blue peacekeeping helmets, others wore green camouflage helmets, all were heavily armed. Other Russian troops patrolled the city.

"We don't want them here. What we need is friendship and good relations with the Russian people," Ygor Gegenava, an elderly Zugdidi resident, told the APTN crew.

In London , BP PLC said it resumed pumping natural gas Thursday through one Georgia pipeline, but two oil pipelines in Georgia remain closed.

The Russian General Prosecutor's office said it had formally opened a genocide probe into Georgian treatment of South Ossetians . Georgia sued Russia in international court, alleging murder, rape and mass expulsions of Georgians in both provinces.

Correspondents David Nowak, Misha Dzhindzhikhashvili and Matti Friedman in Tbilisi, Georgia; Mansur Mirovalev in Tskhinvali, Georgia; Jim Heintz and Vladimir Isachenkov in Moscow; Alexander Higgins in Geneva; Carley Petesch in New York; Matthew Lee traveling with Rice; and Lolita C. Baldor in Washington contributed to this report.



Conversations with the Crow: Part 23

Editor's note: *When we ran the first conversation in this series, there was the question of reader interest and acceptability. It is pleasant to report that our server was jammed with viewers and the only other tbrnews story that has had more viewers was our Forward Base Falcon story that had a half a million viewers in less than two days. We are now going to reprint all of the Crowley conversations, including a very interesting one on John McCain, in chronological sequence. It is also pleasant to note that two publishers and three reporters have all expressed concrete interest in the Crowley conversations. It is even more pleasurable to note that a number of people inside the Beltway and in McLean , Virginia , have been screaming with rage! Here is a partial listing of documents from Crowley 's personal files, now being scanned for publication:*

DOCUMENT CATALOG

Catalog Number	Description of Contents
1000 BH	Extensive file (1,205 pages) of reports on Operation PHOENIX. Final paper dated January, 1971, first document dated October, 1967. Covers the setting up of Regional Interrogation Centers, staffing, torture techniques including electric shock, beatings, chemical injections. CIA agents involved and includes a listing of U.S. military units to include Military Police, CIC and Special Forces groups involved. After-action reports from various military units to include 9 th Infantry, showing the deliberate killing of all unarmed civilians located in areas suspected of harboring or supplying Viet Cong units. *
1002 BH	Medium file (223 pages) concerning the fomenting of civil disobedience in Chile as the result of the Allende election in 1970. Included are pay vouchers for CIA bribery efforts with Chilean labor organization and student activist groups, U.S. military units involved in the final revolt, letter from T. Karamessines, CIA Operations Director to Chile CIA Station Chief Paul Wimert, passing along a specific order from Nixon via Kissinger to kill Allende when the coup was successful. Communications to Pinochet with Nixon instructions to root out by force any remaining left wing leaders.
1003 BH	Medium file (187 pages) of reports of CIA assets containing photographs of Soviet missile sites, airfields and other strategic sites taken from commercial aircraft. Detailed descriptions of targets attached to each picture or pictures.
1004 BH	Large file (1560 pages) of CIA reports on Canadian radio intelligence intercepts from the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa (1958) and a list of suspected and identified Soviet agents or sympathizers in Canada, to include members of the Canadian Parliament and military.
1005 BH	Medium file (219 pages) of members of the German Bundeswehr in the employ of the CIA. The report covers the Innere Führung group plus members of the signals intelligence service. Another report, attached, covers CIA assets in German Foreign Office positions, in Germany and in diplomatic missions abroad.
1006: BH	Long file (1,287 pages) of events leading up to the killing of Josef Stalin in 1953 to include reports on contacts with L.P. Beria who planned to kill Stalin, believing himself to be the target for removal. Names of cut outs, CIA personnel in Finland and Denmark are noted as are original communications from Beria and agreements as to his standing down in the DDR and a list of MVD/KGB files on American informants from 1933 to present. A report on a blood-thinning agent to be made available to Beria to put into Stalin's food plus twenty two reports from Soviet doctors on Stalin's health, high blood pressure etc. A report on areas of cooperation between Beria's people and CIA controllers in the event of a successful coup. *
1007 BH	Short list (125 pages) of CIA contacts with members of the American media to include press and television and book publishers. Names of contacts with bios are included as are a list of payments made and specific leaked material supplied. Also appended is a shorter list of foreign publications. Under date of August, 1989 with updates to 1992. Walter Pincus of the Washington Post, Bradlee of the same paper, Ted Koppel, Sam Donaldson and others are included.

- 1008 BH A file of eighteen reports (total of 899 pages) documenting illegal activities on the part of members of the U.S. Congress. First report dated July 29, 1950 and final one September 15, 1992. Of especial note is a long file on Senator McCarthy dealing with homosexuality and alcoholism. Also an attached note concerning the Truman Administration's use of McCarthy to remove targeted Communists. These reports contain copies of FBI surveillance reports, to include photographs and reference to tape recordings, dealing with sexual events with male and female prostitutes, drug use, bribery, and other matters.
- 1009 BH A long multiple file (1,564 pages) dealing with the CIA part (Kermit Roosevelt) in overthrowing the populist Persian prime minister, Mohammad Mossadegh. Report from Dulles (John Foster) concerning a replacement, by force if necessary and to include a full copy of AJAX operation. Letters from AIOC on million dollar bribe paid directly to J. Angleton, head of SOG. Support of Shah requires exclusive contracts with specified western oil companies. Reports dated from May 1951 through August, 1953.
- 1010 BH Medium file (419 pages) of telephone intercepts made by order of J.J. Angleton of the telephone conversations between RFK and one G.N. Bolshakov. Phone calls between 1962-1963 inclusive. Also copies of intercepted and inspected mail from RFK containing classified U.S. documents and sent to a cut-out identified as one used by Bolshakov, a Russian press (TASS) employee. Report on Bolshakov's GRU connections.
- 1011 BH Large file (988 pages) on 1961 Korean revolt of Kwangju revolt led by General Park Chung-hee and General Kin-Jong-pil. Reports on contacts maintained by CIA station in Japan to include payments made to both men, plans for the coup, lists of "undesirables" to be liquidated. Additional material on CIA connections with KCIA personnel and an agreement with them to assassinate South Korean chief of state, Park, in 1979.
- 1012 BH Small file (12 pages) of homosexual activities between FBI Director Hoover and his aide, Tolson. Surveillance pictures taken in San Francisco hotel and report by CIA agents involved. Report analyzed in 1962.
- 1013 BH Long file (1,699 pages) on General Edward Lansdale. First report a study signed by DCI Dulles in September of 1954 concerning a growing situation in former French Indo-China. There are reports by and about Lansdale starting with his attachment to the OPC in 1949-50 where he and Frank Wisner coordinated policy in neutralizing Communist influence in the Philippines. Landsale was then sent to Saigon under diplomatic cover and many copies of his period reports are copied here. Very interesting background material including strong connections with the Catholic Church concerning Catholic Vietnamese and exchanges of intelligence information between the two entities.
- 1014 BH Short file (78 pages) concerning a Dr. Frank Olson. Olson was at the U.S. Army chemical warfare base at Ft. Detrick in Maryland and was involved with a Dr. Gottlieb. Gottlieb was working on a plan to introduce psychotic-inducing drugs into the water supply of the Soviet Embassy. Apparently he tested the drugs on CIA personnel first. Reports of psychotic behavior by Olson and more police and official reports on his defenstration by Gottlieb's associates. A cover-up was instituted and a number of in-house CIA memoranda attest to this. Also a discussion by Gottlieb on various poisons and drugs he was experimenting with and another report of people who had died as a result of Gottlieb's various experiments and CIA efforts to neutralize any public knowledge of these. *
- 1015 BH Medium file (457 pages) on CIA connections with the Columbian-based Medellín drug ring. Eight CIA internal reports, three DoS reports, one FBI report on CIA operative Milan Rodríguez and his connections with this drug ring. Receipts for CIA payments to Rodríguez of over \$3 million in CIA funds, showing the routings of the money, cut-outs and payments. CIA reports on sabotaging DEA investigations. A three-part study of the Nicaraguan Contras, also a CIA-organized and paid for organization.

- 1016 BH A small file (159 pages) containing lists of known Nazi intelligence and scientific people recruited in Germany from 1946 onwards, initially by the U.S. Army and later by the CIA. A detailed list of the original names and positions of the persons involved plus their relocation information. Has three U.S. Army and one FBI report on the subject.
- 1017 BH A small list (54 pages) of American business entities with “significant” connections to the CIA. Each business is listed along with relevant information on its owners/operators, previous and on going contacts with the CIA’s Robert Crowley, also a list of national advertising agencies with similar information. Much information about suppressed news stories and planted stories

On October 8th, 2000 , Robert Trumbull Crowley, once a leader of the CIA's Clandestine Operations Division, died in a Washington hospital of heart failure and the end effects of Alzheimer's Disease. Before the late Assistant Director Crowley was cold, Joseph Trento, a writer of light-weight books on the CIA, descended on Crowley 's widow at her town house on Cathedral Hill Drive in Washington and hauled away over fifty boxes of Crowley 's CIA files.

Once Trento had his new find secure in his house in Front Royal , Virginia, he called a well-known Washington fix lawyer with the news of his success in securing what the CIA had always considered to be a potential major embarrassment. Three months before, July 20th of that year, retired Marine Corps colonel William R. Corson, and an associate of Crowley , died of emphysema and lung cancer at a hospital in Bethesda , Md.

After Corson's death, Trento and a well-known Washington fix-lawyer went to Corson's bank, got into his safe deposit box and removed a manuscript entitled 'Zipper.' This manuscript, which dealt with Crowley 's involvement in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, vanished into a CIA burn-bag and the matter was considered to be closed forever.

The small group of CIA officials gathered at Trento 's house to search through the Crowley papers, looking for documents that must not become public. A few were found but, to their consternation, a significant number of files Crowley was known to have had in his possession had simply vanished.

When published material concerning the CIA's actions against Kennedy became public in 2002, it was discovered to the CIA's horror, that the missing documents had been sent by an increasingly erratic Crowley to another person and these missing papers included devastating material on the CIA's activities in South East Asia to include drug running, money laundering and the maintenance of the notorious 'Regional Interrogation Centers' in Viet Nam and, worse still, the Zipper files proving the CIA's active organization of the assassination of President John Kennedy..

A massive, preemptive disinformation campaign was readied, using government-friendly bloggers, CIA-paid "historians" and others, in the event that anything from this file ever surfaced. The best-laid plans often go astray and in this case, one of the compliant historians, a former government librarian who fancied himself a serious writer, began to tell his friends about the CIA plan to kill Kennedy and eventually, word of this began to leak out into the outside world.

The originals had vanished and an extensive search was conducted by the FBI and CIA operatives but without success. Crowley 's survivors, his aged wife and son, were interviewed extensively by the FBI and instructed to minimize any discussion of highly damaging CIA files that Crowley had, illegally, removed from Langley when he retired. Crowley had been a close friend of James Jesus Angleton, the CIA's notorious head of Counterintelligence. When Angleton was sacked by DCI William Colby in December of 1974, Crowley and Angleton conspired to secretly remove Angleton's most sensitive secret files out of the agency. Crowley did the same thing right before his own retirement , secretly removing thousands of pages of classified information that covered his entire agency career.

Known as “The Crow” within the agency, Robert T. Crowley joined the CIA at its inception and spent his entire career in the Directorate of Plans, also know as the “Department of Dirty Tricks,”: Crowley was one of the tallest man ever to work at the CIA. Born in 1924 and raised in Chicago , Crowley grew to six and a half feet when he entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in N.Y. as a cadet in 1943 in the class of 1946. He never graduated, having enlisted in the Army, serving in the Pacific during World War II. He retired from the Army Reserve in 1986 as a lieutenant colonel. According to a book he authored with his friend and colleague, William Corson, Crowley's career included service in military intelligence and Naval Intelligence, before joining the CIA at inception in 1947. His entire career at the agency was spent within the Directorate of Plans in covert operations. Before his retirement, Bob Crowley became assistant deputy director for operations, the second-in-command in the Clandestine Directorate of Operations.

One of Crowley 's first major assignments within the agency was to assist in the recruitment and management of prominent World War II Nazis, especially those with advanced intelligence experience. One of the CIA's major recruitment coups was Heinrich Mueller, once head of Hitler's Gestapo who had fled to Switzerland after the collapse of the Third Reich and worked as an anti-Communist expert for Masson of Swiss counterintelligence. Mueller was initially hired by Colonel James Critchfield of the CIA, who was running the Gehlen Organization out of Pullach in southern Germany . Crowley eventually came to despise Critchfield but the colonel was totally unaware of this, to his later dismay.

Crowley 's real expertise within the agency was the Soviet KGB. One of his main jobs throughout his career

was acting as the agency liaison with corporations like ITT, which the CIA often used as fronts for moving large amounts of cash off their books. He was deeply involved in the efforts by the U.S. to overthrow the democratically elected government of Salvador Allende in Chile, which eventually got him into legal problems with regard to investigations of the U.S. government's grand jury where he has perjured himself in an agency cover-up

After his retirement, Crowley began to search for someone who might be able to write a competent history of his career. His first choice fell on British author John Costello (author of *Ten Days to Destiny*, *The Pacific War* and other works) but, discovering that Costello was a very aggressive homosexual, he dropped him and tentatively turned to Joseph Trento who had assisted Crowley and William Corson in writing a book on the KGB. When Crowley discovered that Trento had an ambiguous and probably cooperative relationship with the CIA, he began to distrust him and continued his search for an author.

Bob Crowley first contacted Gregory Douglas in 1993 when he found out from John Costello that Douglas was about to publish his first book on Heinrich Mueller, the former head of the Gestapo who had become a secret, long-time asset to the CIA. Crowley contacted Douglas and they began a series of long and often very informative telephone conversations that lasted for four years. In 1996, Crowley, Crowley told Douglas that he believed him to be the person that should ultimately tell Crowley's story but only after Crowley's death. Douglas, for his part, became so entranced with some of the material that Crowley began to share with him that he secretly began to record their conversations, later transcribing them word for word, planning to incorporate some, or all, of the material in later publications.

In 1998, when Crowley was slated to go into the hospital for exploratory surgery, he had his son, Greg, ship two large foot lockers of documents to Douglas with the caveat that they were not to be opened until after Crowley's death. These documents, totaled an astonishing 15,000 pages of CIA classified files involving many covert operations, both foreign and domestic, during the Cold War.

After Crowley's death and Trento's raid on the Crowley files, huge gaps were subsequently discovered by horrified CIA officials and when Crowley's friends mentioned Gregory Douglas, it was discovered that Crowley's son had shipped two large boxes to Douglas. No one knew their contents but because Douglas was viewed as an uncontrollable loose cannon who had done considerable damage to the CIA's reputation by his on-going publication of the history of Gestapo-Mueller, they bent every effort both to identify the missing files and make some effort to retrieve them before Douglas made any use of them.

All of this furor eventually came to the attention of Dr. Peter Janney, a Massachusetts clinical psychologist and son of Wistar Janney, another career senior CIA official, colleague of not only Bob Crowley but Cord Meyer, Richard Helms, Jim Angleton and others. Janney was working on a book concerning the murder of Mary Pinchot Meyer, former wife of Cord Meyer, a high-level CIA official, and later the mistress of President John F. Kennedy. Douglas had authored a book, *Regicide* which dealt with Crowley's part in the Kennedy assassination and he obviously had access to at least some of Crowley's papers. Janney was very well connected inside the CIA's higher levels and when he discovered that Douglas had indeed known, and had often spoken with, Crowley and that after Crowley's death, the FBI had descended on Crowley's widow and son, warning them to never speak with Douglas about anything, he contacted Douglas and finally obtained from him a number of original documents, including the originals of the transcribed conversations with Robert Crowley.

In spite of the burn bags, the top secret safes and the vigilance of the CIA to keep its own secrets, the truth has an embarrassing and often very fatal habit of emerging, albeit decades later.

While CIA drug running, money-launderings and brutal assassinations are very often strongly rumored and suspected, it has so far not been possible to actually pin them down but it is more than possible that the publication of the transcribed and detailed Crowley-Douglas conversations will do a great deal towards accomplishing this.

These many transcribed conversations are relatively short because Crowley was a man who tired easily but they make excellent reading. There is an interesting admixture of shocking revelations on the part of the retired CIA official and often rampant anti-social (and very entertaining) activities on the part of Douglas but readers of this new and on-going series are gently reminded to always look for the truth in the jest!

Date: Tuesday, October 29, 1996

Commenced: 8:45 AM CST

Concluded: 9:05 AM CST

GD: Good morning, Robert. How is life treating you?

RTC: Well enough, I suppose. Yourself?

GD: Not too badly. I heard from Corson who wants me to come back for a meeting with you and himself soon. He neglected to mention Kimmel for some reason.

RTC: Kimmel will probably be along to subject you to his brilliant interrogative techniques.

GD: Good. That ought to be entertaining. Corson mentioned the University Club.

RTC: Yes. Up on Sixteenth Avenue past the White House. We can have lunch.

GD: Is the food good?

RTC: It's not the Jockey Club but it will do. Do you have any idea when you will come?

GD: Probably early in December. Willis Carto wants to meet with me over the weekend in DC so we can get together just after that. I've been reading over this ZIPPER business and checking various dates out. Fascinating story, Robert, and hopefully it will make a good book. And before you say it, no, I won't publish until after you're gone. They were all of them into it, weren't they?

RTC: Just a few of the top people, actually. We were talking about the Army plot to start a war with Cuba by attacking our planes and setting off a few bombs here. I believe we did talk about this.

GD: Yes.

RTC: Jim Bamford knows all about this. It's called 'Operation Northwoods' and the plans are in the National Archives. I wouldn't recommend your asking your friend Wolfe about it because he'd run to Langley with his tongue hanging out and then they would vanish without a trace. If you're going to be here, I'll give you chapter and verse so you can find them yourself. Oh and one other thing. You mentioned an Army file on top Nazis we used. Wolfe sent it to you?

GD: Yes, I got it from him.

RTC: If I gave you chapter and verse on it, would you confirm?

GD: Certainly.

RTC: Let me just find this....always putting...here. 'P&O file 311.5 TS, sections one two and three.' Dated 1948. Is that the one?

GD: It sounds like it. I'm bad on numbers. Let me pull it out. Take about a minute.

RTC: Go ahead.

(Pause)

GD: That's it.

RTC: That stupid son of a bitch had no right to give that to you. He's playing both ends against the middle. When you come back here, could you make a copy and give it to me?

GD: I will do that.

RTC: That man is a rat, Gregory, a sewer rat.

GD: Don't drag me into it, please. I never solicited it and he sent it to me so I would give him some Müller papers dealing with his employment by your people. Naturally, since I never asked for it, once it came and I read it, I pretended I never got it. This scared yesterday's dinner out of him because he put his return address on it. He thinks some post office employee will find it and turn

it over to the FBI. I think he's afraid of going to jail.

RTC: He damned well ought to.

GD: Who knows, Robert? He might like it inside the big house. You know what they say, don't you? If you can't get a woman get a clean old man.

RTC: (Laughter)

GD: My, and such a lot of Gestapo and SD people, not to mention a few Einsatzgruppen people we transported here, gave new names and ID to and made them GS 18s.. I think Wolfe wanted me to publish this and embarrass the CIA and the Army. He can't, of course, so he thinks he is very clever using me as a cat's paw. And to show you how brilliant an operative he is, the thing came in a NA envelope with his name written above the return address. Is he typical of the type of pseudo-academics you use?

RTC: These are useless attention-craving idiots but useful in their way.

GD: As fertilizer in your garden? You know the old saying that those who can, do and other teach? Fits them perfectly. I have been running into academics for years. Petty, puffed-up bags of shit who squall and attack each other with their purses over the most trivial things. And, of course, they steal from everyone and then call it research. I might cite the case of Stephen Ambrose, the wonderful historian. He published a book once called a 'Handbook on German Military Forces.' Problem was, the book had been published in 1945 by the War Department as TM-E 30-451. Of course it wasn't illegal to steal it, page by page, because it was public domain, but after I brought this to the attention of his publishers, the next edition had certain credit corrections. He probably blamed it all on his careless typist. You know, I always recommend an Ambrose book because you can get three books for the price of one. Why ever do you use such slugs? I'll bet that even now, Mortimer Z. Tinsley, PhD, DVM is working on a devastating attack on the Müller book. He probably teaches at some obscure school like Antelope Valley Teacher's College, in the history department, and his doctoral thesis, which he stole in its entirety, was entitled 'A History of Fraud in Bulgarian Bar Mitzvahs in the Nineteenth Century.' He will point out that Müller died in 1945 and my book is fuller of shit than a Christmas turkey. Of course he's prating about Dr. Heinrich Müller, not Gestapo Müller, but I'll just bet the New York Times Sunday book section will carry a wonderful review of it. I love that section. They push forward deeply moving books about a black orphan boy raised in Georgia by two vegetarian Lesbians and his poignant and deeply moving struggles to become a champion purse snatcher-cum-pimp in Hell's Kitchen. The sort of silly shit that no one reads but the editor knows the publisher.

RTC: Oh, we do have our stable of weird people working for us. Did I ever tell you about the Pedophile Academy, Gregory?

GD: Are you speaking of Yale, Robert?

RTC: No, no we actually had one down at Camp Peary. Right near Jim Critchfield's place. I don't know if you are aware of it but we called it The Farm and it was supposed to be a secret training center for young agents. Anyway, Allan Dulles set up this training center down there for pedophiles. They were in training to seduce, molest and, most especially, photograph the young children of targets. Not only, Allan reasoned, would our graduates have a spanking good time but they could get wonderful action pictures of the wee ones to blackmail their families with.

GD: Sick.

RTC: One could say that. I understand they broke it up when one of the graduates nailed a Deputy Director's son at a summer camp.

GD: Another boat trip?

RTC: I really don't know. I heard he had a sudden heart attack. We do those very well, you know.

GD: I am aware. A French doctor invented the drug. The Gestapo used it internally and externally and through Müller, we got it. Is that what you're talking about?

RTC: I think so.

GD: Müller told me that when he came to Washington, they were tossing people out of windows. Forrestal went crazy and they chunked him out of the sixteenth floor clinic at Bethesda. That's the special floor where they keep Senators who flip out and run around the Mall in the nude.

RTC: I think it's more of a drunk tank, Gregory. McCarthy was locked up there for a time.

GD: They should have put him out the window. Müller used to say that this showed no consideration for people passing on the sidewalk below or expensive parked cars. Imagine an overweight official descending ten stories onto your new Packard or worse, on your Christmas shopping wife. Think of the lost gifts, Robert, and you too will weep.

RTC: Gregory, you are a terrible person.

GD: I know that, Robert. I once put angel hair...you know, the spun glass insulation...into my sister's underwear before a family dinner and she spent most of the time scratching her crotch and other unmentionable body areas right at the table. I told everyone she had crabs and she had to leave the table. I understand her swollen pudenda looked like an eggplant.

RTC: (Laughter) Gregory, you are really very bad. But entertaining.

GD: I know. Anyway, when I come back to see you I have some ZIPPER questions for you.

RTC: Yes, I much prefer a face-to-face. But my God, not at the University club lunch.

GD: Of course not.

RTC: If Tom Kimmel ever got wind of what we were up to, he would have my place raided.

GD: Oh my God, Robert, he might find the Swiss Music Box.

RTC: Speaking of that, it seems to be working. At least it scares off all the birds and every time I put it on, the dogs in the neighborhood howl like demons.

GD: Maybe the poor Swiss are soaking their embassy floor with urine. Did you ever think of that?

RTC: It did occur to me. But enough merriment for today. I have to get ready to go to the doctor's office so I will speak with you later.

(Concluded at 9:05 AM CST)

KRIEGS' LIST

August 15, 2008

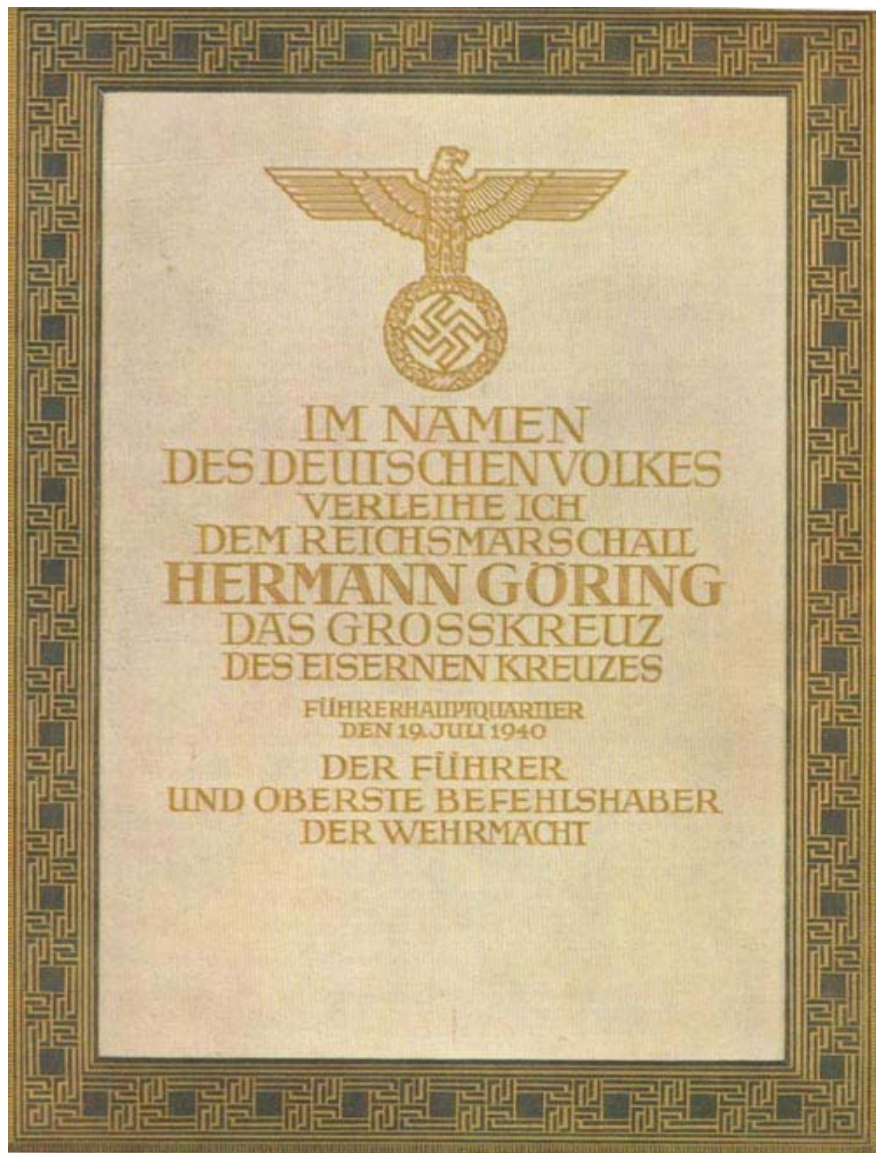
by Harold R. Krieg, Lt. Col, ret. AUS

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One of the most lucrative, and little-known areas of relic forgery is to be found in very expensive relics of the German Third Reich. As prices rise on the more desirable collectables, skillful dealers have moved into the marketplace

with fakes that can fool even the most seasoned collector. Everything from bejeweled products of the goldsmith's art such as presentation papers for Hermann Goering to lowly but expensive military buckles for the German Waffen-SS are being put out on the militaria market. Selling modern fakes has been facilitated by a great outpouring of published material, mostly paid for by the authors and covering most of the aspects of collecting. Books on almost every aspect of this collecting world can be found but most are useless to the novice collector because they are nothing but catalogs of fakes and are designed solely to sell them to a gullible public. There are many firms, mostly in India and Pakistan, who deal in locally manufactured fakes. Here, for example, is a Pakistani firm that has a wide selection of fakes for sale to those selling "rare" pieces: <http://www.armuniform.com/> There are many more and in future postings, we will bring these to the attention of a hitherto gullible and trusting collecting fraternity. In this first study, we will look at a very rare fake first and follow this up with an example of disinformation designed to destroy the value of original, and very scarce, pieces and "authenticate" and, of course, sell, modern copies.

The Grand Cross of the Iron Cross reproduction documents and case





This beautiful copy of the unique document and presentation cassette for the Grand Cross of the Iron Cross is made by SRL, via Vecchia Ferriera 70, Vicenza, Italia for a German firm in Pforzheim that specializes in copies of rare German Third Reich important relics. This magnificent set wholesales for US \$ 25,000 and requires a two month delivery wait.

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Original and fake cuffitles



A selection of Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler Cufftitles. obverse

The top title is a reproduction while the four bottom ones are genuine



A selection of Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler Cufftitles. reverse

The top title is a reproduction while the four bottom ones are genuine

The RODO Waffen-SS EM belt buckle, original and fake

One of the most desirable German military belt buckles is the so-called RODO buckle made for the Waffen-SS. RODO is the logo of Robert C. Dold of Offenburg, Germany, and during the Second World War, Dold made *Waffen-SS*, *Heer* and *Luftwaffe* enlisted buckles. Because RODO buckles are particularly well-made specimens, they have become very popular with military collectors.

Some confusion has arisen about these pieces, which of course have been copied, and collectors have been misled by a book written specifically on the subject of military buckles.

This book is: **Belt Buckles and Brocades of the Third Reich** (Revised Edition) By Lt.Col John Angolia (Bender Publishing, 2001 ISBN# 0-912138-77-7) This book is now out of print and on page 216 (upper photo) the reader can see a purported "original" RODO Waffen-SS enlisted personnel buckle. This sample, unfortunately; is a post-war copy, made in the Czech Republic in the 1980s.

Interestingly enough, on page 608 (lower picture) we see an *absolutely original* period RODO listed as a fake! Whether this was an error in manuscript preparation or perhaps attributable to other motives, is not clear, but I am showing a rare and *original* RODO piece for comparison. These original RODO pieces were in a dark tropical olive (for the Reichsführer-SS Division), standard olive-green, *Luftwaffe* gray for *SS Fallschirmjaeger* units and dark charcoal for the final late war color.



Robert C. Dold (RODO) original Waffen-SS EM steel belt buckle, obverse

(below) Robert C. Dold (RODO) original Waffen-SS EM steel belt buckle, reverse

Note proper wartime catch and correct sized-logo





Robert C. Dold (RODO) Waffen-SS EM belt buckle showing proper buckle prongs