



Iranian students climb over the wall of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran on Nov. 4, 1979.

US Calls on Iran to Release Americans on 40th Anniversary of US Embassy Takeover

PETR SVAB

The administration of President Donald Trump urged the Iranian regime on Nov. 4 to release American citizens in its custody.

The call came on the 40th anniversary of the day that Iranian militants stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, taking more than 50 Americans hostage for over 14 months.

The American captives "are a grim hostage crisis anniversary "is an ex-statement. cellent opportunity for the Iranian reof hostage-taking, and immediately and unconditionally release all unjustly detained Americans on Iranian soil in a sign that they are truly ready to rejoin the international community." Violating the Deal

espionage charges, one for unknown centrifuges it operates, to 60 from reasons, and one for "collaborating 30, further violating the deal it with enemy states," according to the made with world powers in advocacy group Center for Human 2015. Rights in Iran.

In addition, former FBI agent Robert Levinson is believed to be held by Iran, although his circumstances are unknown. The administration announced an offer of up to \$20 million for credible information leading to Levinson's safe return, an administration official said during the confer-

Levinson disappeared in Kish Isfrom April 2011, the official said. Iran previously denied holding Levinson. Robert Mueller, asked Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska to spend millions on an operation to locate and free Levinson, according to a 2018 report by investigative journalist John

The mission, which uncovered photos indicating that Levinson was alive, was thwarted by the State Department, then led by Hillary Clinton, which was "uncomfortable with Iran's terms [for Levinson's release], according to Deripaska's lawyer and saying Deripaska was still rewarded by repeatedly being allowed to travel to the United States, despite allega-

tions of ties to organized crime. The reward for information on Levinson, which was first set on \$1 million in 2012, was raised to \$5 million in 2015.

New Sanctions

Also on Nov. 4, the administration imposed sanctions on nine appointees and representatives of Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, including Ebrahim Raisi, who is responsible for thousands of extrajudicial killings, including executions of seven children by the regime, one official said.

Two of the sanctioned people have also been linked to the 1983 U.S. Marine barracks bombing in Beirut that reminder that the regime is funda- killed 241 U.S. service members, and mentally exactly the same as it was the 1994 bombing in Buenos Aires, Argentina, of the Argentine Israelofficial said during a Nov. 4 conference ite Mutual Association, Secretary of call with reporters, noting that the State Mike Pompeo said in a Nov. 4

The sanctions add to an already exgime to renounce its current practice tensive number imposed on Iran and its leadership by the administration upon Trump's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal last year.

Four Americans are known to be Iran announced on Nov. 4 that it's currently detained by Tehran: two on doubled the number of uranium

> Iran has repeatedly announced actions in violation of the deal, trying to pressure its European signatories to make up for the economic impact of the U.S. sanctions since the United States withdrew from the deal.

Tehran has gone from producing about one pound of lowenriched uranium a day to 11 pounds land, Iran, on March 9, 2007. The last a day, said Ali Akbar Salehi, the head picture his family saw of him alive is of the Atomic Energy Organization

Iran is currently enriching ura-In 2009, the FBI, under Director nium to 4.5 percent, in violation of the accord's limit of 3.67 percent. At the 4.5 percent level, it's enough to help power Iran's Bushehr reactor, the country's only nuclear power plant, but not enough to develop a nuclear

Increased centrifuge capacity could allow Iran to cut the time it needs to produce a nuclear weapon sooner than the previously estimated one year. Salehi also announced that Iran is working on a prototype centrifuge, which would work 50 times faster the Levinson family," Solomon wrote, than the ones allowed under the deal.

> Trump has criticized the deal for only delaying Iran's nuclear ambitions by about a decade and leaving out a plethora of other grievances the United States has had with the mullah regime, including the development of ballistic missiles and supporting

The Iranian continues to target innocent civilians for use as pawns in its failed foreign relations.

Stephanie Grisham, secretary

Ali Akbar Salehi,

vice president of

the Islamic Republic

of Iran and Head of

the Atomic Energy

Organisation of

Iran, in Brussels on

Nov. 26, 2018.



Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Washington on Oct. 31, 2019.

terrorists and militants across the Middle East.

In September, Washington blamed Iran for an attack on oil facilities in Saudi Arabia that interrupted nearly 58 percent of Saudi oil production and more than 5.5 percent of the world's daily output. Iran-backed

Houthi rebels in Yemen claimed responsibility. "The Iranian regime continues to target innocent civilians for use as pawns in

its failed foreign relations," White House press secretary Stephanie Grisham said in a Nov. 4 release on the 1979 hostage crisis anniversary. "Until Iran changes this and its other hostile behavior, we will continue to impose

crippling sanctions." She said the regime "has a choice" between "being the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism" and putting "the Iranian people first."

"It can choose peace over hostage taking, assassinations, sabotage, maritime hijacking, and attacks on global oil markets," she said. "The United States seeks peace, and we support the Iranian people. It is time for the Iranian regime to do the same."

Khamenei: No Negotiations

The anniversary was marked in Iran by protests in multiple cities featuring the burning of U.S. flags and chants of "death to America."

"Our fight with America is over our independence, over not submitting to bullying, over values, beliefs, and our religion," army chief Maj. Gen. Abdolrahim Mousavi said in a speech at the rally outside the former U.S. embassy

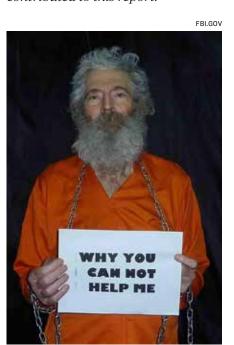
"They [Americans] will continue their hostilities, like the proverbial poisonous scorpion whose nature it is to sting and cannot be stopped unless it is crushed," Mousavi said in remarks carried by state TV.

On Nov. 3, Khamenei, who has the ultimate say on all state matters, renewed a ban on talks with the United

"Those who believe that negotiations with the enemy will solve our problems are 100 percent wrong," he said. Iran's parliament gave initial approval to a measure requiring school books to inform students about "America's crimes." Lawmakers also chanted "Death to America."

Both Saudi Arabia and the neighboring United Arab Emirates are believed to be talking to Tehran through back

The Associated Press and Reuters contributed to this report.



Missing Retired FBI Agent Robert Levinson in one of the images emailed anonymously to Levinson's family in

Criticisms Mount to Warren's Medicare for All Plan

ASHINGTON-U.S. presidential contender Elizabeth Warren's plan to provide health care for all Americans, which she estimates would cost just under \$52 trillion over 10 years, was attacked over the weekend by Republicans and fellow Democrats and parodied on NBC's "Saturday Night Live," the long-running television comedy show.

The "Medicare for All" proposal, which Warren's 2020 presidential campaign released on Nov. 1, calls for cuts in defense spending and passing immigration reform to increase tax revenue from newly legal immigrants, two steps that would face an uphill battle in Congress.

It would also be funded by cost-cutting, business contributions, and new taxes on Wall Street, big businesses, and wealthy individuals, all of which carry their own challenges.

Warren, a U.S. senator from Massachusetts, has emerged as a front-runner along with former Vice President Joe Biden in the race for the Democratic nomination to face Republican President Donald Trump in the November 2020 election.

Warren, a former law professor, has become known for a bevy of detailed policy proposals. But she had faced criticism for not detailing how she would pay for the Medicare for All plan. The proposal was introduced in the U.S. Senate by rival Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.).

Her health care overhaul would replace private health insurance, including employer-sponsored plans, with full government-sponsored coverage, and individuals would no longer have to pay premiums, deductibles, co-pays, or other out-of-pocket costs. It would extend Medicare, the U.S. government's health insurance program for people 65 years and older and the disabled, to cover all Americans.

Warren has said it would provide health care coverage for some 27 million Americans who are currently uninsured and that the taxes wouldn't affect the middle class, while saving American households \$11 trillion in out-of-pocket spending over the next decade.

She released letters from experts, in-

This my-wayor-the-highway idea, that either you're for kicking everybody off their private plans in four years or you're for business as usual, it's just not true.

Pete Buttigleg, Democratic presidential contender and mayor of South Bend, Indiana

Sen. Elizabeth

Warren (D-Mass.)

speaks during an

event to introduce

the "Medicare for

All Act of 2017" on

Capitol Hill on Sept. 13, 2017.



candidate and former Vice at the Liberty and Justice Celebration in Des Moines, Iowa, on Nov. 1.

cluding Mark Zandi, the chief economist at Moody's Analytics, supporting her calculations.

Biden took issue with Warren's explanation of who would pay for her

"Her plan would create a new tax

on employers of almost \$9 trillion that would come out of workers' pockets, a new financial transaction tax that would impact investments held by middle-class Americans, and a new capital gains tax

that would affect far more

people than she stated to-

night," Biden said in a state-

ment on Nov. 2. Another Democratic presidential contender, South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, said the plan's elimination of private

insurance was too inflexible. "This my-way-or-the-highway idea, that either you're for kicking everybody off their private plans in four years or you're for business as usual, it's just not true," Buttigieg said on ABC's "This Week" on Nov. 3.

Sanders told ABC News his Medicare for All approach "will be much more progressive in terms of protecting the financial well-being of middle income families." Sanders' campaign has not yet released a detailed plan explaining how he would fund the proposal.

'Not Going to Happen' Rahm Emanuel, who was chief of

staff for former Democratic President

Barack Obama and previously called Medicare for All a "pipe dream," said Warren's campaign would be forever associated with the idea in the future, to its detriment.

"This was Bernie's idea, and now, she owns the idea," he said. "This issue is not going to happen, and it is not the way you argue health care."

On Nov. 3, the Republican National Committee called the price tag of Warren's approach to health care "staggering" on Twitter.

"Elizabeth Warren's policies are so radical, the math doesn't even come close," Steve Bannon, a former adviser to Trump, said on Fox News on Nov. 3.

Warren's plan was the focus of a nearly eight-minute-long opening skit on "Saturday Night Live" that was widely circulated on social media afterward.

"When Bernie was talking Medicare for All, everybody was like, 'Oh cool,' and then they turned to me and they said, 'Fix it, Mom," said Kate McKinnon, who plays Warren on the show. "I'll do it because that's what Moms do."

To fund the plan, "we're going to cut military spending, so ... immediately dead in the water," the actor said. The plan also requires that the United States tax billionaires like Jeff Bezos and big banks, she added. "All we have to do is convince JPMorgan to operate like a non-profit," McKinnon said.

By Heather Timmons

From Reuters



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) speaks to the press before the start of the Liberty and Justice Celebration in Des Moines, Iowa, on Nov. 1, 2019.

Russia Probe Was Watergate-Like Breach of Trump Campaign, Investigative Journalist Says

PETR SVAB

nvestigative journalist Lee Smith says the story of the origins of the FBI investigation into Trump campaign aides can be likened to the Watergate scandal, in the sense that it was a break-in-an electronic one–to rummage through the campaign's communications.

"If you think about it in terms of Watergate, it's easy to understand," he told Epoch Times senior editor Jan Jekielek on the Nov. 4 episode of "American Thought Leaders."

"It was an electronic break-in. The Clinton campaign wanted to find an October surprise to dump on Donald

Smith, a senior fellow at the conservative Hudson Institute, recently released a book, "The Plot Against the President," in which he lays out an argument that the presidential campaign of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton had the FBI probe the campaign of her opponent, Donald Trump, for damaging information.

He further argues that the Obama administration ran an operation targeting Trump possibly since late 2015, long before the FBI officially opened its counterintelligence probe on July 31, 2016. After the election, he suggested, the operation switched gears, and has since focused on undoing the election result.

Dossier Origins

A part of Smith's work was to try to retrace the origins of the Steele dossier, a collection of unsubstantiated claims that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia to sway the election.

No such collusion has been substantiated after nearly three years and multiple investigations.

The dossier is commonly believed to have been created by former British spy Christopher Steele, who was paid for the job, through intermediaries, by the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee (DNC).

The dossier was used by the FBI o obtain a FISA spying warrant on former Trump campaign aide Carter Page-an event subject to a Justice Department's review that has reportedly

turned into a criminal investigation. Smith believes that the dossier wasn't actually written by Steele, but that it was a collective effort on behalf of the Clinton campaign to write a document for the express purpose of enabling spying on the Trump team.

"We have the order wrong, right? It starts with people who know how to write something, how to write a document to get a spy warrant," he said. "It's not like it comes out of the blue from Christopher Steele, who's finding all this marvelous stuff and has to go to the FBI. It's the other way around."

In Smith's view, Steele was a "salesman" of sorts, whose job was to use whatever reputation he had from his previous work with the FBI to market the dossier to the bureau as well as the press. Smith further suggested that the FBI itself may have had a role in composing the dossier.

He gave the example of Vladimir Trubnikov, a former director of Russian intelligence, who was allegedly one of Steele's sources.

Trubnikov was, in fact, a source for Stefan Halper, a Cambridge professor who was de facto outed as an FBI informer used to snoop on Trump campaign aides.

Halper listed Trubnikov as a source for a document he prepared for a secretive Defense Department think tank in 2015-2016. He also invited Trubnikov to teach at the Cambridge Intelligence Seminar (CIS) at least twice-in 2012 and in 2015-and Trubnikov obliged him both times, according to a defamation lawsuit filed against Halper by former CIS participant Svetlana Lohkova.

Lohkova, a UK-based historian of Russian origin, alleged that Halper fed lies to the media that led to the public gaining a misimpression that she had approached former Trump adviser Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn and engaged him



Investigative journalist Lee Smith, author of "The Plot Against the President," in New York on Nov. 2, 2019.

Certainly, no American wants to be governed by the intelligence community.

Lee Smith, journalist and senior fellow, Hudson Institute

Then-FBI

June 23, 2014.

Director James Comey at bureau headquarters in Washington on

in a relationship, or possibly an affair, on behalf of Russian intelligence.

It was a major part of the anti-Trump operation, according to Smith, to paint Flynn, a three-decade Army veteran and former head of the Defense Intelligence

Agency, as compromised by Russia. The main reason was that Flynn talked about reforming U.S. intelli-

"Gen. Flynn wanted to find out what American people and to what extent it was filling their own wallets and entertaining their own political desires and fantasies, how they wanted to see in a recent court filing. the bureaucracy shape up on behalf of their interests, not on behalf of the American people."

Flynn went as far as entertaining an audit of the intelligence community. "Flynn was talking about asking the senior intelligence service, hundreds New Look at Intelligence of people across the beltway, for their

resignations," Smith said. That doesn't necessarily mean the of-

ficials would have been fired, he said, "but they were going to have to justify what they were doing, and many of them wouldn't have made the cut."

> "We see, therefore, how important it was for these people to flush out Gen. Flynn, to get Flynn out of the way," he said. "Conversely, we also see how important Gen. Flynn's work was." Flynn was one of the Trump aides probed by the FBI for an alleged rela-

He pleaded guilty on Nov. 30, 2017, the intelligence community was do- to one count of lying to the FBI, but ing: To what extent it was serving the recently went on a legal offensive and expects to file a motion asking a federal judge to dismiss the case against him, his lawyer, Sidney Powell, said

Powell accused the government of withholding exculpatory information from Flynn and lacking a proper reason to investigate Flynn in the first place. The prosecutors disagreed.

Smith sees the anti-Trump operation fundamentally affecting U.S. intelligence agencies down the road.

"I don't see how the intelligence community comes out of this looking the way it does now. There will have to be a profound, thoroughgoing reassessment of what purpose the intelligence community is meant to play," he said.

"Certainly, no American wants to be governed by the intelligence community. ... We don't want to be governed to be spied on by unelected officials. And we don't want unelected bureaucrats trying to take out the president that has been elected by the American

Media Involvement

Smith portrayed much of the legacy media as complicit in the operation, even indispensable to it.

By subscribing to what Smith called a "conspiracy theory" of Trump–Rus– sia collusion, the legacy media has caused "serious" damage to its credibility and its survival.

"It's an extinction-level event,"



Then-FBI Director James Comey at bureau headquarters in Washington on June 23, 2014.

Trump Proposes 'War' on Cartels After 9 Americans Killed in Mexico

PETR SVAB

resident Donald Trump has extended an offer to help Mexico wage a "war" to eliminate drug cartels, after at least nine Americans were killed during a cartel shooting in the Mexican border

state of Sonora. "A wonderful family and friends from Utah got caught between two vicious drug cartels, who were shooting at each other, with the result being many great American people killed, including young children, and some missing," Trump wrote in a Nov. 5 tweet.

"If Mexico needs or requests help in cleaning out these monsters, the United States stands ready, willing & able to get involved and do the job quickly and effectively. The great new President of Mexico has made this a big issue, but the cartels have become so large and powerful that you sometimes need an army to defeat an army!"

A few minutes later, he added:

"This is the time for Mexico, with the help of the United States, to wage WAR on the drug cartels and wipe them off the face of the earth. We merely await a call from your great new president!"

Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said he would speak with Trump about possible cooperation on security, provided Mexico's sovereignty was upheld. "I'll speak with President Trump

to thank him for his support, and to see if, in cooperation agreements, there's the possibility of getting help," he told a news conference. "I don't think we need the intervention of a foreign government to deal with these cases."

Trump spoke to López Obrador on Nov. 5, "to discuss the recent violence in Mexico and efforts to combat the growing violent behavior of cartels and criminal groups in the region," White house deputy press secretary Hogan Gidley said in a release.

Three women and six children

were gunned down, with others effectively. injured on Nov. 4, when cartel **President Donald Trump** members attacked their vehicles

A wonderful family and friends from Utah got caught between two vicious drug cartels, who were shooting at each other.

President Donald Trump

If Mexico needs

or requests help in

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monsters, the United

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on a dirt road between the states of Chihuahua and Sonora, both bordering the United States. The deceased were members of the LeBaron family, a breakaway Mormon community that settled in the hills and plains of northern Mexico decades ago.

Mexico Security Minister Alfonso Durazo said there was a possibility of mistaken identity, given the high number of violent confrontations among warring drug gangs in the area.

"The convoy made up of suburban vans could have been confused with criminal groups that fight for control in the region," Durazo said, alongside López Obrador.

Runaway Violence

While Mexico has used its military to fight cartels for more than a decade, drug violence hasn't

The government has recorded more than 250,000 homicides in the past dozen years, including more than 30,000 in the first seven months of 2019, most of them related to the drug war. And that excludes an unknown number of disappearances.

The violence spills over to the United States, with a large part of shootings and murders across the country related to drug-dealing gangs.

On top of that, the drugs smuggled from Mexico are a major driver behind the overdose epidemic in the United States that cost almost 70,000 lives in 2018.

The drug trade proceeds from the United States are then funding the cartel operations, allowing them to procure heavy armaments.

"We're talking about surface-toair missiles, grenades. They have armored vehicles. They have big machine guns on the top of the vehicles," Derek Maltz, former head of the Drug Enforcement Administration's special operations division, previously told The

'Massacre'

A video posted on social media showed the charred and smoking remains of a vehicle riddled with

bullet holes that was apparently carrying the victims when the attack happened.

"This is for the record," says a male voice off-camera in an American accent, choking up with emotion. "Nita and four of my grandchildren are burnt and shot up."

A family relative, Julian LeBaron, called the incident a "massacre" and said some family

members were burned alive. In a text message to Reuters, he wrote that four boys, two girls, and three women were killed. Several children who fled the attack were lost for hours in the countryside before being located, he said.

He said it was unclear who carried out the attack.

"We don't know why, though they had received indirect threats. We don't know who did it," he told Reuters.

"My cousin was murdered with her children in the truck," said Alex LeBaron, another relative in one of the villages inhabited by the extended family. He said all the victims were U.S. citizens, and most also held dual citizenship with Mexico.

Five children injured in the attack were transferred to hospitals in the United States, U.S. and Mexican authorities said.

Mormons versus Cartels

huahua, Mexico, some 150 years ago when the United States outlawed their practice of polygamy. The colony has had run-ins with the cartels for years, facing murder, kidnappings, and other

Mormons set up a colony in Chi-

In 2010, two members of the Mormon community, including one from the LeBaron family, were killed in apparent revenge after the Mormons pressured authorities to secure the release of another member of their community kidnapped by the cartels.

The situation was so serious that Mexican laws and armed themselves for defense, Vice reported

Reuters contributed to this report.



President Donald Trump walks out from the White House in Washington on Nov. 2, 2019.

They had fire, mortar guns,

mortars shooting at you.

Bruno Stanga, World War II veteran

"As soon as the war is over, you're

just happy there's no more hiding

and people shooting at you. By then, most of the Germans took off when

the army came and left the houses ...

so we all had homes to get into and

sleep. It was pretty decent living.

He was then transferred to

Czechoslovakia to wait, with the

possibility of having to invade Ja-

It was in Czechoslovakia, after the

fighting, that Stanga saw some of

"We saw a lot of the remains of the

burning grounds. I remember sev-

eral times going through those ar-

eas where they had a camp or they

burned people. Burning hundreds

"I seen ditches where they would

shove the remains in the ditches and

cover them with dirt. Some of the

ditches weren't covered yet. ... They

were still killing Jews at that time.

They didn't quit doing that–right

to the very end, they were killing

Jews. Even though they were losing

the war and knew it, they just kept

Stanga said he was relieved when

the United States dropped the

atomic bombs on Hiroshima and

at home before we had to leave for

Japan," he said. "Fighting Japan was

going to be worse than fighting the

Germans. The Germans, when they

realized you're beating them, they'd

give up. Not the Japanese. They

would have fought to the very end."

But Japan unconditionally sur-

rendered on Sept. 2, 1945, and Stan-

With 3 million American military

personnel to ship back stateside, a

points system was enacted to dis-

cern priority–five points per medal,

two points for each month served

abroad, 12 points for children back

get on a ship home from Marseille,

France, to New York. The journey

took about a week on a wild, winter

Stanga paused when asked to

describe what it was like to reach

"No telling it really. You're just on

air," he said, the emotion evident.

"Plus the fact that you know that

in three or four days, you're going

to be back home. We landed on the 26th or 27th of December, and [by]

He said that when he looks back

"It was so little really compared to

New Year's Eve, I was home."

ga waited to return home.

Getting Home

home, and so on.

American soil again.

killing the Jews."

at a time in the ovens," he said.

pan on the horizon.

the most searing scenes.

It wasn't digging holes anymore."

Buckingham Palace Pressured ABC to Kill Epstein-Linked Prince Andrew Story, Anchor Recorded as Saying

PETR SVAB

he British royal family threatened ABC News to drop a story about Virginia Giuffre, a woman who alleged late financier Jeffrey Epstein used her as an underage sex slave for himself and his friends, including Prince Andrew, according to Amy Robach, ABC's "Good Morning America" co-host and Breaking News anchor, who made the allegation in what appeared to be a hot mic moment.

The pressure from Buckingham Palace was one of the reasons why the network killed the story, Robach said in a video released by Project Veritas on Nov. 5.

"First of all, I was told, 'Who's Jeffrey Epstein? No one knows who that is. This is a stupid story," Robach was recorded as saying. "The [Buckingham] Palace found out that we had her whole allegations about Prince Andrew and threatened us a million different ways."

She said the network was afraid of losing access to Prince William and Kate Middleton and "that also squashed the story."

'Unbelievable What We Had'

Epstein was arrested on July 6 in New Jersey on sex trafficking charges, which caused broader media to report on decades worth of allegations made against him by some two dozen women, including Giuffre.

Giuffre (previously Roberts) made her allegations in a January 2015 sworn affidavit, describing how she was recruited by Epstein's close associate Ghislaine Maxwell, systematically trained as a sex slave for Epstein, and eventually passed around to other men, including Epstein's longtime associate Prince Andrew, who was at one time sixth in line to the throne. Andrew denied the allegations. Giuffre provided a picture of Andrew with his arm around Giuffre's hip with Maxwell in the background.

Robach said ABC convinced Giuffre to give an interview three years ago and that they managed to corroborate her story with accounts of other women and with pictures provided

"She had pictures, she had everything," Robach said. "She was in hiding for 12 years. We convinced her to come out. We convinced her to talk to us. It was unbelievable what we had." Robach was apparently frustrated by

I tried for three years to get it

on to no avail. And now it's all coming out, and it's like these new revelations. and I freaking

had all of it. Amy Robach, ABC's 'Good Morning America' co-host and Breaking News

anchor, in a hot mic

Jeffrey Epstein

appears in a

photograph taken

for the New York

State Division of

Criminal Justice

Services' sex

offender registry or

March 28, 2017.

standards." ABC's editorial standards have recently come under scrutiny after the network repeatedly aired Kentucky gun range footage, presenting it as Turkish incursion in Syria. The network issued a correction.

I freaking had all of it. I'm so [exple-

statement saying she was disappoint-

tive] right now," she said.

couldn't get on," she said.

ment of the story.

ABC said in a statement to Project Veritas that it has had a team investigating the Epstein story and will release a documentary and a podcast on it in 2020.

> "At the time, not all our reporting met our standards to air, but we have never stopped investigating the story," the statement said. The network didn't respond to emailed questions regarding the pressure from Buckingham Palace and other statements and allegations

made by Robach. "This is entirely a matter for ABC," said Hannah Howard, deputy communications secretary to the queen of England, in an emailed response to a request for comment.

'A Hundred Percent'

Epstein was found dead in his jail cell at the Metropolitan Correctional Center on Aug. 10 while awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges.

His death was ruled as suicide by the New York medical examiner, who said earlier. But his lawyer claimed that he had hanged himself with a sheet he was roughed up by his cellmate from his bed.

However, on Oct. 30, famed pathologist Dr. Michael Baden told Fox News that he believes the physical evidence suggests Epstein didn't take

He said Epstein's injuries were "more consistent with ligature homicidal strangulation" than suicide. Robach seemed fully on board with

the theory that Epstein didn't kill



Week 45, 2019 THE EPOCH TIMES

"Do I think he was killed? A hundred percent, yes I do. Because do you want it? He made his whole living blackmailing people," Robach said. "There were a lot of men in those

planes, a lot of men who visited that

island, a lot of powerful men who came into that apartment." She said she "knew immediately" when the news of Epstein's death

"And they made it seem as though he around the neck, that was all like to plant the seed," she said, referring to the conflicting explanations regarding Epstein's neck injuries after he was found unconscious in his cell 18 days

"That's why I really believe it, like, really believe it," Robach said.

before his death.

Update: The article has been updated with a response from a spokeswoman for the queen of England.





ABC's Amy Robach claims on hot mic that the network killed her story on Epstein three years ago, in by Project Veritas.

Becoming a Mortarman:

97-Year-Old Veteran Recalls WWII

Stepping back on American soil after the war ended was indescribable for Bruno Stanga: 'No telling it really. You're just on air'

CHARLOTTE CUTHBERTSON

COLUMBUS, Ohio-At 97, Bruno Stanga has a life chock full of memories. But none stand out so clearly as those from the battlefield in Europe 75 years ago, during World War II.

"Some of these stories are vivid in my mind. You never forget," he said on Nov. 1, with his wife, Kay, also 97, sitting next to him

Stanga was inducted into the Army on Jan. 21, 1943, just a few months after turning 21. He was required to register for the draft under the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940.

The war had been raging in Europe since 1939, but the United States was only thrust into battle after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

Stanga took a train to Fort Hayes, Ohio, and spent a couple of weeks getting rigorous health screening and aptitude tests.

"They really worked us over," he said. "We took all kinds of batteries of tests. To see what we had done in the past, what schooling we had, if any, what we could do to help the army, where and how."

He had spent six months in business school and was issued a military occupation specialty number related to secretarial work.

"So every place I went, even though I was in the infantry, I wasn't going to be carrying any rifle–I was going to be hauling a typewriter," he said. "Well, good and bad. You don't get the excitement of battle, but you also don't get shot at near as much."

cial tank battalion, which would be attached to an infantry division,

By now, the military had a different type of problem. So many young men had signed up for service that the system was swamped. The U.S. military was made up of fewer than a half-million personnel in 1940, prior to Pearl Harbor. By 1942, that number had jumped to almost 4 million, and it reached 12.2 million by 1945.

With the staggering numbers, the military couldn't use everyone at once and many were sent to universities to study in the meantime. Stanga spent the end of 1943 and the beginning of 1944 at Dayton

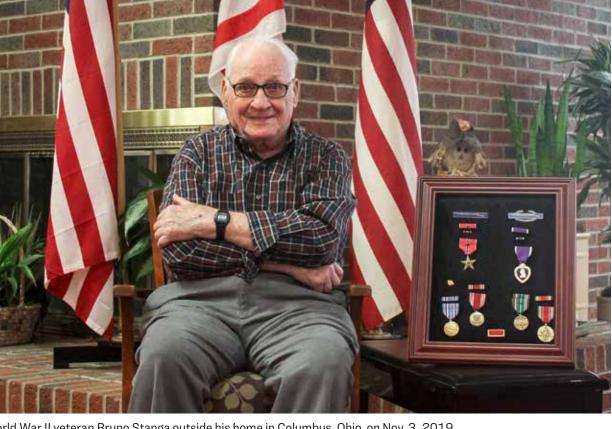
During the spring of 1944, Stanga was at Camp Swift, Texas, training for what would be the D-Day invasion in Normandy to wrest back German-occupied France. "We were waiting to ship overseas, to be in the first invasion," he said.

But, as fate would have it, it was three months after the June 6, 1944, assault at Omaha Beach that Stanga ended up being deployed.

He recalls traveling in an armada of about 70 ships, surrounded by destroyers, that took about 10 days to reach France, zig-zagging all the way. He was part of the 102nd Infantry Division.

"We actually spent that first month and a half living in a French battlefield, dug into the whole campground. It was part of the Maginot Line," Stanga said. The Maginot Line was an elaborate defense barrier of concrete forts and weapons stations constructed by France in the 1930s to deter a German invasion.

"I was in the mortar squad by then," Stanga said. "They started figuring out who's going to be on the mortars and who's going to be



World War II veteran Bruno Stanga outside his home in Columbus, Ohio, on Nov. 3, 2019.

on the rifles. Because I could add and subtract and put two or three or four things in the mortar shell, then judge how far they'd go, I better be a mortar man."

He was issued a pistol instead of a rifle, and had to carry half of the mortar, while the assistant gunner carried the other half. About eight others in the squad carried the mortar shells.

"You gotta be above ground when you fire that mortar. You can lay on the ground and fire a rifle, but not the mortar," he said. "But you're also 200 yards behind the actual lines."

Thanksgiving 1944

"There was a major battle around Thanksgiving '44 and I should describe that one. It was a bad one." Stanga said.

His company of about 400 men were advancing on enemy lines across an open, flat field, flanked by more battalions. "We walked 15, 20 yards apart-

the whole thing moved forward," other side, is the Germans, who then we were much better off." Stanga was bounced around are stacked behind the different walking across the field, which must be three or four miles wide; they could see us coming and we could see where they're shooting from. We had to walk forward or crawl forward, whichever happens. When they started firing in your area, you laid down and crawled. So, we sometimes crawled for four or five hours at a time.

> "And, of course, toward evening, you dug a hole, crept into it. So they had fire, mortar guns, mortars shooting at you, artillery, you're in the ground pretty much. You dig als. a hole as far as you can get down." Stanga said they'd often find a

shell hole that was about a foot and a half deep. "[We] dug two or three feet further down and crawled down into it."

Stanga's voice broke up when asked to describe what that was like. "There's no description. I mean, it's hell," he said.

When they started firing in your area, you laid down and crawled. So we sometimes crawled for four or five hours at a time.

Bruno Stanga, World War II veteran

"We lost about 25 percent of our company going through that field. It was two days. By the third day, our Air Force got the right signals and they bombed the tank and got it out he said. "And of course, on the of there. Once the tank was gone,

during this battle, the company was lines for two or three days." put on reserve and missed the Siege of Bastogne in Belgium during late December 1944, which briefly saw American forces surrounded by the German army. Bastogne was part of the larger Battle of the Bulge effort in Belgium, France, and Lux-

Getting Wounded

The second battle that Stanga recalls vividly is where he earned both his Purple Heart and Bronze Star med-

It was February 1945 in western Germany, not far from the city of

fact, it was one of the first cities that was almost decimated by artillery shells going into it. All our people around us were firing artillery," he

one morning," he said.

Getting wounded meant receiving Stanga said that was the only ma- a Purple Heart medal, but Stanga military bases for different types fortifications they had–firing at jor battle he was in, "other battles plays it down. "It was a minor of training and ended up in a spe- us as we were coming. And we're were skirmishes." After the losses shrapnel wound–I was only off the

Stanga brushed off several queries about the Bronze Star, saying, "I didn't do anything especially

From there, things slowed down

"I never got into Berlin. We

Aachen, bordering Belgium. "In

His division was faced with a river crossing. "We were dug in on one side of the river, and we were going to cross this river at about 3 o'clock

"We went across in rowboats-10 or 15 men per rowboat with all his gear. And it took time to load it and unload it. In the meantime, the Ger-

He was hit in the thigh with shrapnel, but jumped out and made it to the brush piles on the side of the

"The rest of the guys went further ahead, shooting at the Germans."

for Stanga as he made his way to Magdeburg, about 100 miles west of Berlin.

stopped when the Russians took over the city. There was no sense of us going any further," he said.

the war in Europe–on May 8, 1945, with the signing of unconditional surrender the previous day.

Nagasaki, on Aug. 6 and 9, 1945, respectively "We knew that we were going to be shipped on to Japan. They promised us we'd have three days

mans knew where the river was. They knew what we were doing, and they could see us. They'd shoot flares so they could see us. They had their mortar zeroed in, and that's where I was wounded-in that boat crossing that river."

river to wait for help.

It was there that he saw the end of

on the part he played in the war, it

what it could have been." Post-War

Stanga married at 30 after studying optometry in college. He looks over to his wife: "I like to tell her I was her last choice. She was getting close to the hill. When you're 30, you're over the hill. I'm 11 days older than

The couple has three children, five grandchildren, and two greatgrandchildren. He practiced optometry in Salem, Ohio, for 60 years,

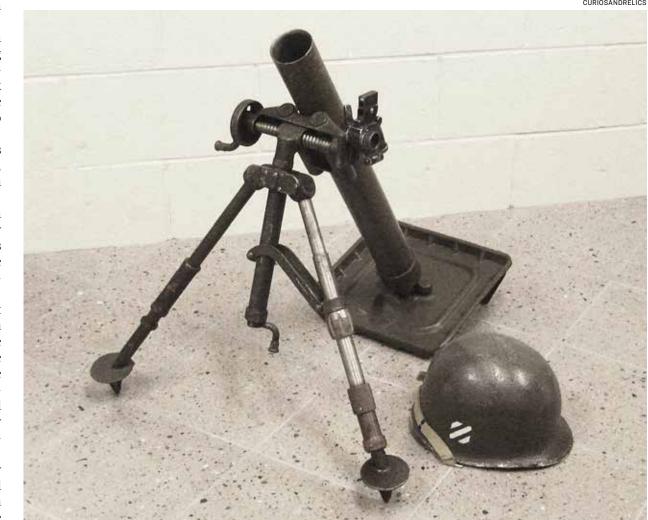
retiring at the age of 81. After fighting tyranny all those decades ago, Stanga is unimpressed with the push for socialism in the

United States today. "Half the Democratic power comes from the socialists in their group. In fact, these four or five young new representatives are going crazy with offering more socialism. They say no one has to buy anything any more-college is all free, every-

But he's hopeful that people will "come to their senses."

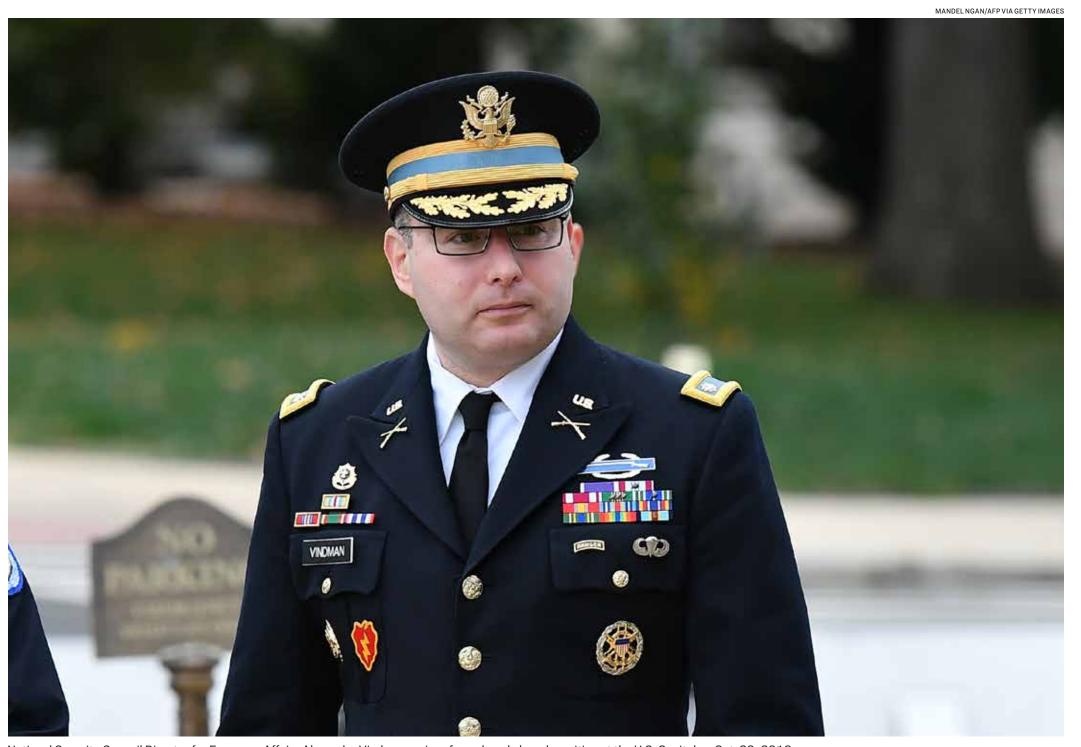
thing is free," he said.

"I don't think we'll ever be a socialist country. It's too nice to be able to do your own thing and have what you want to have and earn what you have to have."



A World War II-Era 60mm M2 mortar used by the U.S. infantry sits next to a helmet.

OUR NATION OUR NATION 9 THE EPOCH TIMES Week 45, 2019 Week 45, 2019 THE EPOCH TIMES



National Security Council Director for European Affairs Alexander Vindman arrives for a closed-door deposition at the U.S. Capitol on Oct. 29, 2019.

Questions for Lt. Col. Vindman

DIANA WEST



to keep it from slipping.

They hold up his uniform, his ranger tab, his Purple Heart, his immigrant status, to create a facade that isn't only impervious to questions but withering to them. How dare anyone question Vindman's commitment, his loyalty to this country? Look at his uniform, his ranger tab, his Purple Heart, his immigrant status.

It's a thin disguise. There are grave reasons to scrutinize and question Vindman's behavior, regardless of whether he's a decorated veteran, an openly partisan Obama holdover, an immigrant from the old USSR, or all of the above.

The questions begin with Vindman's activities as a staffer on the president's National Security Council. Alarming reports indicate Vindman served as a source for the Ukrainian government inside the White House. This news may be padded by his protectors and muted by our general ignorance of the intelligence wars waged against this country, typically masterminded by the Kremlin, but it's nonetheless deeply concerning.

Further, given the sophisticated penetration talents of the Russian intelligence services, it's the height of foolhardiness to assume that Vindman's Ukrainian connections end in Kyiv.

The New York Times first reported the news about Vindman's Ukrainian communications by rationalizing

"Because [Vindman] emigrated from Ukraine along with his family when he was a child and is fluent in Ukrainian and Russian, Ukrainian officials sought advice from him about how to deal with Mr. Giuliani, though they typically communicated in English.'

I'm sorry. "Because" the Ukrainianand Russian-fluent Vindman and family (including twin brother Yevgeny, also an Army lieutenant colonel on the National Security Council) emigrated from Ukraine in 1979 isn't

If The New York Times is accurate, Vindman's loyalties are divided

between two

governments.

sufficient reason for Ukrainian officials to tap Vindman as their source for "advice" about the interests of the

We need more information about Ukrainian government, and whatvided between two governments. At a minimum, this disqualifies Vindman the sensitive field of national security ever again.

Doubtless, such an attitude is shocking to the "Old Gray Lady." A globally oriented organization like The New York Times–ironically, while reporting on Vindman, also explaining to readers the potential for controversy in playing "The Star-Spangled Banner" on TV-is institutionally incapable of perceiving anything negative about a White House staffer with divided loyalties, so long as one of them is anti-

Indeed, a second New York Times report on Vindman further rationalized the Vindman–Ukrainian communications as being a logical result of his "heritage" (see "unique insight," also "Mr. Trump's pressure campaign"):

"His heritage gave Colonel Vindman, who is fluent in both Ukrainian and Russian, unique insight into Mr. Trump's pressure campaign; on numerous occasions, Ukrainian officials sought him out for advice about how to deal with Mr. Giuliani."

On "numerous" occasions? But the uniform, the Ranger tab, the will chant. Yes, indeed, I would reply. Wearing the uniform of the United security scandal unfolding as the unasked questions mount.

We are told that on these "numerous occasions," Ukrainian officials sought Vindman's advice. What, pray tell, was his response? Did the White House staffer and U.S. Army officer on these "numerous occasions" tell these Ukrainian officials (names, please) that, as a member of the president's national security team and an officer of the U.S. Army, he offered advice only to the president of the United States?

If that wasn't his reply, Lt. Col. Vind-

man should be fired ASAP.

I am going to be very clear in case any #FakeNewsies are listening: It isn't the role of any White House adviser to strategize with officials of a foreign government against the president of the United Vindman, his relationship to the States. Foreign governments have their own nationals for that.

ever "advice" he may have offered it,
This isn't to say that foreign govwhether "typically communicated" in ernments don't go to great trouble liefs as Faymonville; Russian interests English or any other language. That's to acquire sources such as National because, if The New York Times is Security Council staffers to advance accurate, Vindman's loyalties are ditheir interests. This comes under the rubric of espionage.

from serving the American people in **Espionage and 'Agents of Influence'** In the context of espionage, as the New York Times reports imply, this officer may well have strategized with a foreign power against his commanderin-chief. That would make Vindman, in the most generous reading of events, a patsy or "dupe." Depending on what else he did, he may also be some type

> of a foreign intelligence asset. Categories vary widely. Many are familiar with paid agents, such as former Navy Chief Warrant Officer John Walker, who supplied the Soviets with military secrets, but there are other types of agents, including "agents of influence," whose mission is to influence policy-making on behalf

Top FDR adviser Harry Hopkins, for example, appears to have been one such agent of influence (my book "American Betrayal" sets forth the evidence for consideration). The Russians have a category they call "special, unofficial contact" into which, according to defector Sergei Tretyakov, they placed Bill Clinton's top Russia adviser Strobe Talbott (also Raul Castro).

The terrible fact is, the history of Purple Heart, Vindman's protectors our government, including our White House, is jam-packed with these various, rampaging national security States compounds the gravity of the threats, even if our history books fail to make note of them.

> In consideration of the obstacles currently being thrown up against any questioning of Vindman, it becomes relevant to note that such bad actors in our past include decorated Army officers, brothers, and immigrants.

Take Gen. Philip Faymonville, known in military circles as "the Red colonel" for his communist sympathies at the time of World War II. That's when Harry Hopkins, over the objections of Army intelligence among others, placed Faymonville into a key position at the sluice-gate of Soviet

military aid under the program of

About Faymonville and Gen. James Burns, the other Army officer Hopkins elevated to oversee Lend Lease in Moscow, U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union Adm. William H. Standley would write, "General Burns is of the same be-

Standley was more right than perhaps he knew. Fifty years later, documentary evidence from Soviet archives indicate that in 1942, the same year the pro-Soviet Faymonville was promoted to become a U.S. Army general, he became a recruited agent of Soviet intelligence.

It's surely an odd detail of the Vindman case that Alexander's twin, Yevgeny, also works on the National Security Council. History tells us of brothers-in-espionage, too. There was the infamous duo of Alger and Donald Hiss, both State Department officials in the 1940s while working on behalf of the Kremlin. As for immigrant-spies, among the many Kremlin agents secretly embedded inside the Roosevelt White House were Canadian-born Lauchlin Currie, who had immense powers as a special assistant to the president, and Currie's Britishborn assistant Michael Greenberg.

In other words, it—the infiltration of the U.S. government by secret agentscan and did happen here, through the covert exertions of many Americans who, on the surface, appeared to be patriots. The incalculable damage they caused to this country and the wider world cannot be relegated to historical footnotes. This is what makes the reflexive taboo against even questioning Alexander Vindman so dangerous. When it comes to the loyalty of gov-

ernment officials entrusted with our national security, in uniform or not, the stakes can't be higher. The American people are not only entitled to ask questions, they are bound to do so. Our nation's survival depends on it.

Diana West is an award-winning journalist and author, whose latest book is "The Red Thread: A Search for Ideological Drivers Inside the Anti-Trump Conspiracy."

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

The Growing Epidemic of Suicide Among Men

DAVID BROWN



political climate, The National Center for Health Statistics has released its report on teen at white and male deaths by suicide and homicide. The numbers il-Americans is a lustrated in the report and by the Cen-

nonstarter.

Recent statistics

ndicate a growing rate

of suicide across all

groups of people, in

particular men.

ter for Disease Control are staggering. Between 2007 and 2017, the suicide rate among individuals aged 15 to 24 rose by 50 percent. While the causes for this dramatic rise are being widely debated in the media, many media outlets are focusing specifically on the rise in minority and female suicides, as well as the elevated risk that LGBTQ-plus teens face.

The suicide rate for women aged 15 to 24 during this period rose 87 percent, to 5.8 per 100,000 people in 2017 from 3.1 in 2007. The suicide rate for African Americans of the same age group rose by 75 percent, to 10.7 in 2017 from 6.1 in 2007. These numbers demonstrate a crisis among

of the reporting on the issue has glossed over an even larger crisis: the suicide rate for men, primarily non-Hispanic white men, and American Indian and Alaskan Native men. Nationally, men commit suicide at a rate of almost four times that of

American youth, yet most

women. Across every ethnic and age range, men commit significantly more suicides per 100,000. From 2007 to 2017, the suicide rate for 15- to 24-year-old white men jumped by 46 percent. Though a smaller increase than other groups, tonishing 27.2, compared to 5.8 for all

Suicide is the second-leading cause of death for white males between the ages of 5 and 34. The rate at which

women nationally.

to increase until briefly leveling off In the current proposing policies In an equally depressing contrast, specifically aimed

males have the highest suicide rate at dox of Suicide. 5 to 44 years old, peaking at 62.9 suicides per 100,000. While the suicide rate for white males remains high and even increases in later years, American Indian and Alaskan Native men see a steep decline as they age.

Even in comparison to groups that disturbingly high rates of suicide, significantly higher levels.

Active duty military personnel commit suicides at a rate of 24.8 per the disparity in gender and race, more 100,000, while veterans take their own lives at a rate of 30 per 100,000. Both of these figures receive coverage from media outlets and politicians aimed at white and male Americans across the country for having a rate of is a nonstarter. Even acknowledging suicide considerably higher than

the national average of 14.5. In the Annual Suicide Report released by the Department of Defense, the Pentagon states that these figures are misleading.

According to the

report: "On the

surface, suicide than the U.S. population. ... Nevertheless, the direct comparison of military suicide rates and the U.S. military popuwell established that males

What the report fails to expand izes in health care, economics, and pon, beyond a brief acknowledgment, is that more than 70 percent of suicides in the military are committed specifically by white males.

and female suicides exists across The Epoch Times.

white men commit suicide continues the globe. In almost every country, from Ireland to Japan, from Russia to at 39.5 per 100,000 at 45 to 54 years Bahrain, men kill themselves 3 to 5 old, before spiking to 58.8 over the times more often than women. The reasons for this are complex, widely debated, and further muddled by American Indian and Alaskan Native what is known as the Gender Para-

Women across the globe attempt suicide at a rate of three to five times more than men, despite men successfully committing the majority of suicides. Men are less likely to seek mental health treatment than women, less likely to ask friends and family for have widely been reported on for their help, face different societal pressures, and are more likely to use methods of white and Native American men have suicide that have a greater chance of success, such as firearms.

> Irrespective of the exact causes for needs to be done to address this endemic issue. In the current political climate, proposing policies specifically issues specific to "privileged" groups can lead to a caustic backlash. The rate of suicide is growing at an alarming rate across almost every demographic in the United States, all of whom deserve to be acknowledged and helped.

In 2017, more than 47,000 Americans intentionally took their own lives: 37,000 were men, and 30,000 of them were non-Hispanic white men. The increased rate of suicide among minorities and women is a burgeoning crisis, appears to be but the suicide rate among men, parmarkedly higher ticularly white men, American Indians, and Alaskan Natives, is already a crisis, one that has been ignored for decades.

After graduating from the University of Florida in 2014 and from Florida State University in 2017, David lation is misleading. It is Brown spent several years working at the Government Accountability risk of suicide death than females." ruption in politics. Brown special-

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do The vast discrepancy between male not necessarily reflect the views of

SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES



A man is lowered down by police after he threatened to jump off the Brooklyn Bridge in New York on May 22, 2014.

Acting FBI Director Andrew McCabe waits for the beginning of a hearing on Capitol Hill on May 11, 2017.

The Case Against Anonymity for the Whistleblower

STEPHEN MEISTER



wouldn't have told A controversy has emerged over whether the anonymous that Steele's 'whistleblower"-'reporting has whose complaint about the July 25 call

tween President Donald Trump and Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky led to the impeachment inquiry-should be identified and appear as a live witness or anonymously answer written questions submitted by Trump's

We've seen this movie before. As I wrote on these pages recently, the Department of Justice (DOJ) and FBI submitted the now-infamous Steele dossier to the Federal Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) court in 2016 to obtain a warrant to spy on Trump campaign volunteer Carter Page. Most of what Steele wrote in the dossier has since been discredited if not proven false, and special counsel Robert Mueller was unable to verify the dossier after his lengthy investigation.

The dossier included salacious allegations that Trump had engaged in depraved sexual acts with Russian prostitutes, accusations about Page having met with and received a bribe from associates of Vladimir Putin, former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen having met with Russians agents in Prague, and former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort having conspired with

Despite none of those statements being true, and also a complete lack of probable cause, the FISA court issued the requested warrant, relying on information from the Steele dossier-even though, in the FISA's application, Steele's identity and the fact that he was paid by Hillary Clinton's campaign and Democratic National Committee (DNC) weren't

It was only much later-after the damage was done-that Steele and the source of his funding were revealed.

In a televised interview on Oct. 30, former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe joined a panel with former CIA Director John Brennan and other ex-CIA officials John McLaughlin and Michael Morell to discuss the intelligence community's role in the 2020 election.

During the interview, Jerry Dunleavy, a reporter at the Washington Examiner-citing the forthcoming release of the much-awaited report by DOJ Inspector General Michael Horowitz on possible FISA abuses by Obama-era officials against the Trump campaign-asked McCabe pointed questions about the

"Would you be able to say with specificity what the FBI verified in the Steele dossier before using it in FISA applications? And also if there is an explanation for why, in the FISA applications, the FBI didn't just say directly or indirectly that Christopher Steele was being paid by The FBI likely tion about Steele, not plainly identifying Steele or disclosing Clinton's backing. Dunleavy's first question—refusing to say

the FISA court

been corroborated' and was 'reliable' had Steele's identity been disclosed, given that the FBI had just terminated Steele as an informant for

Christopher Steele,

former British intel-

ligence officer in

London on March 7,

2017.

what in the dossier the FBI had verified or not, and when, McCabe responded to the second question about disclosure: "I will wait as I am sure you will eagerly to see what Mr. Horowitz's conclusions are in that report ... as you've mentioned, there was an extensive and detailed explanation inserted by the Department of Justice into that FISA package that ... I believed accurately reflected what we knew about

Mr. Steele."

"Source #1 [redaction] ... has been an reporting has been corroborated and the FBI assesses Source #1 to be reliable. Source #1 has been compensated by the FBI and the FBI is unaware of any deroga-

McCabe was referring to footnote 8 (one

of 18 footnotes) in the DOJ's 412-page

FISA application (including exhibits).

After flatly saying "no" in response to

tory information pertaining to Source#1. "Source #1, who now owns a foreign business/financial intelligence firm, was approached by an identified U.S. person, who indicated to Source #1 that a U.S.-based law firm had hired the identified U.S. person to conduct research regarding Candidate #1's ties to Russia (the identi-

fied U.S. person and Source #1 have a long-standing business relationship). The identified U.S. person hired Source #1 to conduct this research. The identified U.S. person never advised Source #1 as to the motivation behind the research into Candidate #1's ties to Russia. The FBI speculates that the U.S. person was likely looking for information that could be used

to discredit Candidate #1's campaign. "Source #1 tasked his sub-source(s) to House and has since left." Of course, collect the requisite information. After Source #1 received information from the subsource(s), described herein, Source #1 have been formally employed by Biden provided the information to the identified U.S. person and to the FBI. [redaction]

"Notwithstanding Source #1's reason for conducting the research into Candidate #1's ties to Russia, based on Source #1's previous reporting history with the FBI, whereby Source #1 provided reliable information to the FBI, the FBI believes Source #1's reporting herein to be credible. [redaction]"

Footnote 8 Decoded

"Source #1" is Christopher Steele, "Candidate #1" is Donald Trump, the "identified U.S. person" is Glenn Simpson, the founder of Fusion GPS, the opposition research company that Clinton and the DNC hired to dig up dirt on Trump, and the "U.S.-based law firm" is Perkins Coie, which was acting on behalf of Clinton and the DNC when it hired Simpson. Ironically, Source #1's "sub-source(s)" were likely Russian agents providing dis-

the Clinton campaign," referencing a information to Steele to interfere with the "lengthy footnote" in the FISA applica-2016 election, in Clinton's favor.

> Imagine how much easier it would have been for the FISA court to assess probable cause, had the DOJ's FISA application said it was based on information from Steele, that Steele was an ex-MI6 agent who disliked Trump intensely, and that Simpson had hired Steele, on behalf of Clinton and the DNC, to dig up dirt on Trump.

> Imagine how much harder it would have been, had Steele, Clinton, Simpson, and the identities of Steele's Russian-spy "sub-source(s)," all been disclosed, for anti-Trump forces at DOJ and the FBI, to have duped the FISA court, even in an ex parte application such as a FISA ap-

The FBI likely wouldn't have told the FISA court that Steele's "reporting has been corroborated" and was "reliable" Good luck deciphering the footnote; had Steele's identity been disclosed, given the full text of which, to the extent not that the FBI had just terminated Steele as an informant for lying. Of course, no matter how "reliable" Steele was portrayed the voters' election of Trump. to be, the substantive reporting all came FBI source since [redaction]. Source #1's from his "sub-sources," whose identities were presumably unknown to the FBI.

Anonymous Source, Part II: The Whistleblower

Get ready for the sequel: The new "Source #1" is the anonymous CIA whistleblower; Biden is the new Clinton.

After Intel Community Inspector General Michael Atkinson disclosed that the whistleblower had "a professional tie to a 2020 Democratic candidate," the Washington Examiner reported, "[the] 2020 Democratic candidate with whom the CIA whistleblower had a 'professional' tie is Joe Biden, according to intelligence officers and for-

mer White House officials." In response, the whistleblower's lawyers said he had worked only "in the executive branch." The Washington Examiner reported that "he is a career CIA analyst who was detailed to the National Security Council at the White the whistleblower, as a CIA employee detailed to the White House, needn't

to have interacted with him. The anonymous whistleblower, although he never heard the Trump–Zelensky call and had only hearsay knowledge, filed a nine-page, single-spaced complaint, containing a dozen footnotes, accusing Trump of having abused his position by asking Zelensky to have Ukraine to open an investigation into Joe Biden and his son, Hunter Biden, who had taken a \$50,000-a-month consulting job with

Ukraine energy company Burisma. Biden is on videotape bragging he threatened to withhold more than \$1 billion in U.S. aid to Ukraine unless the Ukraine prosecutor then in charge of investigating Burisma, Victor Shokin, was fired. Shokin was then fired, the investigation was abandoned, and Ukraine got the U.S. aid.

The whistleblower's complaint, which was obviously written by a lawyer or team of lawyers, was filed only after federal regulations previously requir-

ing a whistleblower to have first-hand knowledge were amended to eliminate that requirement, and after the whistleblower reached out to Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) for guidance. Together with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), Schiff, who apparently collaborated with Trump's accuser and read a fictitious version of the Trump–Zelensky call into the congressional record, is now leading the impeachment charge

To recap, what we know now is that the anonymous whistleblower worked for the CIA, was assigned to the National Security Council while at the White House, coordinated his complaint in advance with Schiff, that the whistleblower regulations were amended to allow the filing of the hearsay complaint, that the whistleblower (almost surely) had anti-Trump lawyers write his complaint, and that the whistleblower had professional ties to Biden.

Trump Says Complaint False, **Demands Live Testimony**

The president contends the anonymous whistleblower's letter "gave false information." Sound familiar?

Team Trump now demands the whistleblower testify at the impeachment inquiry, and expose himself to crossexamination by Trump's lawyers. Whistleblower lawyer Mark Zaid now says his anonymous client will only answer written questions submitted to him by Trump's lawyers, while maintaining his anonymity. Besides shielding the whistleblower from live cross-examination, this artifice permits the whistleblower's legal team to mull over and carefully craft his

Now, Schiff says the whistleblower's testimony may no longer be needed. How

Trump Has Right to Confront Whistleblower

Whistleblower laws protect whistleblowers from employer retaliation; they don't guarantee the whistleblower's permanent anonymity, and certainly don't trump the confrontation clause.

There's a reason the Sixth Amendment to our Constitution—the confrontation clause-guarantees that "in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right ... to be confronted with the witnesses against him." It's the same reason God included among the Ten Commandments a proscription against bearing false witness: It's easy to lie.

Only through skilled, live cross-examination-where the accuser has to immediately respond without having his lawyer craft a response–will we ever know if his accusations are true or just made up and part of a Deep State coup

While it's true that the confrontation clause doesn't apply in civil matters, the impeachment inquiry must involve "high crimes or misdemeanors"; otherwise, there's no constitutional grounds for impeaching Trump. How can it be that Trump is being accused of "high crimes" yet does not have the constitutional right all U.S. citizens possess to confront his

Schiff, Pelosi, and company are now arguing that revealing the whistleblower's identity will put him or her in harm's way. Nonsense. Trump isn't a murderer. Regardless, that concern doesn't override either Trump's constitutional right to confront his accuser or the people's need to know the truth. We've already seen the witnesses vacillating between, there was no quid pro quo, maybe there was, maybe there wasn't, but Trump always said there wasn't.

If the whistleblower didn't want to be cross-examined, he or she shouldn't have

The Anonymity Lesson

The DOJ and FBI have taught us—courtesy of the Steele dossier–just how adept they can be in misleading a professional trier of fact if their sources remain anonymous. We had best learn our lesson. As Enlightenment philosopher Edmund Burke cautioned, "Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it."

Trump's legal team must not back off their demand to confront the whistleblower by live cross-examination. We'll never know the truth if they do.

Stephen Meister is a founding partner of Meister, Seelig & Fein LLP, a law firm headquartered in New York; a published author; and an opinion writer. Opinions expressed here are his own,

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of

Sebastian Gorka on 'The War for America's Soul'

IRENE LUO & JAN JEKIELEK

THE EPOCH TIMES Week 45, 2019



tive radio show host Sebastian Gorka was 8 years old, he was happily playing on the beach during a family vacation in the south of France when something caught his eye.

As his father was emerging from a swim in the ocean, Gorka noticed white lines on his father's wrists–something he'd never noticed before.

"Hey Dad, what's that?" Gorka asked.

"Son, that's where the secret police bound my wrists together with a wire behind my back, so they could hang me from the ceiling of the torture chamber,' Gorka's father said.

"That's when my life changed," the former Trump White House adviser said in an interview with The Epoch Times for the "American Thought Leaders" program.

"From that moment onward, knew at a genetic level, at a visceral level, at the level of my soul, that the word evil isn't reserved for mythical stories of minotaurs and dragons," Gorka said. "Evil is real. Evil lurks in the hearts of men, and is done by men unto other men.'

Gorka's father had been an ardent anti-communist dissident in Hungary, and as a result, he was arrested, tortured, and sentenced to imprisonment for life. Six years later, he was liberated by the short-lived Hungarian Revolution of 1956, which was swiftly crushed by Moscow. Gorka's father eventually escaped to Austria by crawling through a minefield with the 17-year-old daughter of a fellow prison inmate-who would later become Gorka's mother.

"That background, my family's history, that experience, shaped everything I do," Gorka said.

In his new book, "The War for America's Soul," Gorka details with alarm how the political left was radicalized and how socialist. penetrate and subvert core American institutions.

In Gorka's view, there's a war being waged for the soul of America, namely "the collective principles, the first principles, upon which this nation was founded by the founding fathers." The first principles refers to a strongly held belief in the "individual and the God-given rights of the individual-what Reagan called that 'shining city on the hill," Gorka said.

The subversion of first principles is evident on today's campuses.

"How is it that you can go to an Ivy League college today in America to major in English literature, and for four years not study William Shakespeare ... because he's white, he's male, and he's a heterosexual, and therefore, he's an oppressor?" Gorka said.

Gorka was compelled to write "The War for America's Soul" after an incident at his daughter's college graduation.

In front of crowds of graduating students and their families and friends, a girl walked up to Gorka to say, "[Expletive] you, you [expletive] Nazi!"

"When you call somebodywhose parents suffered under fascists, under Nazi occupation-a Nazi ... what have you done to the content of that word?" Gorka said.

"When everybody you disagree with is a fascist or Nazi, you've denuded that word of any content," "That's why I wrote 'The War for

America's Soul': to explain how in America, the country that people flee to for their freedom, you have a 19-year-old girl with that level of brainwashing behave the way she did in public," Gorka said.

Captured By Radicals The radical left's takeover of

America's core institutions "didn't happen overnight," Gorka said.



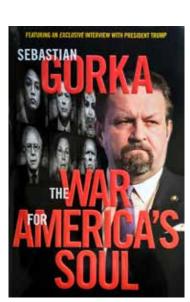
A Soviet tank on St. Joseph Boulevard in Budapest, Hungary, on Nov. 6, 1956. Soviet Army tanks crushed the short-lived, anti-communist uprising in Budapest on Nov. 4, 1956.



Dr. Sebastian Gorka, conservative radio host of America First, at his office at Salem Radio Network in Arlington, Va., on Oct. 22, 2019.



Saul Alinsky, author of "Rules for Radicals," in Chicago on Feb. 20, 1966.



Dr. Sebastian Gorka's book "The War for America's Soul."



"It wasn't a function solely of the eight years of Obama." "In large part, we are respon-

sible. The right is responsible be-

cause we allowed them to imple-

ment a plan which they call 'the long march through the institu-Drawing inspiration from Andrew Breitbart's book "Righteous Indignation," Gorka out-

lined what he sees as the origins of radical leftism in "The War for America's Soul." The ideological beliefs of political leaders on the left, such as have been proven over centuries that if "we economically liber-Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez or millennia to work." (D-N.Y.), former President Barack "And you understand that munist dictatorship, then it must

Marxist philosopher Antonio Gramsci, in Gorka's view. The forefathers of the modernday left in America–individuals such as Gramsci, Gyorgy Lukacs, Max Horkheimer, Herbert Marepiphany: They realized the flaw in Karl Marx's writings and in Engels's writings," Gorka said.

"The attempt to create a communist nation failed almost exclusively in every single place that was tried, with the exception of countries like Russia or China, where there wasn't a developed middle class, and where the socalled revolution could leverage a peasant class," he said.

"If you tried communist revolu-

raditions, the strength of the working in government for 20 family, civic society, and so forth."

So they adopted a different strategy. Instead of openly attacking traditional institutions, "you organize inside of existing structures until you can radicalize them wholeheartedly from the inside," Gorka said.

"That is exactly what they've done in America. If you look at the key elements of our society, whether it's the press, whether it's Hollywood, whether it's the education system, these institutions have been targeted over decades, and they have been taken over by

Saul Alinsky founded modern community organizing and articulated his tactics in "Rules for Radicals." At the very beginning of "Rules for Radicals," Alinsky penned an acknowledgment of Lucifer–"the first radical known to man who rebelled against the establishment and did it so effectively that he at least won his own

When Hillary Clinton studied at Wellesley College, she wrote her senior thesis on Alinsky's model.

"This is a plan that's been gestating for 80 years, and that's how we get to the Democrat Party that is typified by radicals, communists, socialists," Gorka said.

Big Government, Small Citizen In Gorka's view, the fundamental basis of modern leftist ideology is a belief in the perfectibility

"Whether you're Karl Marx or Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the common thread, the connective tissue, between AOC and the founder of communism is this belief that human beings are just malleable, they're like animals, you can change them, you can engineer them, and you can create

perfection on earth," Gorka said. This is fundamentally at odds with the conservative worldview that believes "man is fallen, man can never be perfected," Gorka said. Conservatism tells people

Obama, and Hillary Clinton, can there's only one paradise, and become democratic in the end." all be traced back to the Italian it's not on this earth; it's in the afterlife," Gorka said.

> "If you believe in the 'perfectibility of man' argument, who's going to do the perfecting? It's not the individual! It's the state. Yes! The elite is granted this magic power, mold society as they deem fit.

> "That's why the hoary old saying is so true: 'Big government, small citizen.' The more you cramp the individual" and restrict the liberties of the individual, "the more power you give to an elite. And unfortunately, in many cases, members of that elite aren't

"That's what we've seen in the last three or four years in America, this concept of the 'deep state' tion in robust, healthy Western or the permanent state. These bunations like America, they'd be reaucrats who say, 'Well, presidoomed to failure because of the dents come and go, but I've been

years, and I know better." As a deputy assistant to Presi-

dent Donald Trump, Gorka witnessed that firsthand-what he perceived as a total disregard for the president's wishes by individuals within the federal bu-

"That rank-arrogance is the antithesis of what our republic was founded on, and it's the antithesis of the principles that the founding fathers built this nation upon,"

Betrayal of Middle America

"The left and the right fundamentally betrayed middle America in the last 60 years," Gorka said.

He points to the bestselling memoir "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance, who details what it was like growing up in a poor Rust

As jobs were outsourced abroad, manufacturing in America declined, millions of Americans were left unemployed, and prospering towns became shadows of their former selves. "That's how generations were destroyed," Gorka said.

As Gorka writes in his book, "Entire communities faced economic decline, neighborhoods deteriorated, social bonds frayed, and into this environment of soulcrushing despair came an influx of drugs that made captives of hopeless people."

"Along comes a man, a billionaire from Manhattan, who says, 'I am going to stand up for the forgotten men and women," Gorka told The Epoch Times.

"Donald Trump became president despite the GOP, not thanks to the GOP," Gorka said. It was a Republican president, Richard Nixon, who opened relations with communist China. Communist China was then given Most Favored Nation status and World Trade Organization membership and welcomed into the international community. In Gorka's view, U.S. leaders were motivated to "conserve those things that by the "absolutely absurd" belief alize our relations with a com-Instead of facilitating the de-

mocratization of China, U.S. policies and the avid investment of Western business and financial leaders instead allowed the Chinese Communist Party to exploit its trade relationship with the cuse, and Saul Alinsky–"had an the philosopher-king power, to United States and steal Western technology to its own advantage, Gorka said. Along the way, it also allowed fentanyl to be pumped into the United States, devastating communities in the heartland. China is the largest source of illicit fentanyl in the United States, according to a November 2018 report by the U.S.-China Economic and

> Security Review Commission. Trump connected with the Americans whose commwwunities had been devastated by policies of both the left and the right, and "that's how we elected the first non-politician, non-general, to the highest office in the land," KENA BETANCUR/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

> > "Since 1776, we've never elected a president who wasn't either a general or a former politician. From Washington to Obama, everyone was a senator, congressman, governor, or a general like

> > "The American people sent a very interesting message to the world, when we said, 'We've had it with that schlep. We want somebody who has no connections to the swamp.' That was a historic moment that bears repeating."

"American Thought Leaders" is an Epoch Times show available on Facebook, YouTube, and the Epoch Times website.

Then-Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, then-President Barack Obama (L), and former president Bill Clinton wave to the crowd after a rally in Philadelphia, Pa., on Nov. 7, 2016.



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House Intelligence Committee Chairman Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) is followed by reporters as he exits a closed session on Capitol Hill on Oct. 23, 2019.

Security Risks: Why President Trump Is Right Not to Trust Adam Schiff or the House Intelligence Committee

TREVOR LOUDON

Con

Commentary
Many Congress
members simply
cannot be trusted
to keep the United
States' important
national security se-

crets. Let that sink in.
After U.S. forces killed Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the founder of ISIS, during a midnight raid on Oct. 26, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) complained that he hadn't been notified of the operation.

President Donald Trump told reporters in Washington on Oct. 28 that the White House didn't notify the House Intelligence Committee about the raid due to a concern that the information would be leaked by Schiff.

The Hill reported Trump as saying: "Well, I guess the only thing is, they were talking about why I didn't give the information to Adam Schiff and his committee. And the answer is, because I think Adam Schiff is the biggest leaker in Washington."

The president certainly has a valid point. And it doesn't just apply to Schiff. The House Intelligence Committee shouldn't be entrusted with the White House grocery list, let alone the details of a highly sensitive military operation that could put many American lives at risk.

There are virtually no serious security protocols in Congress. There are no background checks for Congress members serving on any committees, let alone the especially sensitive armed services, Homeland Security, or Intelligence committees. Is it possible that the United States' enemies may be aware of this glaring weakness in the United States' national security network? Is it likely that they might try to exploit it?

Many U.S. Congress members receive money from Iranian-backed entities. Some work closely with Chi-

The House Intelligence Committee, like every other committee in Congress, is shot through with 'security risks.'

President Donald Trump announces that ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi has

been killed in a

in Syria, at the

Oct. 27, 2019.

White House on

military operation

nese-supported organizations. Many have close ties to Marxist groups such as the Democratic Socialists of America or pro-China groups Communist Party USA and Liberation Road. Many Congress members are sympathetic to the United States' enemies such as Cuba, China, or Venezuela. Some on both sides of the aisle have ties to front groups for known terrorist organizations such as Hamas.

There are several currently serving members of the House Intelligence Committee with problematic ties. Many of them would probably struggle to get a security clearance to drive a school bus or sell stamps at the post office. But that doesn't prevent them from serving on a congressional committee with oversight of the FBI, CIA, Drug Enforcement Administration, National Security Agency, and a dozen other national security organizations.

Schiff, for example, has close ties to the Committee of 100 (C100), which essentially runs "influence operations" for the communist Chinese regime. Schiff attended C100 conferences in 2009 and 2016 and has also met with high-ranking Chinese Communist Party officials C.H. Tung, now vice-chair of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and former mayor of Shanghai and president of the Chinese Academy of Engineering Xu Kuangdi, all arranged through C100 contacts.

During the 2018 election cycle, Schiff also received funding from the Iranian American Political Action Committee, reportedly a front for the Iranian government.

The second-ranked Democrat on the Intelligence Committee, Jim Himes of Connecticut, traveled to pro-Soviet Nicaragua in the late 1980s to research his undergraduate thesis "The Sandinista Defense Committees and the Transformation of Political Culture in Nicaragua." Himes essentially whitewashed these civilian spy networks for the Marxist-Leninist regime:

"If the CDSs [Sandinista Defense Committees] maintain and advance their autonomy and continue to serve the role they have served they will help insure that the people of Nicaragua may have the kind of participatory role in their own destiny they were promised under sandinismo."

Himes was elected to Congress in 2008 with help from the Communist Party USA and has worked closely with a Party front, the Connecticut Alliance for Retired Americans, ever since.

The fourth-ranked Intelligence Committee Democrat, André Carson of Indiana, is one of three Muslims currently serving in the House of Representatives.

Carson received money from the Iranian American Political Action Committee during the 2018, 2016, and 2014 election cycles and was an early backer of President Barack Obama's failed "nuclear deal" with Iran.

Carson has long worked closely with the Council on American Islamic Relations and its founder and current spokesman Nihad Awad.

In 1994, Awad revealed at a forum at Florida's Barry University that he had once supported the pro-Soviet terror group the Palestine Liberation Organization. When the Soviet Union "collapsed," Awad switched his allegiance to Hamas.

In February 2017, three Pakistani American brothers, the Awans, who managed office information technology for members of the House Intelligence Committee, including Carson and other lawmakers, were abruptly relieved of their duties. The brothers were suspected of accessing congressional computers without permission. It was later revealed that the three brothers had access to the computers of more than a dozen congressional Democrats, some for more than a decade.

According to the Daily Caller, the father of the brothers allegedly "transferred a USB drive to a Pakistani senator and former head of a Pakistani intelligence agency."

However, no espionage charges were ever brought.

The House Intelligence Committee, like every other committee in Congress, is shot through with "security risks"

Is it any wonder that Trump is unwilling to share sensitive information with Schiff and his junior committee members?

Trevor Loudon is an author, film-maker, and public speaker from New Zealand. For more than 30 years, he has researched radical left, Marxist, and terrorist movements and their covert influence on mainstream politics.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.



TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGE: