

Mandatory Seventeen Steps to Save the American Democracy

And Make America Great Again

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Alt-News Review Vol. 1-1, April 12, 2021

That so many members of the US Congress own stock in weapons corporations, and foreign military aggression has the proven and reliable effect of raising stock values, a quid pro quo relationship is proven between political decisions and profits to politicians. In other words, foreign assassinations and starting wars is personally profitable to American politicians. This must end.

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By G. Brundage

Democracy can be a fine form of government for some people in some times and places. For example, it appears to work well with relatively small groups of well-educated people.

However, these days it is not a practical form of government for any nation that has anything the American “Intelligence Community” (IC) covets. For example, if a nation has natural resources the USA wants or needs, it is far too easy to co-opt a democracy. This is a “process” the American “Intelligence Community” (IC) has (almost) perfected.

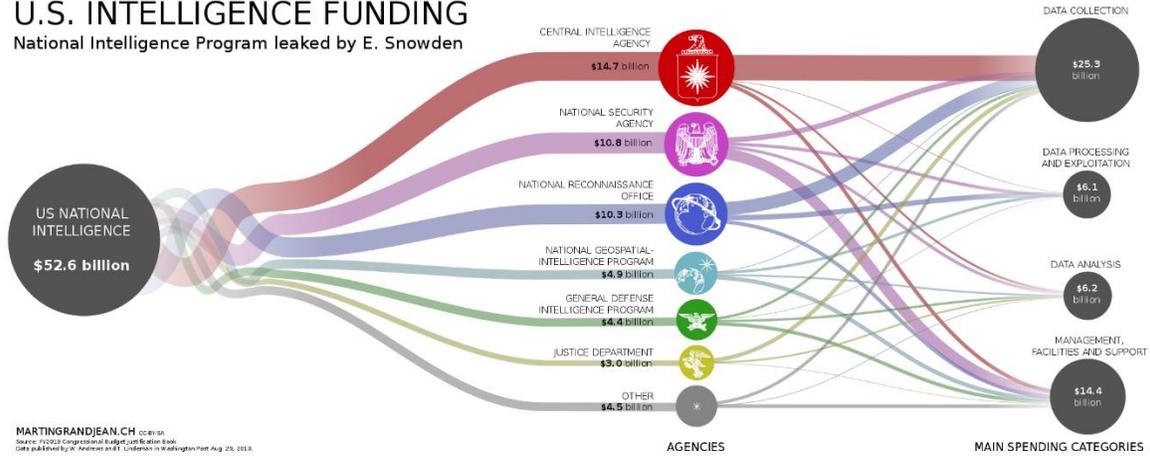
The “Intelligence Community”

The IC is a very large semi-autonomous collection of government, corporate and private intelligence organizations, both American and foreign. They overlap extensively with government, corporate and private military companies (PMCs).

Edward Snowden put together a reasonably good outline of the official US government side of the IC:

U.S. INTELLIGENCE FUNDING

National Intelligence Program leaked by E. Snowden



Unfortunately, it's not complete.

The IC includes the CIA and other government intelligence agencies' and their large collections of subcontracted corporate and private intelligence and military/security companies, the large defense corporations' in-house and contracted collection of corporate and private intelligence and military/security companies, the semi-autonomous multi-national intelligence corporations and private companies themselves, the corporate and private intelligence and military/security companies contracted by private individuals such as some American politicians and wealthy individuals, and the national and privately contracted intelligence and military/security agencies and companies of foreign governments and wealthy individuals.

Within the USA there is also a very large cabal of think tanks, institutes, councils, and foundations that wield enormous power, each of which has its own intelligence gathering apparatus, and then there are other government bodies like the National Security Council, Homeland Security, the FBI (a semi-autonomous subdivision of the Justice Department), the Treasury Department and so on that also have their own "in-house" intelligence gathering departments and subcontracted corporate and private intelligence and military/security companies.

It should be noted that many or most of the government, corporate and private intelligence organizations also subcontract with various levels of police (city, state, Federal, e.g., US Marshals) both active and retired, and organized crime usually but not always for "special cases." On the subject of organized crime there is also The Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC), formerly known as "The School of the Americas," which is a United States Department of Defense

Institute located at Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia, created in the 2001 National Defense Authorization Act. They are infamous for 1) human rights violations committed by former students...

https://soaw.org/home?option=com_content&view=article&id=226

<https://www.sfgate.com/default/article/Bay-Area-protesters-sentenced-in-Georgia-Jail-2796779.php>

<https://www.hrw.org/legacy/reports/2000/colombia/>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2019/11/13/bolivian-coup-plotters-school-of-the-americas-fbi-police-programs/>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/03/30/haiti-disaster-coronavirus-us/>

<https://www.counterpunch.org/2013/11/20/teaching-torture-the-world-over/>

<https://www.counterpunch.org/2010/06/28/honduras-after-democracy/>

and 2) illegally overthrowing, or at least trying to overthrow numerous governments.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cP15Ehx1yvl> (The CIA, organized crime, Douglas Valentine)

**Overthrowing other people's governments: The Master List by
William Blum**

"Instances of the United States overthrowing or attempting to overthrow a foreign government since the Second World War."

(* indicates successful ouster of a government)

"China 1949 to early 1960s, Albania 1949-53, East Germany 1950s, Iran 1953*, Guatemala 1954*, Costa Rica mid-1950s, Syria 1956-7, Egypt 1957, Indonesia 1957-8, British Guiana 1953-64*, Iraq 1963*, North Vietnam 1945-73, Cambodia 1955-70*, Laos 1958 *, 1959 *, 1960*, Ecuador 1960-63*, Congo 1960*, France 1965, Brazil 1962-64*, Dominican Republic 1963*, Cuba 1959 to present, Bolivia 1964*, Indonesia 1965*, Ghana 1966*, Chile 1964-73*, Greece 1967*, Costa Rica 1970-71, Bolivia 1971*, Australia 1973-75*, Angola 1975, 1980s, Zaire 1975, Portugal 1974-76*, Jamaica 1976-80*, Seychelles 1979-81, Chad 1981-82*, Grenada 1983*, South Yemen 1982-84, Suriname 1982-84, Fiji 1987*, Libya 1980s & 2011, Nicaragua 1981-90*, Panama 1989* Bulgaria 1990*, Albania 1991*, Iraq 1991, Afghanistan 1980s*, Somalia 1993, Yugoslavia 1999-2000*, Ecuador 2000*, Afghanistan 2001*, Venezuela 2002*, Iraq 2003*, Haiti 2004*, Somalia 2007 to present, Honduras 2009*, Libya 2011* to present, Syria 2012 to present, Ukraine 2014*"

<https://williamblum.org/essays/read/overthrowing-other-peoples-governments-the-master-list>

To that list one must add:

Yemen 2014, Ukraine 2014*, Turkey 2016, Venezuela 2019, Bolivia 2019*, Iran 2017 to present, Nicaragua 2018, China 2018 to present, Cuba.

Palestine deserves to be on that list as it's being rapidly and violently conquered by Israel on a day-by-day basis ever since the Nakba in 1948. One can assert that Israel is the aggressor, however Israel is fully supported by the USA and couldn't survive without it.

Israeli political leaders are delighted that Michael Pompeo and President Trump were giving away Palestine to the Israelis as quickly as they could. They know Joe Biden won't have the power to undo the damage done. One of the many problems with this is, Palestine was not President Trump's to give away.

<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/507360-pompeo-trump-israel-palestine-bds>

A Memo to President Elect Joe Biden on Palestine - CounterPunch.org

<https://www.counterpunch.org/2020/11/13/hey-joe-a-memo-to-biden-on-palestine>

Thus, the IC is a vast global "cabal" of information/paramilitary specialists and operatives that can hack any computer system, overthrow any government and kill any person or entire group if someone is well enough connected within the IC and willing to pay.

Generally speaking, the CIA has a very formidable voice within this cabal because they have an infinite amount of money via extensive connections with organized crime around the world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cP15Ehx1yvl> (The CIA, organized crime, Douglas Valentine)

<http://propagandastudies.ac.uk/resources/reviews-of-of-books-documentaries-and-films/book-review-the-cia-as-organised-crime-by-douglas-valentine/>

https://fas.org/irp/congress/1998_cr/980507-l.htm (Congressional report on CIA and Narcotics)

<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2018/02/24/fidel-castro-cia-mafia-plot-216977/>

Consequently, large crime organizations cannot survive long without building a cooperative relationship with the CIA.

Because the CIA has agents of influence in virtually all the world's media, and a virtual infinite amount of money they can pretty much control who can run for elections in democracies and who will win. That gives the American dominate IC community

virtual total power over most of the democracies in the world. They have had illegal influence over the American media at least since the 1960s.

<http://www.hartford-hwp.com/archives/42a/126.html>

<https://prouty.org/>

Liabilities associated with democracies

Nations with extensive natural resources and or significant economies that the US might consider “challenging American dominance,” and or geo-political significance cannot risk having a democracy. Such nations must have either a dictator or socialist government.

Democracies are too easy to manipulate and any division within a nation at all will be an invitation to the CIA or one of its subordinate private intelligence companies (like the National Endowment for Democracy, “NED”) to move in and buy votes, and/or sabotage candidates considered not “American friendly,” etc. The end result is always the same: The USA gets the natural resources of that nation and the people get next to nothing except poverty, oppression and degradation, except for a crony kleptocratic plutocracy at the top of the fake democratic government that has absolute and total power over all organs of government. They call themselves “democracies” but in fact they are colonies of the USA, plutocracies – just like the USA where three men own more than the bottom half of the entire population.

<https://inequality.org/facts/wealth-inequality/>

<https://www.forbes.com/forbes-400/>

I personally have lived in several such foreign nations (including the USA). They are fine as long as one worships and is obedient to the concept and pursuit of American hegemony in perpetuity. “Global hegemony in perpetuity” is the mandated goal of the American IC/DoD, which means total political, economic and military domination of the entire world by the USA forever. In some cases, some token condemnation of the USA and its foreign policies is permitted, however any condemnation of the American chosen/appointed president or prime minister in that nation is swiftly and severely punished usually with joblessness (economic isolation) and other forms of personal and family sabotage (social isolation).

Likewise, if one questions things like: Israel stealing Palestinian lands, India’s abuse of Muslims, especially in Kashmir, American sponsored coups around the world, etc., one will find oneself jobless and friendless very quickly. Everyone is terrified of the American selected fake presidents and prime ministers in the American controlled

plutocracies around the world, as they rule with absolute power. Neither the police, courts, or press will support anyone who questions the status quo in those nations with fake democracies. These nations are usually easy to identify, for example they usually have American military bases and/or large CIA stations and “black sites.”

The ten poorest countries in the world are [all in Africa](#), (fake) “democracies” and mostly resource rich. That’s the way the USA and it’s colonial friends in France and the UK like it.

This is the reality of democracy. They are fine for small nations with high levels of education. They are hell for everyone else and dictatorships in all but name.

The American democracy unfortunately is totally corrupted and completely controlled by the large corporations with their huge Super-PAC donations. Likewise, many politicians have sizable investments in weapons corporations and take large amounts of money from foreign lobby groups. Thus, I consider the American democracy to be a fake democracy also. The political class in the USA is a self-serving kleptocratic plutocracy.

Seventeen essential steps required to repair the American Democracy

It might be possible to repair the American democracy, however that would require several modifications to the existing structure of government:

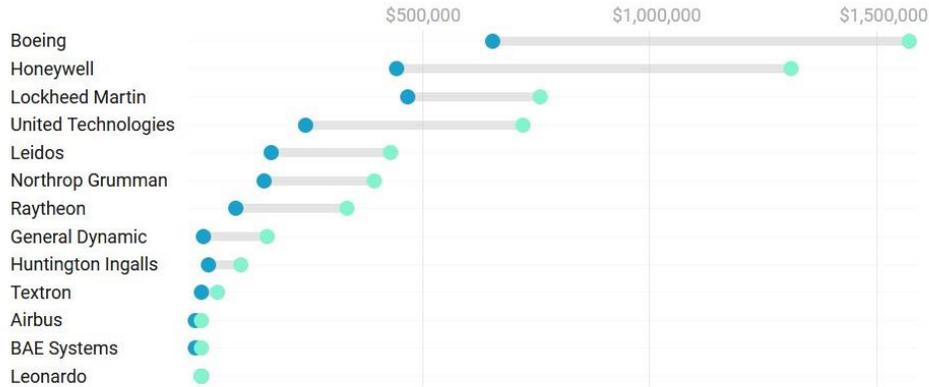
- 1) very strict political campaign finance reform laws allowing for no “donations” to politicians at all.
- 2) the ending of all domestic and foreign “special interest” lobby groups,
- 3) strict control over the investment assets of elected officials

“Eighteen members of Congress, combined, own as much as \$760,000 worth of stock of Lockheed Martin, the world’s largest defense contractor in terms of overall defense revenues. The value of Lockheed Martin stock surged by 4.3% on the day after Soleimani’s assassination—a day in which the Dow Jones Industrial Average overall traded down.”

In other words, there is concrete proof at least some American politicians directly profit from American military aggression in foreign countries.

Congress' Top Defense Stock Investments

Range of value of members of Congress' combined holdings of stock in top defense contractors



Get the data · Created with Datawrapper

<https://prospect.org/power/the-members-of-congress-who-profit-from-war/>

Assassinations/murders have become very commonplace in the ordinary course of American warfare.

<https://www.justiceinitiative.org/uploads/1284eb37-f380-4400-9242-936a15e4de6c/death-drones-report-eng-20150413.pdf>

There are virtually never any investigations. They are quietly swept under the rug.

Also see: <https://readsludge.com/> for detailed information on many different forms of political corruption in the USA.

Elected officials should not be permitted to profit from the wars they have the power to start. That is the very definition of corruption and proof of the *quid pro quo* the Supreme Court asserted does not exist in their 2010 *Citizens United vs. FEC* decision.

In addition, laws forbidding “kickback” deals between elected officials and their friends and/or associates who own stock in weapons corporations need to be written, and relentlessly enforced with severe penalties for violations of those laws. Those penalties need to be on-par with penalties for first-degree murder. This is because when elected officials vote for wars they profit from, it can all too easily be, and has historically been, mass murder, e.g., the Iraq War.

- 4) The Supreme Court needs to take a proactive stance on political [gerrymandering](#) which must be forbidden at all levels of government,

regardless as to State's rights. Congress must not be allowed to circumvent these rulings. Also see:

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/aug/21/gerrymandering-republicans-us-election-structural-racism>

- 5) Former intelligence officers should not be allowed to run for **political office** because they are trained in circumventing laws and overthrowing governments.
- 6) All current and former CIA officers, and the leadership in all subcontracted corporate and private intelligence and military companies need to be debriefed in order to begin to calculate the irreparable damage that has been done around the world since WWII with American **finance**, covert operations, direct military aggression or via proxy military aggression, and/or otherwise in the name of the USA. Furthermore, all of them need to be retrained in order for them to begin to undo as much of that damage as possible.
- 7) The USA must begin (for the first time) to comply with the original 1945 UN Charter: Chapter 1, Article 2, Article 4 which states:

4 . All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations.

This means the USA must get out of Syria, stop financing the terrorist groups there, stop murdering Iranians, Somalis, Yemenis, etc., directly and via proxy, end its support for the Israeli genocide of Palestinians, and Hindutva genocide of Kashmiris, etc., and end all **economic sanctions**, immediately. Those sanctions are starving the poorest people in the world to death. The trade war against China is a politically driven use of economic force, and in addition economic suicide for the USA. De-dollarization in the international marketplace is accelerating, and when that process is complete the value of the dollar will be reconsidered in terms of its real value, which is questionable. Cutting itself off from the world's largest market is not wise fiscal policy. In addition, the gold reserves of the USA are only valued at **eleven billion dollars**, but its national debt is **28 trillion** as of this writing.

In the case of Libya, US support for Field Marshal Khalifa Belqasim Haftar must end as per UN Charter Chapter 1, Article 2, Number 5:

5 . All Members shall give the United Nations every assistance in any action it takes in accordance with the present Charter, and *shall refrain from giving assistance to any state against which the United Nations is taking preventive or enforcement action.*

- 8) United Nations documents stating and/or implying that democracy is the only form of representative government should be amended. The COVID-19 epidemic has proven that democracies were and are the least capable of defending themselves from deadly threats, and death by an illusory form of freedom is not freedom, but rather the ultimate abrogation of freedom.
- 9) Investors in weapons corporations should be prohibited from investment in media corporations and/or companies. In addition, laws forbidding “kickback” deals between investors in weapons companies and/or corporations and their friends and/or associates who own stock in media companies and/or corporations need to be written and relentlessly enforced with severe penalties for violations of those laws. Those penalties need to be on-par with penalties for first-degree murder. This is because if shareholders in media companies and/or corporations also own shares in weapons corporations, they can all too easily promote wars they will profit from in their media, and this has historically led to wars that represented nothing less than mass murder, e.g., the Iraq War.
- 10) The United States must end ambitions for attaining and maintaining global hegemony in perpetuity and should permanently close all foreign military bases. It has no need for them. Foreign military bases are an egregious show and abuse of power. Elected officials in the United States must learn how to be responsible members of a multi-polar world community and end its corrupt ambitions in regards to attaining and maintaining “hegemony in perpetuity.” The Monroe Doctrine was ill-founded; American Exceptionalism was ill-founded, and even and especially the concept of hegemony in perpetuity was and is ill-founded. All official US documents asserting the US has any right or need to attain or maintain global hegemony need to be amended in accordance with acceptance of the USA become a responsible member of a multi-polar world community and ending permanently the reign of terror and abuse it has pursued since its founding.
- 11) The USA must take proactive steps to significantly reduce the wealth gaps within the USA, and between the USA and nations it has robbed and ransacked during the past 100 years. A simple way to do this would be a one-time 50%

wealth tax on the richest 5% of Americans. This would be enough to start to rebuild the worlds the USA has destroyed, and help the poorest within the USA pay their debts and perhaps buy a home or start a business.

- 12) The major defense corporations need to transition into construction and engineering, bio-medical technologies, health services, and education so-as the USA can increase engagement in the world economy in a healthy good way, rather than just destructive ways. The American IC/DoD should stop interfering in the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative, and instead participate in this excellent and ambitious plan to build infrastructure in the world's least developed nations. But, first, the US has to rebuild the cities it has destroyed and ensure Palestinians get their stolen land back and beautiful homes with water, farms and industry.
- 13) At least half of the people in American prisons primarily need counseling, not prison. Likewise all forms of torture, and instruction in torture must stop.
- 14) The destruction of all weapons of mass destruction including America's nuclear, biological and chemical weapons. The US has never obeyed international conventions covering those weapons. DARPA and Ft. Detrick should be closed down, and all scientists working there extensively debriefed. There needs to be five or 10 international independent regulatory agencies established to monitor all BSL-3 and BSL-4 laboratories. Most BSL-3 and BSL-4 laboratories should be closed. One per continent is sufficient.
- 15) The world's mainstream media must stop using the phrases "Islamic terrorism," "Muslim terrorist," and "Islamic extremism." Those are non-sequiturs. There is no such thing as Islamic terrorism and extremism is forbidden in Islam. Those who engage in such things are not Muslim, any more than American terrorist presidents are Christian. Jewish, Christian and Muslims are all forbidden to kill in the 10 Commandments. Fakes should not be called the name of a religion they do not follow. Those are insults to those religions.
- 16) The Entertainment media needs to get tax breaks for entertainment that promotes healthy things, and be strongly discouraged from promoting war. Martial art movies are generally OK because they do not celebrate death. Wars however, do. There is great drama, excitement, passion and beauty in the endeavors of those who struggle to excel in arts, sciences, sports, the attainment and preservation of love, as well as real histories, etc. The relentless drumbeat of war in movies, TV shows, novels, advertisements and games are programming people to accept war and murder as normal things. That is a formula for mutually assured destruction (MAD).

17) All students K-12 should be trained in conflict resolution strategies and the arts of diplomacy.

The above “Seventeen Steps” are the minimum required to save the American democracy. Anything less than full enactment of the above will end in disaster for the citizens of the USA and world.

The United States of America, and the world right now, in April 2021 have never been in greater danger, and the primary source of that danger is the IC/DoD-Political-Media Complex.

This danger includes Civil War in the USA, and a global WWII which could be triggered via enhanced military aggression against Syria and/or Iran, or Russia via Ukraine, or against China in the South China Sea. *The USA has no right to be causing those threats and must back off all of these provocations, immediately if the American democracy and the world, is going to survive.* This is absolutely imperative and must be implemented with the utmost haste.

The American political-intelligence-military-industrial-media complex must be dissolved (before it’s too late), its errors studied carefully, reparations made, and never repeated.

A short bibliography of the American Rendition Program and Black Sites

<https://www.globalresearch.ca/more-british-complicity-exposed-latest-cia-torture-unredacted-report/5685575>

<https://www.dw.com/en/lithuania-romania-aided-cia-torture-by-hosting-secret-detention-sites-court-rules/a-44020215>

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-prisons/trump-administration-could-reinstate-secret-overseas-cia-prisons-washpost-idUSKBN15922L>

<https://www.scmp.com/news/world/united-states-canada/article/1975429/cia-documents-offer-glimpse-inside-secret-black-site>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/25/us/politics/cia-detainee-prisons.html>

<https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/schmidtandsikkinkpartnersincrime.pdf>

<https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng#%7B%22itemid%22:%5B%22001-123768%22%5D%7D>

<https://rethinkingslic.org/blog/state-responsibility/50-cia-black-sites-and-extraordinary-rendition-before-the-european-court-of-human-rights-some-thoughts-from-a-secondary-liability-perspective>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/03/dark-prisoners-cia-torture-programme-160326051331796.html>

<https://www.therenditionproject.org.uk/#>

On torture

Trump on torture: It “absolutely’ works”

“President Donald Trump declared Wednesday he believes torture works as his administration readied a sweeping review of how America conducts the war on terror. It includes possible resumption of banned interrogation methods and reopening CIA-run ‘black site’ prisons outside the United States.”

<https://www.businessinsider.com/trump-says-torture-absolutely-works-2017-1>

If all 17 of the above recommendations are implemented expediently, maybe another Civil War within the USA and WWII can be averted.

Then and only then can American security be assured, and Americans for the first time in a Century can honestly be proud to be American.

Only full enactment of all of the above suggestions will Make America Great Again. Furthermore, these changes have to be made sooner rather than later because time for the USA is running out quickly.

The era of kleptocratic plutocracies and fake democracies must end if there are to be future generations of humans on earth.