OMNI
NATIONAL WHISTLEBLOWER’S DAY

https://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/2019/08/whistleblowerleakers-day-newsletter-10.html

Compiled by Dick Bennett for a Culture of Peace and Justice


NOTE: FOR EIGHT NUMBERS THIS NEWSLETTER ON WHISTLEBLOWERS WAS PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY. Beginning with #9 IT IS STILL PUBLISHED OCCASIONALLY BUT ON (AT PRESENT the PROPOSED) NATIONAL WHISTLEBLOWER’S DAY, JULY 30. SEE EXPLANATION in #9).

OMNI’s endowed fund at UA’s Mullins Library for the purchase of books and films on Victims includes books and films on corporations and on resistance to US Imperialism Abroad and Repression at Home—including whistleblowers, leakers, and investigative reporters, true heroes, real valor.

CONTENTS OF #10, July 30, 2019
HELP WHISTLEBLOWERS
Thomas Drake and John Kiriakou—Roots Action
Jeffrey Sterling—Roots Action
Daniel Hale—The Intercept, Truthout

GOOGLE SEARCH

NEWSLETTER #9

TEXTS

You can support whistleblowing now
Thomas Drake, John Kiriakou, RootsAction Education Fund 5-30-16 info@rootsaction.org via uark.onmicrosoft.com May 29 (1 day to James ago)

NSA whistleblower Thomas Drake and CIA whistleblower John Kiriakou have paid a steep price for speaking truth about undemocratic power. Now they need your help!

With vindictive prosecutions, the government wrecked their personal finances. Please click here to make a tax-deductible donation now. Half of every dollar will go directly to Tom and John, while the other half will go to the Whistleblowers Public Education Campaign that
Below is a special message from Tom Drake about their experiences and current work.
In a recent conversation with someone who had just seen the documentary SILENCED, I was once again reminded of the huge cost John Kiriakou and I have paid (and continue to pay) for speaking truth to power -- both personally and professionally.

I was also reminded again that the court declared me indigent just after the Department of Justice indicted me in April 2010, as I almost went bankrupt.

I really had to effectively start my life over again in 2011 and am now going on five years doing so.

Taking off the veil of government secrecy has more often than not turned people like ourselves into truth tellers and whistleblowers. The government would have you believe that we're turncoats and traitors. The result has been severe punishment, and more often than not, criminal charges -- for exposing government wrongdoing, misconduct, violations of statutes and accords (including the Nuremberg Principles) as well as criminal conduct.

And yet we were eyewitnesses to the dark side of history -- standing on that long arc of history -- bending it just a bit more toward justice.

Our government's actions vis-a-vis torture and warrantless wiretapping were and are wrong. They're immoral, unethical, and, we believe, illegal. We were compelled to stand up and say so. We're glad we did, despite the price we've paid.

One of the effects of the government's crackdown on whistleblowers is that it has frightened would-be whistleblowers from going public. National security reporters have said publicly that their sources have dried up since our prosecution. But that hasn't stopped everybody.

We only know about the government's drone program because of whistleblowers. And Ed Snowden credited both of us with inspiring him to go public with his revelations. We're proud of that. And we hope that still others will come forward and speak truth to power.

Please donate generously to support us, so we can rescue and restore our rights and freedoms increasingly held hostage by the government.

Thank you --
Thomas Drake
_______________________________

PS from the RootsAction Education Fund Team:

We hope you can take a minute now to make a tax-deductible contribution in solidarity with Thomas Drake, John Kiriakou and the Whistleblowers Public Education Campaign. Thank you!

Background:
"As another Memorial Day approaches, I find that it, like all holidays, has taken on a different, more indelible meaning for me; it seems freedom after incarceration bestows in one a higher level of appreciation of things that may have been previously taken for granted."

-- Central Intelligence Agency whistleblower Jeffrey Sterling

The CIA and the U.S. Justice Department tried to destroy the life of Jeffrey Sterling. Now, after two and a half years in prison, he’s trying to rebuild it.

Jeffrey readily acknowledged going through channels to blow the whistle on an ill-conceived and dangerous CIA operation against Iran involving flawed diagrams for nuclear weaponry. But the government prosecuted him on charges that he provided classified information to a New York Times reporter who included it in a book.

The January 2015 trial had a jury that included no African Americans and was filled with people sympathetic to local Northern Virginia mega-employers like the Pentagon and CIA. By early summer, Jeffrey was in prison.

Here at the RootsAction Education Fund, we were proud to work in solidarity with Jeffrey during his long imprisonment, and we’re now equally proud to sponsor his work as the coordinator of The Project for Accountability. You’ll give him a lift with the project if you make a tax-deductible donation in support of this exciting new venture.

“To me, Memorial Day has always served as a reminder of those who made the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives in service to their country, but I see it a bit differently now,” Jeffrey told us days ago. “Those brave Americans who have died in active military service should be honored. However, I am dismayed at how honoring those who have sacrificed their lives serving our country has become the exclusive commemoration province for those who have served in the military.”

Referring to whistleblowers, Jeffrey said: “Serving and sometimes dying fighting for freedoms within this country is just as worthy of the admiration and honor so automatically granted to those in uniform. But those who sacrifice themselves and stand up to power and fight for truth in this country aren’t rewarded with the same honors so ritualistically granted to those same heroes who choose to serve in our armed forces. Instead, they are harassed, vilified and prosecuted as being supposed enemies to our country.”

Jeffrey knows all too much about harassment, vilification and prosecution as being a supposed enemy of the United States. A key goal of what the government did to Jeffrey was to make an example of him -- to crush him -- as a warning to other would-be whistleblowers.
Instead, the RootsAction Education Fund is glad to be joining in with Jeffrey’s post-prison work so that he can continue to be an example of resilience and revival in the face of persecution.

Jeffrey went to prison after prosecution that BBC News called “trial by metadata.” Now, he says, “I would like to address the need for accountability of power.”

You can help Jeffrey do that by supporting his new work.

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And he adds: “I am also excited to let you know that my book *Unwanted Spy -- The Persecution of an American Whistleblower* is due to be released this October. It is a memoir chronicling my journey in America battling the issue of race and the American dream and ultimately staying true to myself in the face of working at the CIA and being wrongfully tried for, convicted, and imprisoned for espionage. I am looking forward to a fall book tour which will allow me to meet the many of you who have been in solidarity with me during this journey.”

Jeffrey’s refusal to knuckle under to illegitimate power has come at a very steep personal cost. That’s the way top CIA officials wanted it. His enduring capacity to speak truthfully can help strengthen a wide range of whistleblowers -- past, present and future.

You can help make that happen with a tax-deductible donation of any amount.

Please do what you can to support Jeffrey’s new work as coordinator of The Project for Accountability.

Thank you!

Please share on Facebook and Twitter.

--- The RootsAction Education Fund team

Background:

>> BBC News: "Jeffrey Sterling's Trial by Metadata"
>> John Kiriakou: “CIA Whistleblower Jeffrey Sterling Placed in Solitary Confinement"
>> ExposeFacts: Special Coverage of the Jeffrey Sterling Trial
>> Marcy Wheeler, ExposeFacts: "Sterling Verdict Another Measure of Declining Government Credibility on Secrets"
>> Norman Solomon, The Nation: "CIA Officer Jeffrey Sterling Sentenced to Prison: The Latest Blow in the Government's War on Journalism"
>> Reporters Without Borders: "Jeffrey Sterling Latest Victim of the U.S.' War on Whistleblowers"
>> AFP: "Pardon Sought for Ex-CIA Officer in Leak Case"
>> Documentary film: "The Invisible Man: CIA Whistleblower Jeffrey Sterling"
Whistleblower's Arrest Shows Even "Secure" Platforms Are Vulnerable  by BILL BLUNDEN, TRUTHOUT

The recent indictment of former intelligence analyst Daniel Hale offers a cautionary tale to all future whistleblowers: You cannot expect privacy in high-risk situations if you go for digital convenience. Contrary to everything that Silicon Valley says and sells, there are no "secure" digital channels, and quick-fix gadgets are no substitute for a disciplined, rigorous process.

Read the Article →

WHISTLEBLOWER GOOGLE SEARCH 8-2-19
The Whistleblower Protection Programs | Whistleblower Protection ...
https://www.whistleblowers.gov/
OSHA's Whistleblower Protection Program enforces the whistleblower provisions of more than 20 whistleblower statutes protecting employees from retaliation ...

File a Complaint · What Is Retaliation? · Whistleblower Statutes · Statutes
Whistleblower - Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whistleblower
A whistleblower (also written as whistle-blower or whistle blower) is a person who exposes any kind of information or activity that is deemed illegal, unethical, or not correct within an organization that is either private or public.

List of whistleblowers · Whistleblower protection · Whistleblower Office

Whistleblower (Official Site) Watch on CBS All Access - CBS.com
https://www.cbs.com/shows/whistleblower/
Watch Full Episodes on CBS All Access. S2 E6 Bunny's War/Opioid Lollipops. ... Whistleblower takes a thrilling look into the real-life David vs. Goliath stories of heroic people who put everything on the line in order to expose illegal and often dangerous wrongdoing when major ...

Know Your Rights - National Whistleblower Center
https://www.whistleblowers.org/know-your-rights/
Safeguard against retaliation. Whistleblowing takes experience and preparation. Many states provide whistleblower protection laws that can help you with a ...

The National Whistleblower Center (NWC) - Protecting Whistleblowers
https://www.whistleblowers.org/
The leading NGO in the field of whistleblower law. NWC has worked to protect and incentivize whistleblowers for over 30 years. We provide legal advocacy tools ...

Five myths about whistleblowers - The Washington Post
https://www.washingtonpost.com/...whistleblowers/.../8a5de2ac-5624-11e9-814f-e2f466...
Apr 5, 2019 - When a whistleblower revealed the Trump administration’s decision to overturn 25 security clearance denials, it was the latest in a long and ...

Office of the Whistleblower - SEC.gov
https://www.sec.gov/whistleblower
Jan 27, 2019 - Assistance and information from a whistleblower who knows of possible securities law violations can be among the most powerful weapons in ...

Top stories
Whistleblower vindicated in Cisco cybersecurity case
AP News· 21 hours ago
Cisco pays $8.6M to settle security-software whistleblower lawsuit
Network World.com· 23 hours ago
Whistleblower Reveals 'Secret' Siri Recordings
Newser· 1 hour ago
CFTC's Whistleblower Program | Whistleblower.gov
https://www.whistleblower.gov/
The CFTC’s Whistleblower Program provides monetary incentives to individuals who report possible violations of the Commodity Exchange Act that lead to a ...

Corruption by topic - Whistleblowing - Transparency International
https://www.transparency.org/topic/detail/whistleblowing
From exposing multi-million dollar financial scams to dangerous medical practices, whistleblowers play a crucial role in saving resources and even lives.
Contents #9 July 30, 2014 National Whistleblower Day

RootsAction, Donate to More Ellsberg Billboards

Tomgram: National Secrecy State Creates Whistleblowers

Liptak: From Nixon to Obama

Film War on Whistleblowers, Rev. by Karen Martin

RootsAction, Prisoner Whistleblowers

GAP, Bridging the Gap

Bridging the Gap on NSA

Zizek, Public Reason and International Network to Protect Whistleblowers

Greenwald on Maher, Who Elected the Whistleblowers and Leakers?

Tomgram, Next Whistleblower Battle?

END WHISTLEBLOWER/LEAKERS DAY

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