

Current Concerns

The international journal for independent thought, ethical standards, moral responsibility,
and for the promotion and respect of public international law, human rights and humanitarian law

English Edition of Zeit-Fragen

“A lasting peace is possible within the framework of a stable nation “

“Americans, Germans and French treat us with triumphant insincerity.”

by *Olivier Delacrétaz, Lausanne*

Americans, Germans and French treat us with triumphant insincerity. Now that we have just recently concluded our bank and tax agreements – achieved only with great difficulty and generally disadvantageous for us – they are put into question with aggressive nonchalance. Ever more is demanded from us, and the only thing offered to us in return is not to be asked for even more. And we always give in, very pleased on the right, very ashamed on the left about the fact that we dared to refuse for some months.

We have already become so accustomed to this that we manage to give in pre-emptively, without anybody requiring anything from us, like in 1997 with the creation of an absurd solidarity foundation with the National Bank's gold, or in 2010 with the unilateral adoption of the Cassis de Dijon principle. This latter decision, which freed the importers of the obligation to respect the requirements that apply to our producers, foreshadowed what was still to come.

The procedure, which has led us to where we are today, is simple. In our Manichean world, the key is to belong to the good guys. This is the only criterion: The nice guys who are appalled by the villain Ben Ali, the nice Kosovars against the evil Serbs, the nice Palestinians against the nasty Zionists, the nice Francophones against the bad guys from Zurich.

If you are preparing to do wrong, make sure you appear good. And, even more important, make sure to blacken the reputation of your victim, who, in the ideal case, believes in his own viciousness. This is what happens with Switzerland. We have adopted the idea that we are part of the evil, that we lay in ambush during World War II, that we, fraudulent bankers and unscrupulous arms dealers, benefited from the others without any solidarity with Europe or the world. Is this the result of a particularly

effective communication? Has prosperity made us so indifferent? Are we compensating with a psychological backlash our former long-lasting certainty that we are the ones favoured by destiny? What is for sure is that our behaviour of a submissive dog takes off any remorse from our enemies: Why should you want to do good to a nation that has a bad opinion of itself?

In this kind of moralized international order everything is good what is directed against evil. With regard to Switzerland, the rule of law and the respect towards signed agreements, good faith, sense of proportion have no right to exist. The moral end justifies the amoral means.

In fact, there is no villainy that our enemies – in full awareness – do not make use of: generalized suspicion, denunciation and incitement to denunciation, theft and inciting publicly accepted organized theft at the highest political level, explicit blackmailing, abuse of law, insults, physical threat of families.

Overall, our authorities are not able to cope with this situation. They force Switzerland to political penitential pilgrimage. Now when it would be their responsibility to ensure the respect for the Confederation and its independence, they sell them off as cheaply as they can. The agreement with France on inheritance tax is only the latest item in a series of self-abandonment. Instead of defending Swiss law and the rights of Swiss citizens, the Federal Council authorizes bankers to break their confidentiality obligation towards its clients and to give away their own employees to the US administration.

Its excuse is that the ruin of the big institutions would do too much damage, the banks are “too big to fail” (TBTF). In plain language: A TBTF bank is nothing other than a state within a state. Our authorities accept the existence of a bank state within the federal state. It is also

due to them that the interests of the bank state are given priority over the common good

Give way to conclude everything? There will be no end, not even a break. The poultry is fat and willing, let us cut it up! Yes, let us take to pieces the cowardly capon!

After the fall of the Berlin Wall that freed us from the “balance of terror” and that is, from a progressive perspective, consubstantial with modern democracy, the classe politique persuaded itself that peace and world-wide unity were within reach. They were convinced that the international order would arise naturally, as a continuation of the internal order of nations.

It was neglecting fundamental differences between the national and the international.

A lasting peace is possible within the framework of a stable nation the parts of which are connected by a common history and are subject to a recognized authority, guaranteeing territorial integrity, the autonomy of the law, and the protection of people and their assets. This is also valid, in spite of some complications that forced us to neutrality, for our Confederation of cantonal states.

On the contrary, what is now called the international order – without any religious, linguistic, moral or legal unity and without a superior authority that would have the resources to establish and guarantee such an order – is nothing but the temporary and territorially staked balance between the political forces involved.

This fragile and constantly threatened order, surrounded and undermined by hundreds of conflicts of any kind, is a miraculous calm amidst the storms that are usually the common lot of mankind. In our case, the lull was long. It is now finished. •

Source: *La Nation* No. 1948, 24 August 2012

(Translation *Current Concerns*)

Non-Violent revolutions: are they exploited by the USA?

by Prof Albert A. Stahel, Institute for Strategic Studies, www.strategische-studien.com

On 10 October 1998, the organization *OTPOR* (resistance) was founded in what was then the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.¹ Many of its members were students or belonged to the nomenklatura of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. *OTPOR*'s members analyzed the weaknesses of the *Milošević* regime and came up with a strategic plan to bring it down. In the beginning, the agitation was limited to the university of Belgrade. There were no *OTPOR* campaigns during the NATO air raids "Allied Force". Activities against the regime were re-initiated in 2000. During the September 2000 elections in Yugoslavia, the antipathy against *Milošević* was incited with slogans like "Gotov Je" (he is toast) or "Vreme Je" (it is about time).² On 5 October 2000, *Milošević* was overthrown. In this year, *OTPOR* made use of the whole bandwidth of the tactics of political agitation. *Milošević* was ridiculed, roadblocks were erected, boycotts declared, the opponent was confused by hoaxes and public buildings were occupied. The various groups communicated via the internet.

Later it became known that the members of *OTPOR* had drawn on a book by the American pacifist and political scientist *Gene Sharp*³ for the formulation of their strategy. Reading this work one expects a handbook of revolutionary practice, but it is rather a theoretical treatise of strategic thinking. Only the appendix containing a list of non-violent methods there can be used as a concrete instruction for approaches against a dictatorship.⁴ Regarding these methods, *Sharp* refers to his earlier work of 1973. The glossary which contains a reference to political Jiu-Jitsu is also very interesting.⁵ With this Jiu-Jitsu the violent suppression through a dictatorship should constantly be answered with non-violent resistance and not with counter-violence. The suppression machinery is discredited through the international media.

The references in *Gene Sharp*'s book allow identifying the British author *Adam Roberts* as the real pioneer of the modern strategy of non-violent resistance. In the 1970s, based on the non-violent resistance of the citizens of Czechoslovakia 1968 against the occupation of their country by the *Warsaw Pact* divisions, he propagandized non-violent resistance as the only effective answer to the occupation of a country through a foreign power.⁶ Already then *Roberts* listed the tactics of non-violent resistance in his publications cited much later by *Sharp*. They in-

clude "methods of persuasion, of non-cooperation and of intervention".⁷ The first concrete guidelines for tactical agitation against a dictatorship, however, were described by *Karl Marx*' friend and collaborator *Friedrich Engels* in his essay "The Revolt" [Der Aufstand]: "The revolt is a calculation with highly undetermined quantities which may change their value each day ..."⁸

After *Milošević*'s fall, the question came up who had financed *OTPOR* and its costly agitation. In November 2000, the journalist *Roger Cohen* reported on the financiers of *OTPOR* in an article in the *New York Times Magazine*. According to *Cohen* *OTPOR* had obviously received money from the *National Endowment for Democracy (NED)*, from the *International Republican Institute (IRI)* and the *US Agency for International Development (USAID)*. While *NED* and *IRI* were close to the Clinton administration which was in power at the time, *USAID* is still a part of the federal administration of the US. It is said that, as early as September/October 1998 (before the triggering of *Allied Force*), *Paul B. McCarthy* of the *NED* met the leadership of *OTPOR* in Montenegro's capital Podgorica and in Szeged and Budapest in Hungary.⁹

After *Milošević*'s fall, the leaders of *OTPOR (Srdja Popovic, Ivan Marovic and others)* tried to form a political party. This effort failed due to the small number of votes for *OTPOR* in the parliamentary elections of 2003.¹⁰ Reportedly the activists were still supported from outside. *Popovic* for example later received the position of a visiting scholar at the *Hariman Institute* of Columbia University. The thoughts were propagated. Essays on the implementation of a revolution in the *OTPOR* style were written. And a film "How to Start a Revolution" starring *Popovic* was made.¹¹ The following demonstrations and revolutions are said to have been organized following the *OTPOR*-example:¹²

- *Kmara* in Georgia was partially responsible for the fall of president *Edward Shevardnadze*,
- *Pora* (part of the *Orange Revolution*) with demonstrations in Ukraine,
- *Zbur* in Belarus with demonstrations against president *Alexander Lukashenko*,
- *Oborona* in Russia with demonstrations against president *Wladimir Putin*,
- *KelKel* in Kirgizia has contributed to the fall of president *Askar Akayev*,

– *Bolga* in Uzbekistan with demonstrations against president *Islam Karimov*.

It is possible that some of these demonstrations and rebellions have also been financed by the mentioned US organizations.¹³

Following the suppression of a strike on 6 April 2008 in Egypt, the youth movement 6 April was founded. Supporters of this group are said to have been counselled in Belgrade by *OTPOR* activists and to have taken over the *OTPOR* logo.¹⁴ It is said that the Egyptian revolution in 2011 has been organized according to their directions and advice including the occupation of Tahrir square. It is also possible that the first phase of the rebellions in Tunisia, Libya and Syria have been planned according to *OTPOR*-tactics.

So far not all successful revolutions have not only caused the fall of the person in power at the time. The rebellions in Libya and Tunisia have also led to a collapse of state structures and administrations. This deprived the two states of any leadership and orientation and their state is now one of "failed states". But of course states like this are not able to ward off influence from outside. In view of the financing and the repeated "pioneer" *Gene Sharp* it might be that the US have exploited the rebellions for their goals. •

1 *OTPOR!* (2012). Wikipedia. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otpor!> p. 2, 15.8.2012

2 *OTPOR!* (2012). Wikipedia. p. 5

3 *Sharp, G.* (1993). From Dictatorship to Democracy. also see: www.tagesanzeiger.ch/21758820/print.html, 17.8.2012

4 *Sharp, G.* (1993), p. 101–108

5 *Sharp, G.* (1993), p. 116/117

6 *Roberts, A.* (1972), Total Defence and Civil Resistance, Problems of Sweden's Security Policy.

The Research Institute of Swedish National Defence, FOA P Rapport C8335/M, Stockholm

7 *Roberts, A.* (1972), p. 132

8 *Stahel, A.A.* (1987). Terrorismus und Marxismus, Marxistisch-Leninistische Konzeptionen des Terrorismus und der Revolution. ASMZ, Allgemeine Schweizerische Militärzeitschrift, Huber & Co. AG, Frauenfeld, p. 29.

9 *OTPOR!* (2012). Wikipedia, p. 6

10 *OTPOR!* (2012). Wikipedia, p. 9.

11 *OTPOR!* (2012). Wikipedia, p. 10

12 *OTPOR!* (2012). Wikipedia, p. 12

13 *OTPOR!* (2012). Geplante Revolutionen. <http://schnittpunkt2012.blogspot.ch/2011/05/otpor-geplante-revolutionen.html>. p. 3, 15.08.2012

14 *Hermann, R.* (2011), Revolution nach Plan, Protestbewegung in Ägypten. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung 15.2.2011, p. 1–4. www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/arabische-welt/protestbewegung-in-aegypten-revolution-nach-plan-1589885.html, 17.8.12

(Translation Current Concerns)

“Switzerland ought to play her role as an intermediary”

“For Switzerland preventing the war in Syria clearly means offering negotiations between all regional partners.”

Interview with National councillor Geri Müller



National councillor
Geri Müller.
(picture ma)

thk. The claim to intervene in Syria with military force, is reminiscent of the atmosphere shortly before the beginning of NATO's war of aggression, which was a breach of international law and was waged under the guidance

of the US against a sovereign state and UN member, the republic of Serbia. A war of conquest was launched under the pretext of defending "human rights", with the aim to bomb Serbia back to stone age and build a new military base in the Kosovo.

This war of NATO and its allies was a breach of international law, which consisted of planning and waging a war of aggression.

Since the Kosovo war the West seems to have been acting based on the chaos theory in all zones of war and crisis, and this not only on the level of action but also on the argumentative level. As for Syria, there is hardly anyone who really knows what is going on.

In such a situation it is a relief to know that there are people who are able to maintain the line of the international law and are committed to a negotiated solution for Syria.

In the following interview, the green National councillor Geri Müller, member of the commission for foreign affairs and security of the Swiss National Council, is presenting his view on the situation in the Middle East and the role neutral Switzerland could play.

Current Concerns: The situation in Syria is not transparent. It is becoming increasingly clear that the whole turmoil has been carried from outside into the country. How are you judging the situation?

Geri Müller: Syria has been on the list of the "axis of evil" for a long time, and Syria has been attacked and provoked for years by the West, mostly from the anti-Russian and anti-Iranian side. There have been popular uprisings not only in Syria but also in other countries, some were peaceful, others less. There are however strong hints that these riots have also been misused by foreign forces with the aim to divide Damascus and Teheran.

What would be the consequences for the Iran if the West intervened militarily to topple Assad?

Iran has seen herself under permanent threat since the 1979 revolution, and has every reason to believe this. Since 1712, the Iran has never attacked a country, it is on the other hand the Iran, which has been occupied and attacked several times. There was the colonial power of England, then the loss of Azerbaijan to the USSR after the Second World War, then the Americans who installed the Shah twice; and in the 80s 2 million Iranians lost their lives in the war against the Iraq, which had been supported by the US and the Europeans. Syria appears like a déjà-vu. The confrontations have always been about the oil reserves, which are currently flowing towards the People's Republic of China.

What is the importance of the fuelling of this conflict for Russia?

Russia must consider the strategy it wants to apply. Russia no longer has the same strength as before the Fall of the Iron Curtain, and therefore needs to think about the frame of her future sphere of influence very carefully. One crucial part of this sphere of influence is the access to the Mediterranean, but also to the Arab World. This access has been blocked so far as a result of the one-sided aggression of the West against Syria. I regard it as quite important that the West realises that it cannot continue monopolising this region.

Some weeks ago one got the impression that Turkey was intervening more and more in the conflict. Is that still the case? And what is Turkey's intention?

Turkey must think carefully about her role. Turkey is a regional power with connections reaching as far as the Chinese border and the Turkmen peoples inside China, where Turkey has assumed a strong role as a mediator. It has become a player there and not just an advisor.

With Syria there are a few hard nuts to crack. On the one hand the Kurdish conflict, which is of great importance to Turkey, too. Furthermore the inner-Islamic conflicts, in which Turkey is striving for the third form of the Islam, a secular but still rather Sunnite Islam, whereas in Syria there is the confrontation or rather the provoked collision of the two classical Islamic orientations, the Shiite and Sunnite, which had been set against each other.

And there is a third question: Who is Turkey as a NATO partner siding with? It would have to be either the Europeans or the Americans. But Turkey has not even

demonstrated this stance clearly. In view of the whole context, Turkey is facing major problems with Syria.

Last week there was the news that the US, above all France and Great Britain, are planning to intervene in Syria in order to install so-called protection areas.

It is France and Great Britain in particular, which are opting for this solution, whereas the US are not active here, they have delivered weapons via the CIA, this is their contribution. It is important though to see that we are dealing with a former sphere of influence of both France and Great Britain, and thus a zone of conflict. They are playing a crucial part in the present conflict. Moreover, Sarkozy, during his term in office, had invited Assad to join the Mediterranean council, which wasn't highly appreciated by Great Britain and created a conflict which remains to be solved. And then there is a strong will for intervention on the part of *François Hollande*, you might remember that during his election campaign he said that France should again defend her interests, which is similar to her interest in Libya: the access to the oil. Syria doesn't actually have oil, but the neighbouring Iran does. This is a very delicate matter. And last but not least France hosted the fugitive *Ayatollah Khomeini*.

What would be the consequences for the region if the West, that is NATO, or the "alliance of the compliant", intervened militarily?

The intervention has been carried out for a long time and by several countries. This is the reason why I make it clear that if the whole matter were to be brought before the *International Tribunal* then charges would have to be brought not only against the Syrian government and the rebels, but also against the masterminds behind the whole development. These are the secret services such as the MI 6, the CIA, The SIS, or the secret service of the Saudis.

Should it come to an open confrontation, it would have enormous consequences for both the Lebanon and Israel. And also for Turkey, and this might be the reason why Turkey has been rather cautious concerning the issue. I note that restraint has been demanded on the diplomatic level. We are dealing with the scenario of a conflagration similar to the one in Libya, where not only Libya is in flames but the entire western Sahel zone, de-

Russia's Davos

Putin, Kissinger can agree on Syria

by M. K. Bhadrakumar, specially for RIR (Russia & India Report)

The point is, there is a remarkable proximity between the Russian position on Syria and Kissinger's own opinion on the issue "Arab Spring".

A long-awaited visitor to Russia met President Vladimir Putin on Thursday [2012/06/21] – former United States secretary of state Henry Kissinger. The venue was the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (dubbed as "Russia's Davos"). Energy is a key topic at the conference in St. Petersburg and the Kissinger Associates, Inc., as a consulting firm cannot miss such an important occasion to assist its clients in identifying strategic partners and investment opportunities.

Clearly, Russia is opening up its energy sector for foreign participation in an unprecedented way and Russia is one of the fastest growing economies in the world

at present. (By the way, another participant at the St. Petersburg conference is He Guoqiang, senior member of the politburo of the Chinese communist party who heads the powerful Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.)

Kissinger was "long-awaited" as he hasn't so far met Putin after the latter's return to the Kremlin as president for a third term. The two statesmen have cultivated a friendly personal relationship over the years, which also seems to play a useful role in smoothening the rough edges of the Russian-American relationship. Kissinger, of course, has a very profound background of Soviet-American relations and could bring into the contemporary US thinking a great deal of realism.

The setting is also poignant. Putin's foreign policy strategy has evolved over the years in a wide arc and suffice to say, at

the core of it today it is bereft of any ideology or dogma and is instead an all-consuming ambition to make Russia strong. As a master tactician, he is constantly on the lookout for opportunities; and being a highly trained mind, challenges do not deter him. His preferred way of relentlessly promoting Russian interests and robustly defending them will be by essentially balancing among the big players in a polycentric world while Russia remains a strategically independent actor. He and Kissinger would have a lot in common. •

Source: Russia & India Report, June 22, 2012.
http://indrus.in/articles/2012/06/22/putin_kissinger_can_agree_on_syria_16034.html

¹ The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection of the Communist Party of China is charged with rooting out corruption and malfeasance among party cadres (e.g. with smuggling large quantities of oil, weapons etc.)

"Switzerland ought to ..."

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spite the fact that there are fewer weapons around. By contrast, the whole region from the Southern Caucasus to the Sinai is rife with weapons, and an open war would have dreadful consequences.

What is in this situation the role of Switzerland as a neutral country?

Switzerland would have to play the role of the intermediary. It can certainly not be Switzerland's position to participate in the naïve "day after"-talks. Preventing the war in Syria clearly means offering negotiations between all regional partners, including

Russia and the Iran. All those affected by the matter would have to sit at one table, and not just the agents from the other countries.

Mr National councillor Müller, we thank you very much for the interview. •

(Translation Current Concerns)

Current Concerns

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Only clear determination to take defensive action helps against “pseudo-events”

Why the Swiss left and nice ones should support
armed neutrality instead of allowing others to manipulate them

by Tobias Salander

In a time of venomous attacks against Switzerland by the empire via its governor in Germany, a pliant, intelligence-guided SPD a look at history is essential. On the one hand a look at the time of massive attacks from overseas in the 90s of the last century, on the other hand at the time of the great test for Switzerland, i.e. the encirclement of our country by the Axis Powers and the double blockade by them but also by the Anglo-Saxons in World War II. Then and now it is and was true: Moral cowardice, toading and waiting out problems will only make things worse. The order of the day is a return to the foundations of our nation of will: the absolute will to freedom, to a life in dignity and humaneness – both in the interior, but also towards the world – the shaping of our economy while considering the social aspects and an environmental impact that is true and honest to nature. This is only possible with an attitude of neutrality and a will to take defensive action that is inseparably associated with it. Anything else will result in oppression and vassalage in history.

The attacks from Germany against Switzerland, our sovereignty and the sovereignty to determine our own laws, including the tax laws, violate international law. However, nobody should be deceived, our left in particular, by the fact that the attacks are launched by the SPD: The party, whose license to establish a party was once graciously sanctioned by the former occupying powers, and which was closely accompanied and controlled by the intelligence service (compare for example the testimony of the competent CIA man in the film “Germany made in USA” on youtube), does not target Delaware, the Channel Islands and the Cayman Islands today, where money is laundered to the greatest extent. No, paradoxically, they home in on Switzerland, with its exemplary Money Laundering Act. In case every left confederate realizes the intent and is upset, he will have to think twice before he let himself once again be fooled by a another large-scale manipulation and goes down in history as the stupid 5th column of financial fascism. Whether the ailing Jean-Monney-EU is now to be saved and transformed by a “German Europe”, as Foreign Affairs – certainly not the favorite paper of the European Left – proposed in the latest issue, or whether Germany may submit to ESM and a European FED, i.e. to

Without neutrality no ICRC

“Switzerland’s position in the world is characterized by the perpetual armed neutrality. It is neither imposed from the outside nor a mere means to self-assertion. It is an expression of the essence of Switzerland as a constitutional state, that includes necessarily the renunciation of power politics. The over 500 years adherence to neutrality legitimized Switzerland also to accommodate the International Committee of the Red Cross, whose members are only Swiss citizens, and it has an international reputation as probably no other institution in the world.”

Prof Wolfgang von Wartburg, Unterentfelden, Aargauer Zeitung, 5 February 1997
(Translation Current Concerns)

the Rockefeller-Rothschild group is all the same and should annoy the Left. However, as the Swiss left and the nice ones, since the Bergier intelligence operation, were deprived of their clear vision and therefore of their capacity to focus on the will to defend themselves which is the basis of all freedom and independence, particularly versus the high finance and their SPD-Gauleiters, we give the word to a person who never lost a clear vision although he was speaking directly from the heart of the empire, who always distinguished between reality and campaigning and came to Switzerland’s aid in times of trouble.

Pretty stupid not to realize the spin

We speak of *Angelo M. Codevilla*, a professor of international relations at Boston University, a US Naval officer, a US Foreign Service officer, a senior staff member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, and a senior research fellow at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution – hence, a scientist with an inside view of the US intelligence community, which would open any left anti-imperialist’s heart – as long as he is truly social-minded and does not misuse his being a leftist to start a career in the US project of a *Jean-Monnet-Europe* – a project which has opened up and still is opening up new markets to high finance as well as marshalling a great potential of men fit for military service after “overstretching” the US forces. These men are supposed to provide the plutocrats’ military protection for their world-wide pirate forays. Pretty stupid not to realize these spins;

later this generation will be asked by their own children why did they allow the spin doctors to take them for a ride, precisely like the generation before, who took a long time to summon some resistance and build up a defense against those shawm strains of totalitarianism.

It was obvious for Codevilla as a connoisseur of American domestic affairs, in the 1990s as it is today: Switzerland is exposed to a campaign. A campaign which has less to do with ethics, love of historical truth or any restitution but rather with raising funds, with blackmailing, personal and party political profiling!

Then as now, the campaign against Switzerland is nothing but hot air. Codevilla even speaks of “pseudo-events”, and he is familiar with the policy of his countrymen, who leave no means untried when it comes to making cash and preserving the empire’s area of influence, or even expand it; it would be all too stupid if we Europeans did not realize that. Hence Codevilla writes in his book, and this is also true today, word by word:

“The term that best describes the anti-Swiss campaign of 1995–1999 is “pseudo-event”. A generation ago Librarian of Congress *Daniel Boorstin* coined it in his monumental book *The Image: A Guide to the Pseudo Event in America*. Once upon a time, wrote Boorstin, real events had been reported because they had happened. Nowadays, pseudo events exist only to the extent that anyone succeeds in getting them reported. The artificial character of

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"Only clear determination ..."

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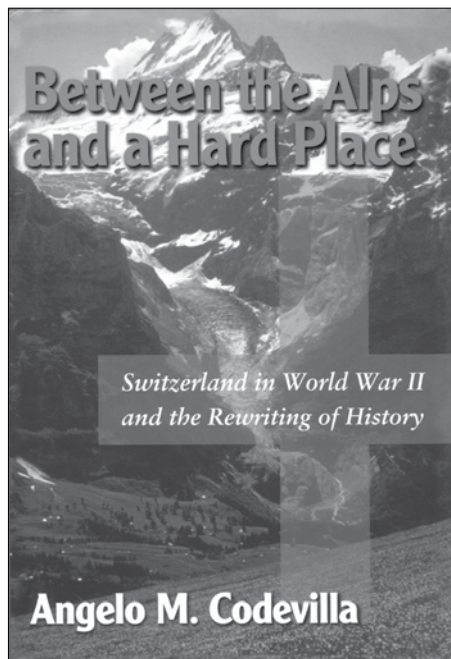
the controversy over Switzerland's newly discovered villainy becomes obvious the instant one realizes that absolutely no new information emerged. In 1996 then-Senator *Alfonse d'Amato* (Republican, New York), who did his best to spread the accusations, admitted as much, saying that even though the whole matter had been reviewed exhaustively a long time ago, it was new to him. Alas, the past is full of things unknown to those who have not made the effort to learn them.

**Switzerland –
a "harder nut to crack"**

"Switzerland has got one tenth of its people under arms, more than any other nation in the world. They are willing to fight for their way of life ... The Dutchman will be an easy prey for the Germans. Their army is miserable. Switzerland will be a harder nut to crack, and I doubt whether the Germans will try it."

William L. Shirer, American journalist, immediately after the outbreak of war. (Quoted from Gotthard Frick. Hitlers Krieg und die Selbstbehauptung der Schweiz 1933–1945. Page 54) (Translation Current Concerns)

In fact every last scrap of information in the charges, defenses and countercharges, had been placed in archives a half century ago after being thrashed out by the people who had experienced that part of the war. In short, the authors of the campaign resurrected parts of an old story to support judgments diametrically opposite



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**Patriotism of the Swiss at the
imaginable highest level**

"The Swiss soldiers' will to combat is high, and we will have to equate it approximately with the one of the Finns. A nation that has good gymnasts has always had good soldiers, as well. The patriotism of the Swiss is on the imaginable highest level."

Franz Böhme, General of the German Mountain Troops, in a written plan for the SS attack against Switzerland, Summer of 1943. (Quoted from Frick, p. 57) (Translation Current Concerns)

to the judgments of the original protagonists." (p. 3).

US campaigns – yesterday and today

And what lessons may the citizens of 2012 learn? Codevilla's words from 2000 sound as if they were spoken today:

"The least important lessons concern the anti-Swiss campaign itself. These are largely about the state of American politics at the end of the twentieth century. In short, the only real event was that another coalition of powerful Americans had mounted another campaign using the power and prestige of the United States government to funnel money into its own hands." (p. 4)

Probably only *Jane Doe* or *Juso-men* (Young Socialist Party) à la *Cedric Wermuth* believe that the money extorted from Switzerland today by the unspeakable tax agreement should benefit the German tax authorities, or even the German Hartz IV recipients. Via ESM everything goes directly into the pockets of the financial (animal) trainers.

In the following Codevilla shall again have his say, since he reveals to us Europeans how some moral courage can help to recognize campaigns, to name and correctly classify them. And how much more comfortable and dignified it is to walk upright, instead of toadying – and how embarrassing it is not even to recognize the toadyings as such, but to boast them as one's own contribution ...

"But between 1995 and 1999, a publicity campaign orchestrated by the *Clinton* administration in conjunction with *Edgar Bronfman*, billionaire owner of a liquor and media empire, so caricatured the role of Switzerland in World War II that it led those unfamiliar with the realities of war to some dangerously wrong conclusions about how the world works. Bronfman, the largest family donor to the US: Democratic Party, president and financier of the World Jewish Congress, used his formidable power to enlist the president of the United States, the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, a network of state and local officials, a battery of lawyers,

and the media to tell a startling tale: New discoveries showed that Switzerland had really been an ally of Nazi Germany, that the Swiss people shared culpability for the Holocaust, and that Swiss banks had stolen the assets of murdered Jews. Of course there was not a shred of new information in all of this. Bronfman nevertheless managed to convince Switzerland's two largest banks, which together make about \$4 billion in profits per year in the United States, that they could do no more business in New York City unless they put a great deal of money at his disposal. So, on 12 August 1998, when these banks agreed to turn over \$1.25 billion over three years to be administered chiefly by Mr Bronfman's organization, the campaign came to an abrupt halt. The campaign, and Swiss actions in World War II, faded away. Too bad. This campaign was significant in itself: A powerful private party induced of-

**Churchill about Switzerland
and World War II**

"I put this down for the record. Of all the neutrals, Switzerland has the greatest right to distinction. She has been the sole international force linking the hideously sundered nations and ourselves. What does it matter if she has not been able to give us commercial advantages we desire or has given too many to the Germans to keep herself alive? She has been a democratic state standing for freedom in self-defense among her mountains, and in thought, in spite of race, largely on our side."

Winston Churchill, quoted from Angelo M. Codevilla. Eidgenossenschaft in Bedrängnis. Die Schweiz im Zweiten Weltkrieg und moralischer Druck heute, p. 31. (Translation Current Concerns)

officials of the United States, as well as the American legal system, to force foreigners who do business here to pay a huge bribe. Public officials served private interests without any legislative body taking a single vote, any executive official making a decision for which he might be held accountable, any court pronouncing a judgment or even ruling on the admissibility of evidence. This is another example of America's continuing movement away from the rule of law, as well as from a serious foreign policy." (p. IX f)

**Surrounded by the EU
at the grace of the US**

After this clear classification of the true nature of the Swiss-bashing – expressed by a US scientist and expert on the intelligence scene of particular importance – we now ask the question how to defend ourselves against it. Since after the Ber-

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"Only clear determination ..."

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gier steamroller and the mind gelatinizers à la *Jakob Tanner*, *Thomas Maissen* and others, a glimpse from inside Switzerland on Swiss history has always been under suspicion, hence we again allow an outside observer to speak. Yet we have to ask the question: How degenerated is a country and its self-appointed "elites" if national citizens and researchers are no longer heard or even taken seriously when presenting waterproof research results on their own country's history? Imagine other countries, including the USA, China or Israel, having their history imposed from outside and spitting at themselves. Inconceivable!

Hence we will once again give the word to US Professor Codevilla, who shows in which situation Switzerland was during the Second World War – and he who considers the present situation, with Switzerland being surrounded by EU members, will see that depending on the aggravation of the attacks a similar situation might occur. – The fate of a small state that wants to remain independent, hardly changes in the course of decades, even centuries, since the same topography and geo-strategic situation remain, though foreign desires may change. It was once the passage across the Alps, which incited the greed of the superpowers; it might be the water reserves in the Gotthard Massif now, the sound finances of the communes, the beautiful scenery, etc., etc. But the model of a communal life that is built from the bottom up, in direct democracy, preserving human dignity like nowhere else, may be a thorn in the flesh of the Empire's oligarchs – it might occur to their subjects to go and take these rights for themselves – because if they were united and determined to live in small communes and in a direct-democratic and hence peaceful manner, the international banksters would be forced to resign.

And here to Codevilla on the perpetual situation of Switzerland due to its geopolitical location:

"Historically, neutrals [neutral states; the translator] are pressured by both parties of belligerents. In World War II Switzerland was in the center of two concentric blockades. The outer blockade, run by the Allies, restricted world commerce to and from Switzerland on the reasonable ground that the Germans could pressure the Swiss to share their commerce. The inner blockade, run by the Germans, restricted Swiss export to the Allies on the reasonable ground that Swiss products could help the Allies. To increase the pressure, Germany also restricted Swiss imports of fuel and food. The result of these blockades was that the Swiss had to

obtain agreements from both the Axis and the Allies for every pound of cargo that entered or left the country. This meant that the Axis and the Allies had to bargain with one another through Swiss intermediaries. They both knew the pressures that the other was putting on the Swiss." (p. 21)

Business as usual – the US-Nazi deal

It is nothing new that the US elites always feathered their own nest. That they can nowadays make use of the German Social Democrats is confusing only at first glance. After all, the Stasi files were directly transported from [Berlin] Normanenstrasse to the United States by the CIA. The 30,000 Western agents of the Stasi, now presenting a pretty blackmailing potential for the high finance in form of the so-called Rosewood Files, have certainly been politically active in some parts – how many of them probably within the SPD??

The German-American "friendship" was however built not only after the war. No, even during the war, many corporate bosses in the US worked along the lines of "business as usual", which meant that they did not want to be kept off from doing business with the genocidal Nazis. In the heyday of the attacks against the Switzerland the Jewish American historian *Herbert R. Reginbogin* published a sensational study, in which he exposed the wheelings and dealings of certain corporations of the Anglo-Saxon empire – "big business" had never dreaded the contact with the political adversaries.

In their joint work "Hitler, der Westen und die Schweiz" (Hitler, the West and Switzerland), *Herbert R. Reginbogin* together with the Swiss historian *Walter Hofer* consider a question that was neglected by the Bergier Commission (for

Germany bears the blame for the length of World War II, the Holocaust, the permissiveness of totalitarianism, it is the United Kingdom and the United States. *Reginbogin's* intention is not to whitewash Switzerland, but to maintain the true proportions. His conclusion:

"If American politicians, journalists or so-called 'historians' accuse European neutral countries today to have contributed to a prolongation of the Second World War by their greed, it must however be allowed to oppose the actions of American business leaders and their banks and key industries. The extent of transactions between American industrialists and financiers with Hitler's Germany has helped to raise the defense potential of Germany and to gain strategic benefits both before and even during the war." (*Hofer/Reginbogin*, p. 623)

Always keep in mind: In case of emergency states are never friends, they only pursue interests.

After these clear statements of the two US researchers *Codevilla* and *Reginbogin* now a clarifying voice from Switzerland, giving new impetus to the will for resistance today. No, not by a guild-historian, since their chairs are all occupied by *Bergier* adepts, but by a widely-traveled economist who did for the German-speaking Swiss, what *Christian Favre*, an electrical engineer, did for the French-speaking Swiss: After meticulous lecture of the relevant sources and presentations both presented their books that should be made obligatory reading in civic studies.

Particularly *Frick's* bottom line may be transferred on today: in a world in which states will ultimately never be real friends, but in which interests are predominant, freedom and dignity get lost, if democratic states do not take into account and pre-

The companies' motto: Business as usual – then and now?

"The lacking patriotism of British and American big companies was based on the fact that the 'state of war' [...] [was] an inopportune interlude necessitating retrenchment until the cessation of hostilities, when again the world markets [...] could be apportioned." (*Walther Hofer, Herbert R. Reginbogin, Hitler, der Westen und die Schweiz (Hitler, The West, and Switzerland*, p. 622)

"The economical and financial relationships of British, American, and German key industries and banks before and during World War II regarded 'business as usual' their top priority. This priority was pursued unerringly and without any respect for political developments with the sole intention of preservation and expansion of economical influence before and during the war, and also with regard to the post-war period." (*Hofer/Reginbogin*, p. 623)

lack of time or money or whatever?). It is the question: What was Switzerland's position during the Second World War on international level? How did its policies, its economy, its society differ from those of other countries at the time? It is *Reginbogin's* merit to have examined the role of the US and the UK, using latest archive materials. The findings are delicate. His conclusion: if someone else than Nazi

pare for the emergency case. *Frick* makes it clear that we may of course develop the welfare state, declare ourselves neutral and proudly announce that we do not invest in any armament. However, we must not be surprised if the political situation changes over night and a former friendly country suddenly fills the power vacu-

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"Only clear determination ..."

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um. It happened that way in Denmark and Norway in 1940; and it is again possible

Rockefeller's Chase Bank – the Nazis' "house" bank in the US – and today?

"In connection with the various bank transactions not only some key industries in the US, but also American financial houses had been useful for Hitler Germany. For example, the main bank connection of German companies in the United States was the *Chase National Bank* in New York. Controlled by the *Rockefeller* family, this bank supported- together with the *Henry Schroder Bank* – the German rearmament and the financing of German news agencies in North and South America. During the whole war the *Chase Bank* in Paris made its businesses with the German occupying forces and the Gestapo. The American Directors of the Bank were prosecuted after the war, but there was never a sentence.

(Hofer Reginbogin, p. 607)
(Translation Current Concerns)

today. We might well say, we will not resist in case of an attack, because it makes no sense to defend ourselves against superior forces! However, what will be the consequences? The occupying power will of course deport the occupied country's men as forced laborers, in order to enhance their arms industry and to set the native workers and farmers free for their own army of aggression. Possibly the subjected people will as well have to serve in the occupation forces' army and thus be-

come part of the conquest machinery; they might kill only in order not to be killed themselves. In his study, Frick describes these terrible consequences that pacifists in Belgium, Denmark, Norway, France etc. had had to face. He also describes the situation of those who defended themselves but were defeated, as were the Serbs. In a salutary manner Frick destroys the illusion that we might behave passively and accept being turned into subjects to another power which might not be so bad after all.

A people that does not defend itself is not taken seriously

A people that does not defend itself, is not taken seriously. This is the case

Conquest of the redoubt – at problem difficult to be solved

"Swiss National Defense has an army that is a very significant factor not least because of its numerical strength. The conquest of the vehemently defending troops in the "Hochalpenreduit" (Reduit in the High Alps) is a task, whose solution will be very difficult."

Franz Böhme, German General commanding the Mountain Troops, in a written plan for the SS attack on Switzerland Summer of 1943.
(Quoted from Frick, p. 57)
(Translation Current Concerns)

today when we hear the mocking voices of the serf SPD and that of his master beyond the big waters. That was the same in former times, but in the opposite sense: The Swiss efforts of defense, in particular the establishment of a redout, were taken very seriously in the big canton over there as well as in other neighboring countries. There was no question of an alleged defeatism of the Confederates, but their courage and determination to fight was praised, which would give the "Wehrmacht" a hard time, as the general of the Wehrmacht mountain troops, Franz

"Corporate capitalism" and high-finance connect axis and allies – and today?

"In January 1940 the 'Trading with the Enemy Department' approved of the continuation of the British participation in the *Transradio Consortium*. [...] The British government and parts of the British industry did not want any repetition of the total war against Germany as in 1914 to 1918. They were looking for a compromise that would allow the UK, Germany and possibly the United States, to maintain the global structures of 'corporate capitalism', and thus the distribution of the world markets into spheres of interests."

"(Hofer/Reginbogin, pp. 510f.)
(Translation Current Concerns)

Böhme, wrote in his attack study of Switzerland. The London "Times" stressed, that no army in the world could mobilize their troops as fast as the Swiss; and the Wehrmacht attack study Tannenbaum of 1940 also confirmed this judgement, although with other motives in mind. Therefore it would also be of paramount importance today to oppose the attacks against Switzerland courageously and thus earn respect!

The "Small orientation booklet Switzerland", written by the general staff of the army on 1 September 1942 for the German troops writes about the militia system of Switzerland, which the Berger ideologists only denigrate, roped in their NATO serfdom. "The Swiss militia system enables a complete registration of all those fit for military service at relatively small costs. It maintains the military spirit among the Swiss people and permits the deployment of a fast employable army though the country is relatively small. The Swiss soldier is characterized by love for his homeland, strength and tenacity." (quoted in Frick, p. 55)

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Big business without ethics, morality and democracy – then and now?

"It is a fact, that businessmen do business even with people and governments they do not admire. No one should deceive himself. German, American and British businessmen, who would like to have their activities be listed under the category 'peace agents' in today's historiography, were exclusively interested in stability through control of markets and prices, but not interested in strengthening pluralism and democracy. Especially certain American companies would like to crown themselves with the missionary hat today in order to cover up their support of Germany's war economy. To make profits is still the primary and only purpose of a company. The princi-

ple of the American foreign policy is to protect the country's national interests. It can never be the job of the business world to handle this task. US legislation has principally failed to clearly regulate the US companies and prevent the transfer of highly sensitive know-how, such as the production of ethylene. The result of this failure was, that American industry- and finance companies were capable of supporting Hitler's rearmament in the 1930s and 1940s. They compromised America's national security and thus contributed to a prolongation of World War II."

(Hofer/Reginbogin, p. 592)
(Translation Current Concerns)

"Only clear determination ..."

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Where is your upright posture, you honorable professors?

This is still the case today, when looking at our youth, who increasingly begin to ward off the intellectual arrogance of the Switzerland-haters on university chairs, in politics and in the editorial offices.

The above mentioned general Böhme said about the reduit which Bergier's falsifiers of history declared a myth: "Swiss national defense commands an army, which is an extremely considerable factor due to its numerical strength. Defeating the defending troops in the alpine reduit will be a task difficult to solve." (quoted in Frick, p. 57)

It seems strange that our ancestors' achievements are appreciated in Wehrmacht sources while the state-controlled liars want to fool us into believing the opposite.

Frick draws a 10-point-conclusion at the end of his book, of which here the fourth, sixth and tenth are to be recalled; they provide valuable hints on how to make use of the findings from history in order to walk upright in today's equally difficult times: Without the determination to defense and the establishment of a reliable army a country cannot truly be sovereign.

An attack on the country must seem too expensive to any aggressor, and if he dares to attack nevertheless, he must be entangled in a long-lasting and determined fight. This however requires good equipment and a hard, war-like training, discipline and an enormous independence of leaders and soldiers. Once neglected, defense capacity is difficult to encourage at short notice – [...]

History belies those who think that renouncing defense will result in lenience: Taking of hostages, recruitment of forced laborers or abuse as cannon fodder are the results. Frick: "There is only one answer, which is also morally perfect: Being obliged to peace and providing a strong army, which fights only in case of an attack, but in that case with uncompromising determination." (Frick, p. 119)

As far as neutrality is concerned, it protects neither from friend nor foe and therefore definitely requires a reliable army as a protection: "Germany attacked numerous neutral countries, even those, who had settled nonaggression agreements with Germany on its own initiative, a short while before. In addition, the Allies acted exactly accordingly if it was in their interest." (Frick, p. 121)

In order to make neutrality reliable, it had to be defended against each and every party; not regarding sympathy or antipathy. Frick sees the meeting of general *Guisan*

with SS-general *Schellenberg* in this context. Guisan had ensured the German supreme command that Switzerland would fight against everyone with determination, who violated its territorial integrity, even against the Allies: "It was about preventing Germany from a pre-cautious attack on Switzerland, because Germany might distrust the Swiss will to defend itself by all means, even against an allied marching-through its territory." (Frick, p. 122)

Sending the empire clear signals of defense

Finally Frick points out that in all our decisions we should always be aware "that not all issues we decide are only domestic in nature. We therefore send signals to the world that are taken up and interpreted there." (Frick, p. 126)

Until 1939, most governments of European democracies had indicated to Hitler that they were demoralized and unwilling to fight for their values. Great Britain and France likewise became incurred guilt for the war on themselves, because they did not determinedly turn against Hitler in Munich. "By their surrender these two powers also disavowed the population of Berlin, who three days prior to Munich had clearly demonstrated their opposition against the war." (Frick, p. 126) Switzerland acted differently: It sent a clear signal that it was determined to fight. Thus the German general chief of staff *Halder* noted in his war diary in spring 1940 that an attack on France via an undefended Switzerland would be an enticing possibility. He had to exclude this option however, since Switzerland was not undefended.

And what about our signals today? Do we show our determination to the watchdog SPD and its master clearly enough?

Finally we will call upon former parliamentary secretary *Franz Blankart*, a diplomat of the best old school, to speak. In 2001, in his preface to the German edition of Codevilla's book he wrote about the consequences that had to be drawn from the attacks against the Switzerland of the 1990s by the US East Coast. His words have probably not lost any of their meaning today.

Blankart points out: "From the 'ratio legis' of the Constitution we mandatorily have to draw one conclusion: In a major diplomatic crisis, we need a responsible person at the Federal Council level in charge of the internal front, a chief negotiator for the exterior front and a government spokesman. The other executive representatives may remain silent. Nothing is more damaging to the credibility of Switzerland's position and to an international negotiation than conflicting opinions among members of the Federal Council and head officials. The same applies to the numerous and uncoordinated initia-

tives 'diplomatic' initiatives of members of parliament." And to think Blankart's ideas ahead: In particular, we should stop the activities of a fifth column of purchased homeland-weary people! And we should ensure that the responsible people are also firmly rooted in the population and feel committed to direct democracy, federalism and everlasting armed neutrality. Blankart further emphasizes: "A Federal Council does not go on a pilgrimage [...]", which means – citing a statement by the courageous Federal Councilor *Hermann Obrecht*, who steadfastly refused to trot up in Berlin like Benes – to accept neither the Federal Councilors Ms *Widmer-Schlumpf* nor *Doris Leuthard* antechambering in the corridors of power for tax matters or aircraft noise issues and then receiving nothing but scorn and derision in the German media!

And finally, here is Blankart's quintessential statement: "What we painfully missed in this crisis was a personality of general Guisan's moral format, a clear-sighted, credible person qualified to fidelity who surrounds himself with the most courageous people of the country whatever party they may belong to."

We ought to make today's political class take these words to their hearts and they should resound to their shame. An appeal however to all citizens with civil courage, to stand upright by their country in the present situation and to scoop up the debris of the Bergier historical distortion to where it belongs: on the dung heap of history – if they can dispose of imperial posturing, too, even better. It would be favorable for every Swiss citizen who is really socially minded, to join in and defy imperial arrogance, even if it is passed on hastily by the party members in Germany. In view of the high finance's chutzpah, its sophisticated propaganda and its henchmen it should no longer be possible for the sons of our left forefathers to achieve what these managed to do during World War II, i.e. to adhere to the idea of freedom, to support the army against the Big Chief and to see through the propaganda? That cannot be true! •

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(Translation *Current Concerns*)

Let's no longer give in to pressure from abroad!

**“Being at an economic war,
a false moral debate does not make sense.”**

by Jean-Daniel Balet and Flavien de Mural, members of the Management Board of SwissRespect

The European countries that are at odds with each other concerning economy and taxes have showered their citizens with liquidity and decent promises. As a result of the “subprime” crisis, the European Union and the United States have saved their banks in need and let themselves get dragged into the mire of debt. To distract the attention of their people from their own mistakes, their governments scapegoat others, among them the Swiss financial centre, by eliminating a competitor to their own advantage and at the same time trying to get off lightly and repatriate the savings that had escaped the excessive confiscatory tax rates.

In contrast, in Switzerland the protection of privacy and a sound tax competition allow to set limits to the state's appetite. Our country is the only one having votes on the debt brake and it could preserve a reasonable tax scheme encouraging its citizens to behave honestly.

However, for more than 15 years our country was attacked (crisis of the «forgotten» accounts) in an economic warfare, which the United States have sparked in order to protect their own interests. The United States and our European «partners», weakened by their debts, and guided by the only short-term concerns of their governments to be reelected, have thrown themselves into the breach. For 15 years, they have not ceased to lull the people and are sadly rushing ahead: They empty the coffers and spend money they do not have, and so they accumulate debt and force future generations to pay painful bills one day. And to cover up their errors, they press Switzerland in an aggressive way, using flimsy arguments and accuse us to be the cause of their evil.

SwissRespect takes the view that the response of our government and our country's political elite is inappropriate. And intolerable. Since the Federal Council, accepting all demands of our competitors, did not defend our fundamental values any more, but prefers to abandon them, although they would have to serve as a best practise model instead.

Obsessed by protecting some large banks, whose interests fundamentally diverge from the interests of the whole country, our elected politicians have missed the opportunity to strongly oppose sacrificing a large number of people which they extradited as an easy bait to foreign justice. And the only strategy of the Federal Council, the white money strategy, which is not applied in any other country in the world, unfortunately

creates the false impression that there is only illegal money in Switzerland.

Even more serious: To unilaterally abandon the distinction between tax evasion and tax fraud, to subdue to article 26 of OECD Tax Model Convention, to accept group inquiries, to provide data of customers and staff of our banks to foreign authorities, all this was decided without any public debate, without asking the Federal Council and the people.

The defense of our legal system, which so far has been stable and trusted and protecting its citizens as well as the strategically important industries, must have priority over all other considerations. Is it still possible and necessary to apply the legitimate weapons of national sovereignty and justice and to stop giving in to our competitors' requirements? Of course. *SwissRespect* was founded with the aim to inform the greatest possible number of Swiss citizens that, if our Government does not change its attitude, it will lead to a general impoverishment which no one will be spared of. Taking over rules our competitors don't find necessary to apply for themselves, whose implementation is even extremely expensive, can only result in a declining competitiveness of our financial centre and in laying off thousands of employees.

Everyone must be aware: this crisis will have direct impact on all those living directly or indirectly on the financial centre. We can observe that in the neighbouring countries: no one is spared; from the merchant to the mechanic from the restaurant owner to the construction worker. Not to mention the worrying erosion of legal security, the protection of privacy and property.

The first demand of *SwissRespect* is not to accept, that we change our rules to satisfy our competitors, and to accept any changes only, if ALL other financial centres put them into practice as well. If it is an economic war, a false moral debate makes no sense. Why don't we act like Luxembourg and Austria, who know very well to protect their advantages? And why should we be the only ones giving in while others like the Bahamas, London, Hong Kong, Singapore, the Channel Islands, and the United States (Delaware and Florida) do not follow the same rules?

SwissRespect also takes the view that the “Rubik” agreements [the three tax treaties with Great Britain, Germany and Austria, ed.] shall be the object of a genuine debate among the people taking into account

SwissRespect

A Geneva Association is calling us Swiss to defend ourselves against foreign attacks on our country

The association *SwissRespect.ch* “works to protect Swiss interests from attacks on our legal and economic system by ‘partners’ seeking to destabilise us”.

Extract from the statutes

Article 3

The association pursues the following objective/s:

- To encourage participants of the Swiss financial center (legal entities and individuals, both employees and independent contractors) and to ensure that their privacy and their rights are respected.
- To promote a credible policy in negotiations between the Confederation and third countries.
- To ensure that Swiss law is respected, especially in the areas of international relations, constitutional rights, commercial and labor law. To achieve these objectives, the association especially may – by its committee – :
 - Assist, advise and defend its members to protect their individual or collective interests.
 - Initiate and execute actions in the political, legal, administrative area, in the area of the media or any other area that the committee has decided on. [...]

Article 5

[...]What are we waiting for? Swiss people from all language areas (the website is translated into all official languages) are encouraged and invited to join this group of citizens. It encourages our leaders to resist the harmful suggestions affecting our country from abroad. But it also demands that each of us should stand up straight for the preservation of our precious model Switzerland and to be involved for this with all our might.

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the fundamental paradigm of law, which they imply, and that the agreement must be submitted to the people. It now puts efforts also on the renegotiation of the double taxation agreement, which France imposed on us under threat. The aim of *SwissRespect* is to inform the Swiss and to raise awareness in relation to the main issues, as well as to provide arguments and points of view to our elected politicians via the media. Also to help our authorities to launch a counterattack. *SwissRespect* has given rise to the debate on the communication of the transfer of data from bank employees to the United States and has just taken legal action to have the unlawful nature of this determined.

We will face countless battles, and Switzerland – instead of continuously giving in – must confidently remind that our system of values belongs to a country in which the citizens have true democratic rights and know how to have them respected.

Source: *Le Temps* of the 05.09.2012

(Translation *Current Concerns*)

Neutrality initiative

mw. On 13 September 2011, the federal popular initiative was launched "For a neutral liberal and humanitarian Switzerland (neutrality initiative)". The principle of continuous armed neutrality is one of the essential backbones of the Swiss understanding of the state and has always been deeply anchored in the Swiss population. In the survey "Security 2011. Formation of opinions on foreign, security and defense policies in line with the trend" of the ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich), edit-

ed by *Tibor Szvircsev Tresc* and *Andreas Wenger*, 94% of those questioned consented to neutrality! 79% of the population consider the army necessary, that is 5% more than last year. The concerns of the initiators is to anchor the principle of neutrality in the Federal Constitution in a basic article. So far, its acknowledgement is defined in the Constitution as a task of the Federal Council and the Federal Assembly, but its appreciation in a separate article of the Federal Constitution is certainly appropriate.

Text of the initiative

The Federal Constitution is amended as follows:

Article 54a (new) Neutrality Switzerland is neutral. It pursues the principle of continuous armed neutrality.

Article 58 paragraph 2bis (new) The Army conducts operations in foreign countries exclusively in the context of disaster relief.

(Translation Current Concerns)

Singapore, peacekeeper and balancing power in the Far East

How misjudgment and ensuing actions may bring about wars

ts. In the "International Herald Tribune" of 8/9 September 2012, *Jane Perlez* reports from Beijing on an impressive occurrence: The small city-state of Singapore renders a beneficial role in peacemaking between two super powers. We are familiar with this model of peacemaking in Europe through the acting of neutral Switzerland: small states which conciliate and aim at an amicable balance for the benefit of humanity.

The initial situation: For quite some time, rising China has been flexing its muscles ever so often, most likely, because China might view the United States as a declining power, as analysts of the region suspect.

In this delicate situation, in which the dispute over islands could easily become a larger conflict whose dimension could not be anticipated, just like any other war, and which could only be limited to some extent, the prime minister of Singapore ventures an important step. He travels to China in order to lecture in the Central Party School of the Communist Party, where he challenges the Asian super power for a policy of sound judgment. For long, Singapore has been enjoying good relations with China and the US, enabling the Prime Minister to present a realistic view on the course of things in Beijing, i.e. empathize the other's situation and act with due respect to his full value. Misjudging the other might entice into a behavior that would tempt the counterpart to react with military means which again would cause military counter reaction. A major war would be the subsequent effect which could have been prevented, if only the counterpart had been judged properly. This is a mechanism which the late US Secretary of Defense of the 1960s, *Robert S. McNamara* left behind in his movie "Fog of War" as an important lesson for future generations: "Think like the enemy", "develop empathy". This way, a Cuba crisis

can be solved, in conversation and without war, or even a nuclear war.

But how can Singapore fulfill its role as peacemaker? The American journalist *Jane Perlez* describes the process as follows: "In an unusual public airing of strategic problems surrounding China's rise, the Prime Minister of Singapore, *Lee Hsien Loong*, warned China on Thursday that it should view the United States not as a declining power, but as a nation with the ability to innovate and bounce back."

Speaking at the Central Party School, the prestigious training ground for officials of the Communist Party, Mr Lee also suggested that China try to solve its maritime disputes in the South China Sea regionally, through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, known as Asean, rather than country by country, which would also be preferred by the Mr Lee is the son of *Lee Kuan Yew*, the longtime leader of Singapore who forged strong relations with China and the United States, and his views carry considerable weight among the Chinese communists. By choosing to make his remarks in a prime setting like the Central Party School, presided by *Xi Jinping*, who is expected to be the next leader of China, the Prime Minister was ensuring that they carried extra heft, *Perlez* continues.

In his speech, Mr Lee addressed the question of America's standing in the world, a subject that fascinates Chinese academics and writers, many of whom have written caustically in recent months about an alleged political gridlock of the US.

"It is currently facing some very difficult problems, but it is not a nation in decline," Mr Lee said of the United States. "The US is an enormously resilient and creative society, which attracts and absorbs talent from all over the world, including many from China and the rest of Asia."

In a subtle jab at his hosts, Mr Lee noted that all eight Nobel Prize winners in science who are of Chinese descent either were or subsequently became American citizens. "We should never underestimate the US capacity to reinvigorate and reinvent itself," the guest from Singapore quintessentially expressed his deep concern for peace.

Singapore is considered an important post for the United States military presence in Asia and its access to the South China Sea. Last year, Singapore agreed to an American request to allow the newest category of fast warship to use its facilities.

At the same time, Singapore maintains a strong relationship with China, which began when *Deng Xiaoping* visited the country in 1978. The successor of *Mao Zedong* was impressed by Singapore's economic prosperity and recommended the model for China, to start in special economic zones first and then continue on a large scale. The result of adopting this Singapore model is today's China, the rising world power – a fact that high-ranking diplomat *Kishore Mahbubani* from Singapore wrote about in his books.

The course of events around the Prime Minister from Singapore shows that the ideas of an *Immanuel Kant*, formulated in his work on "Perpetual Peace" and put straight in the categorical imperative, universally and timelessly valid, may be implemented anywhere in the world, not only by Europeans who, unfortunately, had unlearned it today, *Kishore Mahbubani* regrets. All the more important is the action of Prime Minister Lee, which should be imitated in the West. There are enough conflicts in urgent need of honest mediators. Just think of the conflicts in Syria, Iran, Palestine and many others. •

Source: *International Herald Tribune* 8/9 September 2012

“If a plane, it should be Gripen” Helmut Hubacher has confidence in the Swedes



Helmut Hubacher
(picture ma)

Courtemaiche (JU, Jura). The security policy was one of the core topics of the former long-standing SP (Socialist Party) Member of the National Council and party president Helmut Hubacher. He is convinced, that Switzerland needs an Air Force, as long as it has an Army. New to the Gripen procurement for him is that the Army does no longer impose measures against the Defense Department.

Basler Zeitung: Mr Hubacher, does the Swiss Army need a new combat aircraft? Helmut Hubacher: As long as we have an Army, it requires an Air Force. For the next 10 to 15 years the FA/18 would be probably sufficient, as far as I'm concerned, we don't need a new combat aircraft now. If, however, a new fighter jet

will be procured, in that case I'm in favor of the Gripen.

Why, because it is the cheapest?

No, the Gripen is sufficient to serve the requirements of Switzerland. I agree with Federal Councilor Ueli Maurer, when he says: What is good for Sweden, is good for Switzerland, too. I have confidence in

“... it makes sense that neutral Switzerland cooperates with neutral Sweden ...”

this aircraft. The Swedes offered their fighter jets in Switzerland on previous occasions. When in the sixties the Mirage was evaluated, the Swedish Draken was also discussed.

How does Defence Minister Ueli Maurer appear to you at these aircraft procurement occasions?

New to me is, that in this plane procurement the Head of the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport decides and not the Commander (Lieutenant General) of the Swiss Air Force and that it does not need to be the best aircraft. Former chiefs of the Federal Department of Defence showed less clear, who the boss is.

As of yesterday, it is known that Sweden guarantees for the price, the technology and the delivery date of the Gripen. Contractor of Switzerland is therefore the Swedish state. Do you trust this deal?

Of course, the Swedes have already proven that they are trustworthy. I think it makes sense that neutral Switzerland cooperates with neutral Sweden these days and not with NATO partners like the US and France.

Source: Basler Zeitung on 29.08.2012. Interview by Thomas Luthi.

(Translation Current Concerns)

“Going to court”

by René Schneider

On 27 August 2012, a radio program was announced on *Deutschlandfunk*:¹

“The dispute concerning the tax treaty with Switzerland is getting worse. A Zurich professor already suggests to block or impede the passage through the Gotthard tunnel to Germans. The anger about the fact that North Rhine-Westphalia still buys stolen Swiss bank data makes massive waves not only in our neighboring country. The federal government has accused the SPD-governed countries to jeopardize the negotiated agreement by purchasing the data. The Social Democrats talk of tax evasion in gangs and organized crime. The negotiated agreement does not go far enough for them, and now they want to reject it in the Bundesrat (one chamber of the Federal Assembly).

- Is it allowed to buy stolen bank data?
- Can tax evaders get off cheaply with payments of tax arrears?
- Shall Berlin's politicians be tough and should they send the cavalry to the Swiss as Peer Steinbrück once announced?
- Or is it important that the tax treaty provides legal security and a reliable source of income?

Studio guests:

- Antje Tillmann, CDU member of parliament and deputy chairman of the Finance Committee

«Yet, for over 50 years, there has existed an institution that could have helped to avoid many of these wars using international law. The countries of the world are already theoretically bound by the UN Charter to seek judicial settlement before going

to war, yet the legal arm of the UN itself is largely unknown, unreported, under-financed and unappreciated by member states. This noble institution is the International Court of Justice. One must ask: Why is the Court so ignored?»

- Manfred Lehmann, chairman of the tax union in North Rhine-Westphalia
 - Casper Selg, Germany, correspondent for Swiss Radio DRS
 - Moderation and editing: Martin Zagatta”
- A discussion was offered to the listeners in which especially Mr Selg excelled with factual arguments for he was neither close to the CDU nor to the SPD “Steuergewerkschaft in NRW” (Tax Union in North-Rhein Westphalia).

The composition of the guest list expresses a lot

The lady of the CDU parliamentary group was not confronted with a man of the SPD opposition, as an equal interlocutor, not even with a member of parliament from North Rhine-Westphalia, where now the 12th CD with illegal data was purchased, but a man of the tax union slipped into the role of a supporter of this illegal practice.

Of course one trusts him when he says that tax evasion is a bad offense which must be prosecuted without risking that a professed or practicing SPD member of the one or other parliament is “burnt”, as it is said so descriptively in the agents' jargon.

May the CDU lady talk herself into trouble, the SPD has nothing to do with it, neither in its role as opposition in the German Bundestag, nor as government in North-Rhine Westphalia (NRW).

Fine, that at least the Swiss opinions were represented by the Swiss party-politically neutral SRF correspondent for Germany.

Criminal law, constitutional law and international law

In her first defence, Mrs Tillman (CDU) maintained that it was mainly a question

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of the "rule of law", Mr Selg (SRF) even made reference to international law. Unfortunately, their approaches were left at that, the rest of the discussion revolved around issues of prosecution of German tax evaders, at best of their assistants in Swiss banks, and about the "Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the Federal Republic of Germany on cooperation in the areas of taxes and financial markets", which was signed on 21 September 2011 in Berlin, and which still did not come into force.²

Unfortunately, the obvious question, i.e. what independent authority might be able to resolve the conflict, was not discussed, because all the participants of the round were lacking the overall view, everybody only saw the obvious questions and answers.

At the bottom of the problem, of course, is the delinquent, the German tax evader and possibly his assistant in a foreign bank (whereby the normal "banker" definitely is no "banksters", please note the subtle difference). The honest taxpayers justly revolt against the offender or offenders, and certainly as honest is the envy of those who themselves would like to evade millions if they only had them!

Others were socialized in the Federal Republic of Germany, under the rule of law and once built on the rubble of World War II. Up to the annexation of the central German state between the Elbe and Oder, it was commonly called "West Germany" or "W-Germany". Somebody who was born on the day of the declaration of the Basic Law, on 23 May 1949, is now already 63 years old, which means he has constantly heard the following sentence at home, at school, at university and in many other places of political education: "Legislation is bound to the constitutional order, the executive power and jurisdiction are bound to law and justice."³

Is this sentence no longer true, since Mrs *Merkel*, socialized in the former "GDR", is allowed to exercise power as Chancellor in "unified Germany"? Should the West Germans look the other way or close their eyes when red and green dogooders break the Constitution and international law, just as in 1999 with the war against Yugoslavia? If today Mrs *Merkel*, represented by her Finance Minister *Wolfgang Schäuble*, seems to be more in line with the rule of law in respect to the "tax dispute" with Switzerland than her openly criminal adversaries of SPD, together with their coalition partners, it is only a prove for the political slyness of these actors: *Merkel* and *Schäuble* are able to ostensibly hold high the banner of the rule of law and play the upright citizen in foreign policy, while the SPD people do the "dirty work" and

continue to become unpopular on an international level. Either way, the CD's are bought, the money flows into the empty coffers of the Länder and the Federal Government, and can be shoveled from there with both hands into the bottomless pit – and without a democratic constitution – namely into the EU juggernaut. *Merkel* strives for more and more power in the EU, and that really only works with absolute *gleichschaltung*.

Constitutional law, the inner-state breach of law

Since the annexation of the "GDR" on 3 October 1990, the Federal Republic of Germany is no longer the good old "Bonn Republic", which was affectionately called West Germany, before a certain Mr *Kohl* and his followers destroyed all the hard-gained values, only to personally benefit from them. The overachiever *Kohl* hungered for a safe place in European history books, for this aim he sacrificed the "German Mark" on the altar of European servitude, and cemented the division of Germany: What was sold as "Unification Treaty" or even as "Reunification" to the population, is in reality the renouncement, against the Basic Law and international law, of the unforgotten German countries east of the Oder and Neisse. The founders of the Federal Republic of Germany had not intended that when they formulated the last article of the Constitution: "This Constitution, which after completion of the unity and freedom of Germany, applies to the entire German people, loses its validity on the very day, a Constitution comes into force which has been adopted by the German people in a free election." (Article 146 of the Basic Law).

His followers *Gerhard Schröder* and *Joseph Martin* alias "Joschka" *Fischer* acted even worse than Mr *Kohl* participating in the first NATO war against the sovereign state of Yugoslavia in 1999, which was of course a violation of international law. The time of peace in Germany lasted from 8th May 1945 to 24th March 1999. This was the termination of an era, which had been heralded for a long time already, i.e. since Mr *Kohl* changed the German Mark and the German people against the "European Union" after the treaty of Maastricht (1992), the Euro as cash (2002) and the "union citizenship" in the passport. What should "Kohl's girl", as Mrs *Merkel* was called by everybody during her apprenticeship with Mr. *Kohl*, do other than seize power in the European structure? Should she wait until England, France, Spain or other hegemonic powers in the EU would take the steering wheel in their hands? Even if these countries wanted to, they could not, because they lacked the economic power to do so.

And not only do they lack the economic power, they lack above all a leader: Mrs *Merkel*, "the power fury from the East",⁴ as the Austrian newspaper "Kurier" headlined a book revue on the current book "The Godmother"⁵.

The reviewer, Mr *Frauscher* closes his book revue with a statement that cannot be emphasized enough:

"Since the unification, it has been possible to get to the top politically in Germany, if you pass by [...] all conventions which have usually stopped all players of the old Western world: legal norms and constitutional values, contracts and free competition, ethical standards and moral consensus."

Does it surprise anybody if "Kohl's girl," the "Power Fury" *Merkel*, who has been socialized in the "GDR", breaks the German Basic Law and international law if it is useful for her personally?

International Law, the breach of law between nations

As recently as two years ago it was Mrs *Merkel* and her former Minister of Finance Peer *Steinbrück*, who had assumed the responsibility for the illegal trade with the data thieves in person in an insolent way, assisted by former Minister of Domestic Affairs, *Schäuble*, who told us that the business "was legally al right and factually required."⁶ Today Mr *Schäuble* calls it "hypocrite when a social-democrat Finance Minister cooperates with criminals,"⁷ although as recently as in 2010 he was "desperately looking for a federal Land to purchase the CD which contained the names of the tax evaders from Baden-Wuerttemberg."⁸

But this inner-state (North-Rhine-Westphalian) cooperation with "criminals" is an action performed by the Federal Republic of Germany, considering the relation of another state to Switzerland, i.e. in the perspective of international law. In the inter-state relations between sovereign States with Switzerland not only the villain tax evaders and the good tax investigators are acting, but the sovereign member of the community of nations, the Federal Republic of Germany has to assume responsibility for this criminal "deal" committed by the Düsseldorf Land government, and the Federal Republic of Germany has to represent it to the outside. Mrs *Merkel* would have every reason to do a pilgrimage, wearing sackcloth and ashes, to Switzerland, and to ask for forgiving, but instead she sits in the net like a spider, waiting for a fat prey.

So the question may be permitted what more Switzerland is to put up with and when she (Switzerland) will ask for legal protection at the *International Law Court*.

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Fall Session 2012: Concerning the Prevention Act

The Federal Council's Health "Foreign" Policy – not submitted to the people and parliament

Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) octopus for the benefit of international big money

Dr iur. Marianne Wüthrich, Switzerland

Within the next fall session the Federal Counselors will deal with the Federal Act on Prevention and Health Promotion for the third and last time. For many good reasons the Council of States was not convinced of this centralist law. Why should well working federalist structures in the Swiss Health Service be undermined and why should the privacy of the citizens be touched? No need to mention that such an alien regulation system is not a Swiss idea but a foreign control instrument. And it is just as clear that the centralistic prevention politics of the FOPH will not be cheaper than that of the cantons, communes, and the numerous private organizations in Switzerland.

The Council of States first dismissed the Prevention Act in December 2011. In the second round, on 1 June 2012, it was only accepted due to the run-off vote of its president. Afterwards, after a session concerning the Prevention Act in detail,

the small chamber has eliminated some of the most disturbing concepts of foreign origin.

Our parliamentarians and the population will become alert when they get to know that the FOPH has initiated its prevention policy long time ago – (with or without consent of the parliament to the Prevention Act!

While the National Council and the Council of States discussed the Prevention Act conscientiously and in detail, the Federal Council – ignoring the overriding procedures of the legislature – adopted the so called Swiss Health Foreign Policy (SHFP) on 9 March 2012. The SHFP is a product from the "International" department of the FOPH. Although called Health Foreign Policy, this FOPH construct does not deal only with Foreign Health Policy, but also contains instruments for external influence on domestic politics.

• The SHFP tries to introduce trends, objectives and means of the Prevention Act without consideration of the parliamentary decision concerning this law! In some aspects, the SHFP plans to go far beyond the aims of the Prevention Act!

FOPH controls the entire Federal Administration by foreign inputs

The FOPH wants to make the parliamentarians believe that a federal prevention act is necessary in Switzerland. It is argued that the "non-governmental actors" of the Swiss Health Care System lack effective coordination. In reality, within the Swiss health system, a "result-oriented coordination" between the different departments, the federal agencies and departments of the federal government was introduced in 2006. At that time an "interdepartmental agreement on national

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"Going to court"

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As long as Merkel Germany instigates any data thief by means of gratifications running into the millions in order that he might continue to destabilize Switzerland outwardly and inwardly and distort the positive image of this neutral and wealthy country built up by Swiss men and Swiss women who took up great hardship, as long as that continues, there will not be peace under law.

The diplomatic cards have been led, the contractual agreements in the "Convention between the Swiss Confederation and the Federal Republic of Germany about the cooperation in the sectors of taxation and finance market(s) (organization)"⁹ have already been reduced to absurdity by the discord on the German declaration contained in the final act of this convention, even before this convention was actually put into effect, and Steinbrück's martial hordes are certainly no alternative on either side.

"Going to court", a personal reminiscence and recommendation

When I went to the International Law Court in The Hague for the first time on 10 May 1999, there was a period of intense activity. The matter that was negotiated was the (urgent) motion brought for-

ward by Yugoslavia against the NATO States in order to get a temporary legal protection against the bomb war that was waged, in violation of international law, a war that razed Yugoslavia to the ground. By chance I made the acquaintance of Mr David Head, a dignified elder man who gave me a small brochure entitled "Going to Court not War". It was there that I read the remarkable sentences:

"Yet, for over 50 years, there has been an institution that could have helped to avoid many of these wars using international law. The countries of the world are already theoretically bound by the UN Charter to seek judicial settlement before going to war, yet the legal arm of the UN itself is largely unknown, unreported, under-financed and unappreciated by member states. This noble institution is the International Court of Justice. One must ask: Why is the Court so ignored?"¹⁰

Since then and not last thanks to the complaints of Yugoslavia against the NATO aggressors the International Court left its shadowy existence behind and lifted the lid and its services are increasingly made use of. The question why this court is "ignored" can no longer be asked in that general manner.

Germany claims to be a state under the rule of law. That is how it is formulated in Germany's Basic Law, as early as four years ago a Swiss banker had a complete-

ly different view on this issue that is when the first German attack was conducted against the sovereign Principality of Liechtenstein.¹¹

Switzerland is also a state under the rule of law. She should shy away from going the constitutional way to the International Court, instead she should take the way to bring forward a state complaint – proud and aware of her sovereignty. •

¹ Source/URL: www.dradio.de/dlf/programm-tipp/vorschau_dlf/1848520/

² Source/URL: Pre-print of the agreement of 21 September 2011, www.news.admin.ch/NSBSubscriber/message/attachments/24360.pdf

³ Article 20 paragraph 3 of the basic law for the Federal Republic of Germany (GG), the so-called principle of the rule of law.

⁴ Source/URL: Book review by Reinhard Frauscher, in "Kurier" of 24 August 2012, p. 6, <http://kuri-er.at/nachrichten/4509315-angela-merkel-die-machtfurie-aus-dem-osten.php>

⁵ Gertrud Höhler: "Die Patin – Wie Merkel Deutschland umbaut" ("The Godmother: How Angela Merkel remodels Germany"), Orell Füssli, 296 pages

⁶ Source: *Financial Times Deutschland* of 18.02.2008

⁷ Source/URL: "Bild" of 23.07.2012, www.bild.de/politik/inland/wolfgang-schaeuble/warum-muessen-wir-fuer-spaniens-banken-blechen-25284794.bild.html

⁸ Source/URL: "Der Spiegel" No. 12/2012 of 22.03.2010, www.spiegel.de/spiegel/print/d-69628949.html

⁹ Source/URL: pre-print of the agreement of 21 September 2011, www.news.admin.ch/NSBSubscriber/message/attachments/24360.pdf

(Translation *Current Concerns*)

"The Federal Council's ..."

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objectives" was worked out concerning (Foreign) Health Policy as an "important working and monitoring instrument of the Federal Administration." Its objective is a narrow coherence of the health politics in all political areas.¹ (SHFP, p.5):

"A coherent Swiss Health Foreign Policy seeks synergies between different policy sectors. The long-term aim is that, in each of the sectors concerned, 'better' policies can be pursued, strengthening the credibility, transparency and effectiveness of Swiss policy as a whole." (SHFP, p. 15)

It seems to be unbelievable! Immediately prior to the collapse of the dollar, the Federal Council presents these arguments? Do they drink brandy instead of milk?

In plain language "coordination" means nothing less than the complete control of the Swiss health policy by the FOPH. The empowerment of the FOPH will influence the complete federal administration and all of the federal decrees. Additionally, this unhappy "coordination" may level down different political positions just fitting for the doctrine of the FOPH:

"It [the interministerial agreement of 2006] has also encouraged reconciliation of differing positions and a readiness to compromise on the part of the authorities involved." (SHFP, p. 7).

On page 17 (SHFP) one may find a rather comprehensive list of all the federal agencies – to be included in the desired SHFP:

The FOPH-Octopus

"The FDFA and the FDHA, or the Sectoral Foreign Policies Division of the FDFA (SFPD), SDC and the FOPH respectively, are the federal authorities most closely involved in Swiss Health Foreign Policy.

At the same time, the concerns of other federal authorities are to be taken into account in the policy. Specifically, the authorities in question are the United Nations and International Organisations Division (UNIOD) and the Human Security Division (HSD) of the FDFA, the FDFA/FDEA Integration Office, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO), the State Secretariat for Education and Research (SER), the Federal Office for Migration (FOM), the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI), the Armed Forces Logistics Organisation (AFLO), the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the Federal Office for Professional Education and Technology (OPET) and the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN). Other authorities involved in relation to specific topics include the Federal Social Insurance Office (FSIO), the Swiss Agen-

cy for Therapeutic Products (Swissmedic), the Swiss Alcohol Board (SAB), the Federal Veterinary Office (FVO) and the Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG)." (p. 17) *Others will be included on issue-specific matters.*

The centralistic control of all the entire federal administration by the FOPH is called "Health Foreign Policy" in order to implement so called "recommendations" by WHO and OECD – if only by an internal administrative guideline.

**Cantons only as heelers –
Disregard of the federalism**

However, not only the bigger part of the Federal Administration will be embedded in the so called Swiss Health Foreign Policy (SHFP), but also the private and governmental institutions in the health care system of Switzerland. The *Swiss Conference of the Cantonal Ministers of Public Health* (GDK) should be included as well, "health policy is largely also a *cantonal responsibility*." [Emphasis added]. Interestingly, they use the term health policy and no longer foreign health policy.

Again, the Federal Council defies the Federalist attributions of competences: After having graciously mentioned that health policy is a cantonal responsibility, it minimises the cantons to some few senior civil servants of the GDK – it remains a matter of debate whether these represent the interests of all cantons seriously and duly. As outlined in the draft of the Prevention Act (Art. 11) the Cantons should be converted into heelers by converting the national health policy. – According to officials in Bern this is latterly called "executive federalism" (following the EU example?).

**Half of Switzerland
should be governed by the FOPH**

Alongside the APK and SGK of the *Parliament, non-governmental organisations* like "Public Health Switzerland" or organisations of the development cooperation will be included in the health foreign policy which is monitored by the Federal Administration. In addition, the following professional associations should be included: the Swiss Associations of Physicians (FMH) and the Swiss Association of Nursing Staff (SBK), *healthcare research* – and healthcare teaching, as well as *healthcare providers* (like hospitals and insurances etc.) and *private industries* (pharmaceutical, med-tech, food etc.). Furthermore, Swiss-based international organisations and *Public Private Partnerships* are added "contribute to Swiss Health Foreign Policy". (SHFP, p. 18) [emphasis edit]

As one can see, half of Switzerland will be roped in the healthcare strategy

of the FOPH). Hence, the pharmaceutical and insurance enterprises will also decide on the healthiest way of living for us citizens!

The involvement of *Public Private Partnerships* is particularly remarkable: They consist of private, profit-oriented businesses that are building, organising and running public schools and hospitals and municipal administrations for example in Germany – and in passing, they are disempowering the responsible public authorities. By the way this is a profitable business; no wonder that the PPP want to "contribute to Swiss Health Foreign Policy". So far, PPP has not had a foothold in Switzerland because the direct-democratic decision makers do not accept any disempowerment. That is how it should be!

**Introduction of health impact
assessment and health factors behind
the Councils of States' back**

The "Health Impact Assessment" having been cancelled from the draft of the Prevention Act by the Council of States in June 2012, is re-introduced through the back-door of the so called health foreign policy (see paragraph "FOPH controls the entire Federal Administration by foreign inputs"). Each decree of the Swiss Confederation or the Cantons must be checked according to its compatibility with health.

Another term imported from overseas rejected by the Council of States is that of "health determinants". In the SFHP they are introduced all the same. Under this label the following objective is outlined: "Other sectors' awareness of determinants is raised on the national and international level. / Approaches and solutions for influencing health determinants are made suitable for application in practice. / Implementation of health promotion strategies is supported. / Multi- and intersectoral cooperation and processes in operational programmes are used and supported." (SHFP, p. 28)

**Coordination office for
Health Foreign Policy instead
of an Institute for Prevention**

While the Swiss National Council in the first stage refused to establish a Swiss Institute for Prevention a coordination facility for health foreign policy now replaces it. "The coordination office also seeks to ensure the coherence of the Swiss Health Foreign Policy as part of Switzerland's overall foreign policy." For this reasons this office networks all federal agencies and supplies them with information material. (SHFP, p. 33)

- *By accepting the Prevention Act – after intense pressure of the "prevention ex-*

"The Federal Council's ..."

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perts" – Parliament should just nod through what the Swiss Federal Council has already intended. This alone is reason enough to say No to this bluff package.

Alarming objectives of Swiss Health Foreign Policy

Some of the 20 objectives of the Swiss Health Foreign Policy listed in tabular form are very interesting. Apart from the meaningful commitment for health matters in developing and emerging economies, the Federal Council's SHFP pursues some very different objectives:

Closer association with the EU (Objective 1)

The following desired results are expressed:

"An agreement in the areas agriculture, food and product safety, and public health is concluded with the EU."/ "Switzerland participates in the key health related EU institutions and early warning systems (ECDC, EWRS, EFSA, RASFF) and in the Health Programme". (SHFP, p. 27)

- *Apparently, the FOPH now says, which bilateral agreement Switzerland is to conclude and which EU programs it is to participate in!*

FOPH promotes influencing by OECD. (Objective 4)

"For some years, Switzerland has been seeking to strengthen cooperation between the OECD and WHO. In particular, it funded the secondment of a WHO expert to the OECD for a period of two years." (SHFP, p. 24) From there the Swiss health care system is to be affected. "Multilateral (including OECD, WHO) and bilateral comparisons yield important findings for the further development of Switzerland's health system." (SHFP, p. 27)

In reality, the two organizations have nothing whatsoever to do with each other. WHO is an important agency of the UN, while the OECD is a nothing but an office that actually creates rankings and statistics without being asked for. It thus bypasses national law and interferes in the internal affairs of sovereign states,

e.g. using gray or black lists on "tax havens" – but omitting the Anglo-American tax havens. Or it interferes via Bologna and Pisa processes in national education systems.

As for the Swiss health care system, OECD and WHO were invited to Switzerland by Federal Councillor *Couchepin* (!) in the years 2006 and 2011 and then supplied a comprehensive set of "recommendations" for the "improvement" of our recognized good health care system, including prevention.²

- *Neither Parliament nor the people are asked if we want these foreign influences and interference.*

Training of Swiss health personnel according to Swiss standards from abroad (target 14)

"The WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel is implemented./ From May 2012, Switzerland prepares a report every three years on the implementation of the WHO Code of Practice./ The Swiss market takes into account the guidelines of the WHO Code of Practice in the training and recruitment of health personnel." (SHFP, p. 29)

Again, this is a massive violation of the Cantons' powers: All of a sudden, the cantonal hospitals and vocational schools are to cover its staff requirements and the training of their health workers according to a WHO code of conduct, without being asked. By the way, both WHO and OECD admit that Switzerland has one of the best health care systems.

The Prevention Act is already included in the program, although Parliament or the people can still say no. (Target 16)

"Switzerland consistently implements existing national prevention programmes and – as soon as it comes into force – the Federal Act on Prevention and Health Promotion (Prevention Act)". (SFHP, p. 29) [Emphasis *Current Concerns*]

- *So we care for the Prevention Act not to come into force!*

The FOPH will delight the entire world with its drug distribution program. (Target 17)

Not enough that *Thomas Zeltner* imposed his unspeakable drug policy on Switzerland: Today, the "Swiss Health 'Foreign' Policy" aims at spreading the distribution of drugs to drug addicts as far as possible:

The ultimate objective of drug policy: "Establish internationally the fourfold policy (prevention, therapy and rehabilitation, harm reduction, and law enforcement and control)./ In international drug policy, Switzerland's fourfold approach (prevention, therapy and rehabilitation, harm reduction, and law enforcement and control) is more widely recognized." (p. 29)

- *Finally, the eager students of Thomas Zeltner in today's FOPH boast that he has been pushing a drug policy in Switzerland during the past 20 years, which unlike almost all other countries does not make the help to withdraw its top priority but tries to 'treat' addiction by distributing heroin and other drugs.*

Conclusion

Without the Prevention Act having been submitted to the people and adopted by Parliament, the Federal Council tried to bypass the legislative body and establish a so called health foreign policy, which has nothing to do with the strengthening of health systems in developing countries and emerging economies, but wants to introduce profound influences from abroad to Switzerland. It is no coincidence that *Thomas Zeltner's* "home" is in America from where he developed a global empire for "health policy". This paper helps our Vichy Federal Council to lay the foundation for implementing all the targets of the prevention act – even those that have been already rejected by parliament! – by outwitting the legislature and hoping that it does not realize.

The fall session is coming up: it is in the hands of the National Council and the Council of States: There is still time to say no to the Prevention Act. •

¹ For an English version of the document see <http://www.bag.admin.ch/themen/international/13102/index.html?lang=en>

² OECD-Report on the Swiss health care system: most important issues (2006) (www.oecd.org/dataoecd/5/0/37574895.pdf), "Das schweizerische Gesundheitswesen: Analyse und Empfehlungen der OECD und der WHO", Delphine Sordat Fornerod, Bundesamt für Gesundheit; Soziale Sicherheit CHSS 1/2007

Free Switzerland is a model for Germany

“For me it is almost intolerable that Switzerland, the proud nation of will restricts its constitutional sovereignty to meet the financial needs of another State”

by Reinhard K. Sprenger*

Rather than arrogantly bashing the Alpine republic and sending off tax inspectors, the Brussels-directed Germans should understand what constitutes sovereignty and freedom of citizens.

If I were Swiss, I would reject the tax treaty between Switzerland and Germany, because it harms Germany. There is no harm in the sense like some SPD politicians senselessly toot into each microphone during the election campaign. Instead it is bad when politicians deny the rule of law, because they are dealing with criminals and even boast buying stolen property.

It is bad when a system of voluntary self-accusations is built up due to grotesque over-criminalization and intimidation, which is closer to organized gangs than to a legal and legitimate tax system. It is bad that Germany fought an alleged tax haven instead of clearing its own tax desert.

For me it is almost intolerable that Switzerland, the proud nation of will restricts their constitutional sovereignty to meet the financial needs of another State. Legal security (which could also be called a hesitantly progressing law reform) has always been a cornerstone of Swiss identity – and it is essential for any development of economic prosperity.

Historically Switzerland like no other country has a reputation to protect land and property rights of the people – all people, regardless wherever they came from and regardless of whose property it was that had to be defended against whose attacks whatsoever.

Bank client confidentiality is an expression of this fundamental principle of the rule of law in the Helvetic: the protection of privacy, which includes the financial part. So bank confidentiality was never a secret tax avoidance – even if the German policy would like to have it that way in order to criminalize their own citizens.

But it does honor to a good that is to be valued higher than absolute tax transparency: individual freedom. And this is especially handy. Because after all we know, the tax compliance was highest in Switzerland and New Zealand. Not in spite of, but because of bank client confidentiality.

It is unacceptable to me that Switzerland collects taxes for another country and thereby assists that nobody in Germany has to think about the systemic reasons of the (massive scale and not only Switzerland oriented) tax avoidance.

The compensation model supports the idea that the citizens' money is somehow latent state money and therefore should not go abroad. This is an idea that is totally alien to Switzerland: Here the citizen is the primary owner of the success of his own performance.

Switzerland is not a tax haven. And yet it is a thorn in the euro-fiscal wholesaler-pimps. The clogging of an escape route would totally disinhibit the state tax stranglehold in Germany: the so-called – in EU jargon – “harmonization” which actually is an elimination of systems competition is leading towards an escalation of state control already today.

And especially, Switzerland is an example for a lean government by tax competition – which is not as ruinous as the German left would like. Anyway nationwide misery and starving public treasuries have remained concealed to me in Switzerland so far.

Switzerland, has often been described as a counter-model: by *Justus Moser*, *Benjamin Constant*, *Alexis de Tocqueville* and especially *Wilhelm Röpke*. Switzerland stands for a cooperative, non centralized bottom-up state-building, for an opposition to egalitarianism, for freedom-loving and politically well-educated citizens who proudly defend the upright posture also where 80 million Germans dominated by Brussels, just nod tiredly.

In Switzerland, democracy is respected and not circumvented as a nuisance, no constitutional court has to remind the Government that there is a sovereign. Switzerland is a model for smart social

balance. It has a liberal labor market with high performance integration, local fiscal autonomy and especially direct democratic influence that encounter wide international interest.

All EU countries should take a leaf of the Swiss book in its financial discipline: building financial reserves in good times to keep taxes moderate and invest in infrastructure. That is the way to do it.

I know of no other country in which the awareness of “The State – are we all” is as widespread as in Switzerland. And I know of no other country in which is not the same liberal skepticism about a meddling central government as pronounced. But I know of few German politicians who are willing and intellectually capable of understanding this mutual dependence.

At the same time Switzerland is the most European of all countries – if Europe is not understood as a unifying bureaucracy monster, but as diversity, openness and competition. The Swiss do not squash things together, that do not belong together – as is the case in the EU.

Here you strive for a good neighborly relationship, but you can be at rest, you are friendly, but not necessarily friends, you can arrange all your affairs yourself. According to *Dürrenmatt*'s motto: Be human, take distance.

Who is outraged by this alternative! Slogans whose opposition to democracy are matched only by their cynicism, here is the alternative; if not for copying, at least for orientation.

Fortunately for Germany and a gift to a liberal world that needs hope and is looking out for examples.

The invasive approach of the Germans will hopefully help the Swiss re-considering the strengths that have made this country so uniquely free, democratic and prosperous. But I'm not Swiss, I'm German. Therefore, I wish for a strong, confident Switzerland. For Germany. •

With kind permission of the author (published in *Die Welt* on 30.08.2012).

(Translation *Current Concerns*)

* The author is management consultant and publicist. He lives in Winterthur. His book “Radikal führen” will be published shortly by Campus.

Germany must again become a state under the rule of law

by Karl Mueller

On 10 September the new school year began in neighboring Baden-Wuerttemberg. About 40 so-called "Gemeinschaftsschulen" will start for the first time. The pedagogical arguments against this new type of school are well documented by now (www.arbeitskreis-schule-und-bildung.de). From a national political and constitutional point of view it should be also added that the concept of this type of school is very constitutionally questionable, although it is part of an amendment of the Education Act decided by Green/Red majority coalition in the state parliament of Baden-Wuerttemberg. After all, the Constitution of the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg with its clear educational goals is still effective. The introductory paragraphs of the Education Act of Baden-Wuerttemberg still apply, setting educational goals for teachers in the public schools based on the state constitution. The concept of so-called Gemeinschaftsschulen, however, is diametrically opposed to these goals.

Such developments are particularly to be regretted if the German legislation does no longer develop the grown German law in its substance, but majorities in parliaments follow other lords and not their constituents any more. In this respect the current German practice of the parliamentary, representative democracy violates its ideals and constitutional principles, and thus Germany increasingly drifts into a highly dangerous form of "state of emergency".

This also applies to the legislation in the school sector. In practical terms, this means that institutions such as the EU and OECD that are neither legitimated by a constitution nor by any law – and via the latter mainly influencing forces from the United States – have intervened in the German legislation and still try to intervene. This is illustrated exemplarily by an interview of the "Frankfurter Rundschau" (13.07.2012) with "Pisa-chief" *Andreas Schleicher* employed by the OECD. In this interview you will find a kind of blueprint for what is to be implemented in Baden-Wuerttemberg with the so-called Gemein-

schaftsschulen. Thereby national legal traditions and legal contexts are ignored. The violation of national law is even intended within the program for the destruction of nation states.

Schleicher's demand for a more academic vocational training for example shows how much these internationalist plans are out of touch and destructive. Actually, local experts have protested recently because the proportion of graduates in Germany is to be increased more and more, where at the same time, more and more skilled workers are missing ("Mitteldeutsche Zeitung" of 29.08.2012, "Increasing numbers of students set a threat to the competitiveness of the German economy from the perspective of labor market experts", "Berliner Zeitung" of 30.08.2012: "Many students, few apprentices – academics become a problem").

The violation of laws in the school sector is just one area in Germany where the rule of law is lacking and which increasingly includes policy areas. This ranges from the ongoing German participation in wars of aggression violating international law to the preparation of unconstitutional internal missions of the Bundeswehr against its own citizens (Combat Training Center, CBC, Altmark) and the disregard of the sovereignty of neighboring states (attacks on Switzerland, incitement to theft and trade with stolen bank client data), to the breach of international treaties, even within the EU treaty rules, and the concomitant attack on the national budget law and on the citizens' property rights.

Part of that series is also the latest decision of the Council of the *European Central Bank* (ECB), wanting to immediately buy government bonds of indebted Euro nations in unlimited quantities and without any time limit – the country whose representative was the only one who voted against is to be liable with the greatest share, i.e. 27 percent.

However, there is a light at the end of the tunnel as German MPs, the President of the *Deutsche Bundesbank*, well-

known financial experts and constitutional lawyers have reminded of the illegality of the ECB's decision and they now demand unanimously to return to the legal foundations.

The former judge at the Federal Constitutional Court, Paul Kirchhof writes in his newly published book, "Deutschland im Schuldensog. Der Weg vom Bürger zum Bürger" (2012, ISBN 978-3-406-64043-8): "The crisis developed because we have disregarded the law. [...] If we had followed the law, there would have been no debt crisis. Therefore, it is high time to restore the authority of law." •

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The model for the German drill ground in the region Altmark

American police now “Israeli-DHS trained”

by Gordon Duff*

The door to this foreign influence in America was thrown open by the *Department of Homeland Security* and, in particular, *Michael Chertoff*, an Israeli citizen who was, in particular, most instrumental as former Director of DHS in implementing policies challenged as unconstitutional, policies the new “Israeli trained” American police are tasked with stopping opposition to.

Slowly, every police department in the United States, at the behest of the Department of Homeland Security, is being trained by Israeli groups.

As part of this training, there is an increased move to use of *military uniforms, armored vehicles, heavy weapons, illegal surveillance, lying to the people, press and courts and systematic interference in the electoral system.*

They are becoming “Israeli”

“Israelization” of American police is a simple process:

- Total militarization of police, military tactics, utter disrespect for civil law, the constitution, civil liberties, freedom of speech and the unbridled growth of centralized power under unlimited corruption; government by money and organized crime
- Systematic suppression of dissent
- Systematic use of intimidation to control the electoral process at every level of government
- Seamless coordination with military and “internationalist” groups to prepare for mass internment of sectors of the population, numbering in the millions
- Coordinated use of full military power including but not limited to bombing, strafing, heavy artillery and summary executions, the same methods Israel uses on a daily basis

- Even more control of the press, based on the Israeli model, with two “controlled” views, on pro-government and the second, “controlled opposition”.

Infiltration

It is absolutely necessary to differentiate between Israeli companies and those working tied to quasi-governmental organized crime in America. It is also necessary that citizenry, in particular Americans of Jewish background, recognize that a systematic campaign of controlled and revised history and, more seriously, orchestrated “incidents” are coordinated with groups misrepresenting themselves as defending the Jewish people.

These groups, several come to mind, are, in actuality, Israeli “psyops” groups that actually work on an active basis with terrorists. What are we saying?

90% of terrorism, worldwide, including many of the mass killing incidents, all show a pattern of involvement by intelligence organizations. Almost all “terror threats” and “staged announcements” are traced to groups tied directly to the same people who show up at our door with the “cure” to a disease they themselves create.

“While in Abuja, Nigeria, 3 weeks before the attack on the national police station, I met with Chief of Security *Gordon Obua*, a close friend and told him this:

“We have identified the Headquarters of the National Police as a potential target. It has an unguarded gate and parking facility and is close to the presidential palace. We predict that a car bomb will be exploded there, followed by one other bombing attack.

At these attacks, you will be approached by a security company that will offer you, not only protection by a massive bribe.”

The meeting was in the presidential suite of the *Transcon Hilton* in Abuja, witnessed by my legal team. The attack as described happened exactly 3 weeks later and the company that came with a suitcase of cash and a promise to turn Abuja, a beautiful city into “Fortress Abuja” is among those now training American police.

The same group is also suspected in the bombing of a Christian Church in Alexandria, Egypt, on January 1, 2011, another car bomb. Similarly, recent bombings in Cameroon, Kenya and Tanzania have the same “fingerprints.”

The same group “ran” the Detroit “Crotch Bomber.”

The Israeli handlers who worked with *Abdullah Mohamed* in Yemen and walking him onto a plane to the US with a bomb, no ticket, no passport and no visa, as witnessed by two Detroit area lawyers, *Kurt* and *Lori Haskell*, also train American police.

We see this over and over, police, government and terrorists, all the same thing.

Of course, few Americans are aware that the “spokesman” for the group called “al Qaeda” is actually an American named *Adam Perlman* whose grandfather helped found the *ADL (Anti-Defamation League)*¹

To some, terrorism is a business, and like a tire store that leaves nails in the road nearby, some “counter-terrorism” companies have more experience in building car bombs than finding them.

Why America?

Israeli security companies, primarily made up of active Mossad and former Israeli military members, began working across Africa. Israeli expertise in wiretapping on behalf of ruling parties was what opened the door. Their expertise, as shown in Britain by the *Murdoch/News of the World* scandals, is excellent.

They were even able to wiretap the 3 prime ministers, members of the royal family, heads of police and national security agencies, key members of legislative bodies and a hand full of celebrities. The equipment for this costs millions, can only be brought into the country by diplomatic pouch and its use is considered espionage as it foments broad unregulated and unauthorized wiretapping, totally unaccountable.

Hundreds of such units are with American police departments, as advised by the *Department of Homeland Security*, to keep track of group they feel require observation, despite recent court rulings that have overturned *FISA (Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act)* as unconstitutional.

Among the groups watched are veteran’s organizations, the *Tea Party*, Christian, Muslim and Jewish religious groups, labor unions, professional organizations and members of government, police officers and members of Federal law enforcement and anti-drug organizations.

Former American military, even the crippled and maimed, now head every “terror watch list.”

Corruption

The truth is, America has a long reputation for corrupt police organizations.

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"The model for ..."

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Every few years there is, in every major city, an investigation with the police commissioner and many senior officers imprisoned.

At one point, *Bernie Kerik*, nominee for head of the *Department of Homeland Security* and Police Commissioner of the City of New York had actually served as Minister of the Interior of Iraq under the interim US government that ran that country after the 2003 invasion.

Kerik is in prison, originally charged with 16 felonies, some committed while running Iraq and facing a 142 year sentence and millions in fines. In a plea deal, Kerik is only serving 4 years. Kerik, prior to becoming police commissioner, Minister of the Interior of Iraq and nearly taking over the operation of the largest agency in the United States was New York mayor *Rudy Giuliani's* driver.

Every major American city and most smaller departments, and there are thousands, are being "retrained," not to fight corruption but being armed for civil war, trained to work directly with military personnel to police America in accordance with unpublished policies mistakenly announced by Army head, General *Odierno*, as published in his article for the *Council on Foreign Relations* in the May/June edition of *Foreign Affairs*: "Where appropriate we will also dedicate active-duty forces, especially those with niche skills and equipment, to provide civilian officials with a robust set of reliable and rapid response options."

As for the *Department of Homeland Security*, spearheading the Israeli takeover of America's police, *David Rittgers* of the *Cato Institute* has noted:

"A long line of fusion center² and DHS reports labeling broad swaths of the public as a threat to national security. The North Texas Fusion System labeled Muslim lobbyists as a potential threat; a DHS analyst in Wisconsin thought both pro- and anti-abortion activists were worrisome; a *Pennsylvania homeland security contractor* watched environmental activists, *Tea Party* groups, and a Second Amendment rally; the Maryland State Police put anti-death penalty and anti-war activists in a federal terrorism database; a fusion center in Missouri thought that all third-party voters and *Ron Paul* supporters were a threat"

Wikipedia quotes the following on the quality of management and personnel at DHS, a national scandal in itself:

"In July 2006, the Office of Personnel Management conducted a survey of federal employees in all 36 federal agencies on job satisfaction and how they felt their respective agency was headed. DHS was last or near to last in every category including:

- 33rd on the talent management index,
- 35th on the leadership and knowledge management index,
- 36th on the job satisfaction index,
- 36th on the results-oriented performance culture index.

The low scores were attributed to major concerns about basic supervision, management and leadership within the agency. Examples from the survey reveal most concerns are about promotion and pay increase based on merit, dealing with poor performance, rewarding creativity and innovation, leadership generating high levels of motivation in the workforce, recognition for doing a good job, lack of satisfaction with various component policies and procedures and lack of information about what is going on with the organization."

Creating the perfect police state

The visible face of the totalitarian takeover of America is candidate *Mitt Romney*, sworn to start a world war for Israel, his backers, *Sheldon Adelson*, gambling boss of Las Vegas and China, the *Koch Brothers*³ and the Israel lobby, said to control America's congress, certainly 100% of the Republican Party.

Gasoline pricing manipulation through terrorism

Gasoline pricing in the world is run by the Koch Brothers who manage the futures market. Fuel prices are unrelated to oil costs but rather manipulated to serve political interests of two Israeli-American billionaires with extremist views.

During the past two weeks, there have been multiple "accidents" in refineries and with pipelines. These have, in fact been terror attacks, cutting refinery output in the US significantly, blocking oil pipelines from the Middle East and inside the US.

None of this, and it is terrorism, has been reported. There is only one cause and that is tied to who benefits from economic problems in an election year, this being *Mitt Romney* and the *Likudist* faction in Israel that is advocating war with Iran, not fought by Israel but by the United States, of course.

Patterns

As with the mass shootings, be they *Colombine* years ago, *Gabby Giffords* at Tuc-

son or so many others, the anthrax attacks now tied to our own government to the DC sniper, police and federal authorities have given out false press notices, sometimes showed up at crime scenes long after normal response times or may well have been complicit.

Nearly every terrorist act that supposedly occurs in the US involves law enforcement recruiting terrorists or carefully removing key suspects who were actually police officers involved.

The Oklahoma City bombing had several suspects disappear. The Detroit airport bombing attempt had witnesses report multiple arrests but no trials.

9/11 had nearly arrested, 2 on the George Washington Bridge who set off a truck bomb but disappeared the next day, people we suspect of being tied to law enforcement or "training groups" that are, in reality terrorists.

Terrorism is law enforcement

What careful analysis indicates is that the groups that are training our police are, if not exactly the same, are closely related to groups suspected of being terrorists themselves, providing support for terrorists in Africa and the Middle East.

Should our new police cars say:

"Protect and Serve
Trained by Terrorists
Big Brother is Watching"?

Source: *PressTV*, 2 August 2012

¹ The Anti-Defamation League, an American organization, headquartered in New York City, was founded in 1913 "to fight anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry in the US and abroad". It is member of the *American Israel Public Affairs Committee* (AIPAC). (cf. *www.adl.org*, Wikipedia)

² Fusion center: institutions created between 2003 and 2007 under the US Department of Homeland Security and the US Department of Justice to share intelligence between federal authorities, local authorities and non-governmental organizations. The Department of Justice defines: "A fusion center is an effective and efficient mechanism to exchange information and intelligence, maximize resources, streamline operations, and improve the ability to fight crime and terrorism by merging data from a variety of sources. In addition, fusion centers are a conduit for implementing portions of the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan (NCISP)."

³ Two industrialists are said to be oil billionaires. *Koch Industries* is an American multinational corporation based in Wichita, Kansas. The industrial conglomerate is operating different production sectors, including petroleum, chemicals, energy, blacktop, natural gas, fertilizers, food products and plastics in 50 countries. *Koch Industries* is the second-largest privately held company by revenue in the US (*Forbes* survey 2009).

Afghanistan: unsinkable US aircraft carrier

by *Matin Baraki**

The attacks of 9/11 were used as an opportunity to trigger off war against Afghanistan, although this war had been planned long ago. On 19 December 2000 the "Washington Post" reported, that nine months before the *Clinton* administration had already taken into consideration a war in the Hindu Kush. Consultations on this subject were held with the governments of Russia and Uzbekistan. Since the Uzbek government refused to place its territory at the disposal of the US for an attack against Afghanistan, the war had to be postponed first. The former foreign minister of Pakistan, *Naiz Naik* also confirmed that the war against Afghanistan had been decided prior to 11 September, because in July 2001, his government had been informed by the US about this plan. End of September 2006 the former US President Bill Clinton boasted that he had planned a war against Afghanistan. Both this and the war against Iraq were part of the "Greater Middle East Initiative" of the neocons.

After the expulsion of the Taliban in 2001 there had been a real opportunity to restore statehood of Afghanistan. During the war against Afghanistan an international conference took place under UN auspices on the Petersberg (Germany) in late 2001, where the foundations for the future status of the country were laid. Under pressure from more than 20 attending US representatives and with the participation of three Islamist and one monarchist group, a Kabul government was formed. *Hamid Karzai*, who had maintained close ties to the CIA since the beginning of the Afghan civil war, was appointed transitional prime minister. Since that government neither had any legitimacy nor support in Afghanistan, it was accompanied to Kabul by a protective force of the NATO states and given further protection on the ground. Hence NATO favored a military "solution" of the conflict. Since that time Afghanistan has become a real training area for the US and NATO, where, in the Afghan war reality, the latest weapons technology and the operational capability of the troops, the further development and the operational capability of the US drones, the successor model of the French *Mirage* and the armored vehicles of the German Armed Forces are being tested.

Based on the Petersberg agenda, Karzai was then elected president at a council meeting in 2002, with 24 votes more than

deputies had been present. Prior to this election, the US had bought votes for Karzai for 10 million dollars. The "New York Times" called the manner, in which the election had come about, "a crude American action". During this "action" the UN and EU as well as the United States as a major player with their Ambassador *Zalmay Khalilzad* were present. All decisions were taken either in Karzai's office or in the US Embassy. Both UN and EU representatives merely nodded through the taken decisions. So they lost their neutrality and their credibility. It was nothing but a logical consequence that at the NATO summit in Istanbul on 28 June 2004, the subordination of the security force "International Security Assistance Force" (ISAF) under NATO command was decided. According to an operational plan of the NATO Headquarters the country was divided among the occupiers in four sectors. It meant an abolition of the supervisory role of the UN, the sovereignty and the statehood of Afghanistan. This humiliation of the Afghans was the breeding ground in which resistance could develop. Since the United States want to stay in the country for a very long time, they have created the necessary preconditions.

Afghan economy deliberately destroyed

Even prior to the 2005 parliamentary elections, Karzai had convened a so-called "National Conference", including 100 members of his entourage, who authorized him to sign an agreement with the United States which allows the US Army to stay in Afghanistan for an unforeseeable period of time. The agreements with NATO signed by Karzai in 2011 and 2012 and the bilateral agreements with the US, Germany and the UK allow those countries to remain in Afghanistan beyond 2014 under the pretext of being advisors and trainers, i.e. even after the withdrawal of NATO combat troops. Thus the country in the Hindu Kush becomes a military colony and remains an unsinkable aircraft carrier of the United States and NATO. Since the Kabul Cabinet consists of up to 50% of American Afghans, the rest being Euro-Afghans and some compliant warlords, NATO had no trouble to demand agreements at will from the Kabul regime of puppets. The US advisors, present in all offices, play an important role here. "Agreements [...] may bind the weak to the strong, but never the strong to the weak", *Jean-Jacques Rousseau* had already stated almost 300 years ago.

As from 2002, the Karzai administration initiated an open door policy. Hence

the Afghan economy was destroyed. The then Kabul Minister for Economic Affairs *Amin Farhang* pointed out that 99% of all goods were imports. Local economy was deprived of any opportunity to develop; it now exports almost nothing. In 2010, Germany, for example, delivered goods worth 269 million euro to Afghanistan. While conversely they only amounted to 24 million euro, mainly carpets. The heroin barons use the "economic boom" for money laundering. They only invest in the luxury sector, such as hotels, homes and food for the needs of solvent foreigners instead of committing themselves for the reconstruction of the country, which could result in improving the situation for broad segments of the population. They and the corrupt elite prefer to bring their dollars abroad. The former First Vice President, *Ahmad Zia Massoud*, was initially arrested at Dubai airport with \$ 50 million in the suitcase and then released. On 11 March 2010 *Tolo TV* reported that fifteen high-ranking politicians, including governors, ambassadors, police generals and members of the Karzai cabinet such as *Sediq Tshakari*, Minister of Pilgrimage and Religious Affairs, *Rafi Atash*, President of Aviation, *Wahidullah Shahrani*, Minister of Transport and Minister of Economic Affairs *Amin Farhang* should be held accountable for corruption. This was confirmed by both the Justice Minister *Habibullah Ghaleb* before the Parliament and *Faqir Ahmad Faqiryar*, Deputy Attorney General, at a press conference on 13 March 2010. Farhang was alleged to have embezzled 4 million dollars from the budget of his ministry. This was confirmed by Attorney General *Ishaq Aloko*. According to "Der Spiegel" Farhang is alleged to have embezzled even 19 million dollars. As Farhang has a German passport, he returned to his family in the Federal Republic of Germany. Recent information is that the acting Finance Minister *Hazrat Omar Zakhelwal* transferred 1.8 million dollars to his personal accounts.

Poverty and sexual violence – result of NATO occupation

Since NATO has announced the withdrawal of combat troops, every day millions of dollars leave the country illegally. The president of the Central Bank stated officially that in 2011 about \$ 4 billion, which corresponds to the annual budget of the government, were brought out of the country.

In contrast, the situation of the population is deteriorating rapidly. Unemploy-

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ment is about 70% in some places, especially in the east and south it is as high as 90%. There, about 80% of the population already sympathizes with the Taliban. "80% percent of Afghanistan's people live in poverty. Every year a million of young people enter the labor market." This is the result of 11 years of NATO occupation in Afghanistan. Afghans had once been promised flourishing landscapes. After eleven years of experience they come to realize that the West "tells a lot of lies and makes false promises." Even in Kabul, neither water nor electricity supply is working. In the hot summer months repeated cholera epidemics have been caused by the disastrous sanitary conditions. Rents in the city have become unaffordable for the ordinary citizen.

Afghan women have many enemies: poverty, everyday violence or kidnappings. "The incidence of rape has increased extremely, which is completely atypical in the history of our country," says *Zoya*, an activist of the Maoist women's organization "Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan" (RAWA). Since rapists have to fear no significant penalties women are fair game. On top of this, rape is considered extramarital and illegitimate sexual intercourse for which women could even get stoned to death. "Just recently, President Karzai pardoned the rapists of a twelve year old girl." Vis-à-vis *Amnesty International*, an international aid expressed: "When a woman, at the time of the Taliban regime, went to market and only showed a strip of skin, she was whipped – today she is raped."

There would have been an alternative to the infamous Petersberg agenda that had never been considered. The best way towards peace in Afghanistan would have been the formation of a representative government. Under strict control not of the "international community", but under the Non-Aligned Nations, the Conference of Islamic States, the International Trade Unions, Peace and Women's organizations a council meeting should have been carried out to elect a provisional government and commissions to draft a constitution and electoral laws. A government elected by the people would have nothing to

fear in Kabul. At worst, they would have needed military protection, if only for a short time. This would have been the duty of the Non-Aligned Nations and the Conference of Islamic States. Hence, the wind had been taken out of the sails of Islamists, because Afghanistan would not have been occupied by "infidel Christians" and the "Great Satan". This alternative was unwanted from the onset. But it is not too late to correct the Petersberg error.

A reconstruction of the country which would equate the "war against famine" would have to be the first priority, as the "Senlis Council" formulated. The billions of dollars, promised to the country in various international donor conferences, are going to about 6,000 NGOs that have all the powers. Often, they "work against each other instead of together", but the money flows back to the donor countries. Domestic companies hardly receive orders from them. When the Franco-Afghan *Ramazan Bachardoust* was appointed as Minister for Planning he tried to uncover the machinations of the NGOs and called them "the new al-Qaeda in Afghanistan". After that he was dismissed by President Karzai.

500,000 civilian deaths

Afghanistan's economic perspectives are in disengagement from structures similar to colonial economies and the shift to a regional economic cooperation with the more developed neighbors, India, China, Iran and Pakistan, and in south-south cooperation.

The NATO-favored "military solution" simply does not exist, on top it is a gigantic "resource guzzler." From 2002 to 2006, \$ 82.5 billion have been spent for war, but only \$ 7.3 billion for reconstruction. "Thereby, military spending exceeded aid spending by 900 percent." The cost of war is \$ 1.5 billion every week. Even official figures estimate \$ 440 billion cost of war for the US in 2011. The costs for the deployment of the German Bundeswehr were at 536 million in 2008 and 690 million in 2009, respectively. The *German Institute for Economic Research* (Institut für Deutsche Wirtschaftsforschung, DIW) estimates the annual cost at 2.5 to 3 billion euro. Even "under the assumption of a complete withdrawal in 2011 the total war cost is estimated at 18 to 33 billion euro",

Professor *Tilman Brück* who is Head of the Economic Department at DIW, explained in 2010. Killing one single Taleb thus costs \$ 100 million.

At a conference in Tokyo held in 2012, Afghanistan was permitted a total of \$ 16 billion for the next four years. In return, President Karzai, whose country is world champion in corruption and illegal drugs, promised to fight corruption. "If all corrupt people would be put to justice, we would have virtually no government", writes the Kabul based newspaper "Aschte Sob" dated 9 July 2012. Moreover, Karzai has gathered around him 110 warlords, war criminals and heroin barons as "consultants". Each of them receives a monthly salary of \$ 5,000. Many of them did not even have a single meeting per year with Karzai. Had these and others from Karzai's entourage Serbian passports, they would all be put on trial at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, without exception.

In order not to lose its face when withdrawing its combat troops, NATO has created conditions for the "Afghanization" of the war. They have trained and equipped about 500,000 fighters. Among them are 352,000 soldiers of the Afghan National Army. Now, the US wants to save money so they reduce this number to 228,500 men. Thus, 125,000 well trained and equipped fighters will become unemployed and then defect to the resistance. This will be a nice farewell gift by the US to the Taliban!

According to research by the British-Pakistani journalist *Tariq Ali* in 2008, the war had killed a hundred times more Afghan civilians than in Manhattan (9/11), which means a total of 300,000 observers estimate more than 500,000 civilian casualties.

It is long overdue that NATO is relinquishing its war strategy to preserve Afghanistan from an uncontrolled spiral of violence and the region around Afghanistan from further destabilization. Pakistan is on the brink of civil war. If this nuclear power with strong Islamist groups actually slipped into a civil war, the Afghanistan conflict would seem a minor issue in retrospect.

(Translation *Current Concerns*)

Eco-Centre Langenbruck: more than 30 years for future worth living

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We and our project partners

- share thinking and acting that aims at sustainability and preservation of scopes for development

- expound our principles which lead to an honest and beneficial cooperation for both sides
- appreciate the creative environment in which pioneering and innovative ideas ripen by an open and partly unconventional thinking
- emphasize a holistic approach in the development of fault-tolerant and situationally adapted technologies
- respect dealings in the development and implementation of joint projects that are characterized by openness, respect and appreciation."

Source: www.oekozentrum.ch
(Translation Current Concerns)



Letter to  the Editor

What is actually the essence of the threefold referendum?

Considerations to bring the international treaties before the sovereign are more current and urgent than ever. In particular, because we need a national debate, yes a reflection on the essence of these issues. *Current Concerns* no. 36 has contributed essential aspects to the debate. It shows that there is a legal basis which clearly states the priorities and gives the focus in the now ruling confusion. By its campaign the published opinion has had a sustainable impact on the minds.

It should be noted that first of all the state has to abide by its international obligations and national laws, and even more so has to respect them to be a model for its citizens, that is in this case, to follow the established proceedings in case of problems between countries. In the tax issue, there is this given way. With the purchase of CDs,

it is broken and disregarded in many ways; with respect to the contracts now to be ratified it was to some extent respected.

Governments negotiated but the estimations of the result differ widely. Indeed why not hold different opinions! However, it looks as if the Swiss government was put under pressure. The public opinion was brought in line by the press using knockout arguments: We were hiding huge amounts of black money and avoid a fair taxation by the German tax authorities, as if there were no properly taxed savings in the obviously more secure Swiss franc currency on Swiss accounts. It is also scandalous that the authorities hand over data of bank employees to foreign authorities. Also the Swiss data protection officer and the Swiss and the German lawyers association intervened in these matters.

Furthermore, it is about some banks and not about Switzerland as such. If banks actually broke foreign laws in foreign countries, they should be held responsible there. But obviously that is not what it is actually all about but the intention is to make Switzerland give up their national legislation – still independent – and slowly but surely adopt the desired foreign legislation. Otherwise, one would tackle the problems differently. That is the essence of the matter. And this is why the referendum against the 3 tax “agreements” with Germany, Austria and England must come about. Our sovereignty is our responsibility, and this must be discussed and voted.

Roland Güttinger