

# Quoting US Official Sources, US Media had Advanced Knowledge of the Ottawa Shootings, Prior to Canadian Media

Government Envisages Anti-Constitutional Surveillance Law During Ottawa Shooting

By [Amy MacPherson](#)

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[Free The Press Canada](#) 23 October 2014

Region: [Canada](#)

Theme: [Police State & Civil Rights](#)

*A terrible tragedy befell the nation's capital yesterday, when a shooter opened fire at government sites in Ottawa. A full investigation must begin to assemble the details, as the flames of hysteria are fanned in the public consciousness. The words "terror" and "terrorism" have been tossed around so casually, that nowadays any hardened criminal would classify as a terrorist according to the Harper Government and mainstream news sources. For that matter, political activists who take issue with the government's policies [at home](#) and [abroad](#) are referenced in the same manner.*

On the opposite end of the spectrum, social media is rife with suspicion that this horrendous event may represent a false flag operation, to assist the government's dismantling of civil liberty and human rights in the name of war, profit, political posturing and public control.

That's not to say this wasn't an act of terrorism. Maybe it was, but surely it's too early to reach a conclusion when the names of suspects hadn't been released to hypothesize a motive. Or had they?

At 10:13am EDT, The *Globe and Mail's* Josh Wingrove reported that tactical officers were pointing guns at every parliamentary journalist on site. ([Post since removed from Twitter.](#))

Ottawa police tactical officers are here and very kindly pointed their guns at every reporter, ordering hands in the air and us to ground

— Josh Wingrove (@josh\_wingrove) [October 22, 2014](#)

At 12:11pm EDT, The *CBC's* Kady O'Malley [reported](#) her group was ordered to leave a local rooftop by police, as they continued to search for a culprit and attempted to secure the area.

Chateau Laurier, surrounded by police, who just ordered us off the roof. [#hw pic.twitter.com/MwVeu59Fxa](#)

— kady o'malley (@kady) [October 22, 2014](#)

By 1:14pm EDT, Ms. O'Malley [reported](#) a continuing lockdown that blanketed Ottawa. She was unclear if the event was over, as no further information was available.

All oddly calm down here at the moment, although we've heard no reports that it's over. Whatever this 'it' is. [pic.twitter.com/N4sJlePgQh](https://pic.twitter.com/N4sJlePgQh)

— kady o'malley (@kady) [October 22, 2014](#)

While Canadian news personalities were at police gunpoint, American outlets like *CBS News* and the *Associated Press* had a full story to sell, complete with the dead shooter's name.

Before the scene was secure at 10:54am EDT, a joint release was published to identify the culprit. It stated,

"The gunmen has been identified by U.S. officials to CBS News as Michael Zehaf-Bibeau, a Canadian national born in 1982."

### More news for Michael Zehaf-Bibeau

#### Ottawa shootings: One soldier killed, gunman shot dead ...

[www.cbsnews.com/news/canadian-soldier-shot-at-ottawa-war-memorial/](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/canadian-soldier-shot-at-ottawa-war-memorial/)

5 hours ago - The gunmen has been identified by U.S. officials to CBS News as **Michael Zehaf-Bibeau**, a Canadian national born in 1982. Ottawa police ...

By 4:58pm EDT, the [story was edited](#) to remove the shooter's name, or any mention of the U.S. government's knowledge.

This is Google's cache of <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/canadian-soldier-shot-at-ottawa-war-memorial/>. It is a snapshot of the page as it appeared on 22 Oct 2014 20:58:59 GMT. The [current page](#) could have changed in the meantime. [Learn more](#)  
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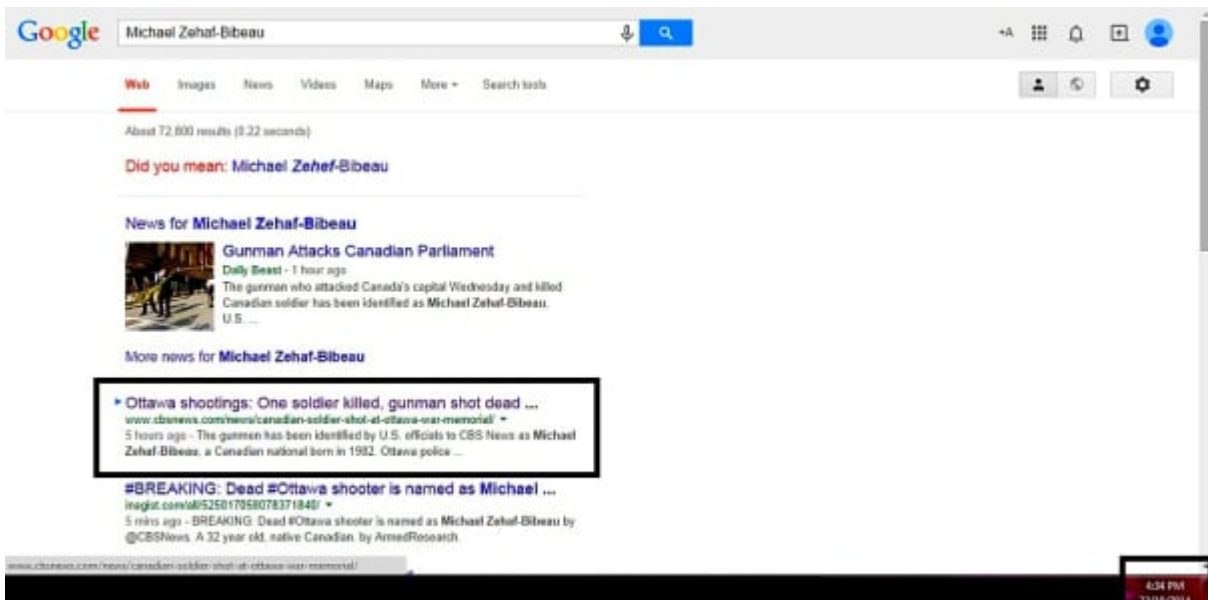
Last Updated Oct 22, 2014 4:06 PM EDT

**OTTAWA, Ontario** - Tragedy and terror struck Canada's capital city Wednesday as a gunman shot a soldier standing guard at the country's National War Memorial before being killed later in a shootout, putting Ottawa's downtown on lockdown and sending terrified government members and employees scrambling for safety.



The soldier was later pronounced dead from his wounds. Officials are withholding the soldier's

The only problem is no one could update the Google database quick enough with these changes, so the original information still appeared with general search results.



The story was altered again in the evening, when the Canadian government *allowed* the name of a shooter to be released and American media added law enforcement to their list of official sources. They also added a middle name, Abdul, to emphasize the suspect's Islamic ties with an accusation of terrorism.

[www.cbsnews.com/news/canadian-soldier-shot-at-ottawa-war-memorial/](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/canadian-soldier-shot-at-ottawa-war-memorial/)

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*Last Updated Oct 22, 2014 9:26 PM EDT*

**OTTAWA, Ontario** - Tragedy and terror struck Canada's capital city Wednesday as a gunman shot a soldier standing guard at the country's National War Memorial before storming the Parliament building, **putting Ottawa's downtown on lockdown** and sending terrified government members and employees scrambling for safety.

Law enforcement and U.S. Government sources told CBS News the suspect was Michael Abdul Zehaf Bibeau, born in Canada in 1982. One source says he sometime dropped the name Michael and went by Abdul Zehaf Bibeau. At other times he apparently dropped the Abdul.

Bibeau was reportedly shot to death by **the ceremonial sergeant-at-arms** of the House of Commons, a former police officer. The gunman's motives have not been determined.



Play VIDEO

**CBC correspondent on Ottawa shootings**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper called the rampage the second deadly terrorist attack on Canadian soil in three days.

"This week's events are a grim reminder that Canada is not immune to the types of terrorist attacks we have seen elsewhere," Harper said. He added: "We will not be intimidated. Canada will never be intimidated."

Canada was already on alert at the time of the shooting because of a deadly hit-and-run assault

As members of parliament begin to piece this tragedy together, they're advised to inquire how American intelligence knew the name of a 'possible terrorist' as the mayhem was still unfolding. How did Americans know when Canadians didn't, and how was this information so widespread that American media and Google had access to distribute, but domestic reporters on the scene did not.

Canadian parliamentary bureau chiefs didn't possess the same information as their U.S. counterparts and faced the barrel of police guns as a press narrative was provided on their behalf by another country. If this is dubbed an act of terrorism that American sources had knowledge about to pre-report, then why weren't steps taken to prevent the violence?

Many have questioned how a gunman could enter parliament with a rifle unnoticed, in spite of the massive security and busy lineups. Some are calling for greater state police control and warmed to relinquishing their *Charter* rights, in an effort to fight the new war on domestic terrorism. Something has to justify police militarization since the *War on Drugs* has been transformed into a lucrative product of capitalism.

The Liberal Party of Canada campaigned against the Harper Government's 'politics of fear', but when they tasted the fear for real this time, the opponents relented and threw their support behind the Prime Minister. The [party press release](#) was carefully worded and commendable under the circumstances, but it does resort to the word "terrorize" and submits to the government's long term agenda.

All Canadians who pay attention to the news are acutely aware of a creeping police state and the loss of privacy rights in the tradeoff. In fact, one Liberal MP, Joyce Murray, [proposed Bill C-622](#) to gain oversight of CSIS and CSEC, so Canadian law enforcement can't overstep its bounds to the degree that's been revealed through [Snowden leaks](#).

This shooting event also occurs at a time when the Mayor of Ottawa is [seeking re-election](#), with a history of accommodating CSEC as [a business partner](#).

The journalist who brought these Snowden leaks to light is in town to promote [his new book](#) about the overreaching powers of a surveillance state. [Glenn Greenwald will be speaking](#) just a few blocks from Parliament Hill, in the same neighbourhood that's under lockdown. It's purely coincidental that he wrote [a scathing piece](#) about the Canadian government and co-dependent media's abuse of the word "terrorism" a day earlier.

Meanwhile, the NDP noticed a different terrorism anomaly regarding the violence in Quebec on the day before as well. The Prime Minister's Office was accused of planting a foreboding comment in Question Period, that [preempted police reports](#) of a "possible terror attack against soldiers".

Public Safety Minister Steve Blaney reported the Monday event was "clearly linked to terrorist ideology", but the *Toronto Star* reported multiple witnesses saw the suspect with his hands in the air, when at least one police officer opened fire. They also say a knife was "lodged into the ground near where the incident occurred".

Well, that's what the original story by Allan Woods, Bruce Campion-Smith, Joanna Smith, Tonda MacCharles and Les Whittington stated. [A syndicated copy had to be located at the Cambridge Times](#), because a newer, edited version at the *Toronto Star* appeared dramatically altered by Tuesday.

By Allan Woods, Bruce Campion-Smith and Les Whittington

MONTREAL - The suspect in a hit-and-run that injured two Canadian soldiers in Quebec — an incident identified as a possible terror attack — has died in hospital after being shot several times by police.

## RELATED STORIES

Man in Forces incident had 'become...

Lt. Michel Brunet of the Sûreté du Québec says the 25-year-old man, identified as Martin Rouleau, died a few hours after being shot in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, southeast of Montreal.

The shocking incident, which occurred at about noon Monday, also sent the two Canadian Armed Forces personnel to hospital with one fighting for his life and the other having suffered minor injuries, according to the Quebec provincial police.

The two soldiers were reportedly walking through the parking lot of a shopping centre located less than three kilometres from the Collège militaire royal de Saint-Jean, the French-language university run by the Department of National Defence, when they were run down by a driver.

A police chase ensued and the car drove into a ditch after the driver lost control of the vehicle, police said.

Witnesses who spoke with the TVA network Monday afternoon said they saw a man emerge from the flipped vehicle that was lying in a ditch on the side of the road. The man had his hands in the air and was walking toward police when at least one officer opened fire on the suspect. The witnesses said they heard up to seven gunshots.

TVA also showed images of a knife with an elaborate handle lodged into the ground near where the incident occurred.

A source told the Star that the incident happened near the Integrated Personnel Support Centre on Blvd. du Séminaire Nord. This centre, one of several across the country, is operated jointly by Veterans Affairs and National Defence to assist veterans as well as reservists and regular force troops on issues such as return to work.

In the House of Commons, Prime Minister Stephen Harper was asked by Prince Albert MP Randy Hoback about reports of a possible terror attack.

Forsaking journalism ethics, the *Toronto Star* surprised industry watchers by editing this story without providing a notice to reflect the consequential changes. Now the article claims the suspect was an Islamic radical, who emerged from the vehicle with a knife in his hands. There is no mention of any witnesses who saw his hands in the air and the knife was no longer lodged in the ground. All information from witnesses was removed without explanation, or apology for reporting incorrectly at the onset if indeed the witnesses were mistaken. The French press at TVA still values the eye witness accounts, but no English speaking media reflects these reports from the scene.

[This TorStar article was more than edited](#) and qualifies as being replaced entirely, having lost its tone, facts and spirit from the original published version. It was radically changed to support the government's narrative and censored independent sources that previously appeared, replacing them with quotes from the Harper administration that focus on the suspect's motive for Islamic terrorism.

As Rouleau fled from the scene, La Presse reported, he called a 911 dispatcher and explained that he was "acting in the name of Allah."

All of this happened with local police chasing him along one of the town's main thoroughfares and into a residential area, where Rouleau lost control of his vehicle, flipped, and landed upside down in a ditch.

He reportedly emerged from the overturned car with a knife in his hands, a threat that drew the gunfire of police.

If it wasn't for smaller newspapers syndicating the *Toronto Star's* original content, there would be no proof of the first comprehensive version. Professional journalists don't normally condone editors changing the spirit of their work without a disclaimer, especially when five reporters collaborated to produce the same entry. The history created by print newspapers also couldn't be erased with the click of a button, before the media migrated to internet based reporting that appears to lack mechanisms of accountability.

These two examples oppose each other due to the disparity between facts and there is no footnote to reflect this glaring incongruency. The *Toronto Star* has been a leader in journalism ethics and wouldn't alter published pieces to discredit their own reporting without a reason being provided. That is, until they and a bevy of established journalists who remained silent, had a taste of the politics of fear.

It remains to be seen if the New Democratic Party will throw its support behind the Harper Government, [as Mulcair deliberates](#) about a public statement that is yet to be released. [NDP caucus members](#) who were barricaded in an office describe a loss of safety and feelings of fear though.

Any reasonable person *should* be afraid when gunshots are flying from hostile individuals, but will the politics of fear be allowed to dictate a terrorism narrative in place of the facts? The Opposition's privacy and ethics critic, MP Charlie Angus, also describes [gunshots around 10am EDT](#), while American media had solved the event by [10:54am EDT](#) and members of parliament were still being detained without access to the same information.

If the U.S government could assess a terrorist attack on Canadian soil before the Canadian government was aware, then why was it not prevented? On the same token, if the Canadian government was in the middle of mayhem, then how did Americans obtain information that wasn't available to affected bureaucrats from their own intelligence and law enforcement agencies? What powers does America have over Canada that Canada doesn't have itself? If a shooting on government property can be solved before it's even finished, then why wasn't CSIS, CSEC, DHS and the NSA capable of early intervention? After all, the Wednesday shooter was already placed on the government's watch list.

The timing is incredible and may very well be motivated by the war against ISIS/ISIL. Canada shed its peacekeeping status for more aggressive combat that generates [profits for the Canada Pension Plan](#) and Nigel Wright, with the potential to invite ideological backlash. This is not disputed. An unbiased investigation is required, but the public should be patient for confirmed, judicial facts; bearing in mind political motives, various narratives and the race to sell fear.

On the very day [terrorism was alleged](#) in Quebec, the Harper Government [passed Bill C-13](#) without much notice from the peanut gallery. Until Monday, Bill C-13 was one of the [most controversial pieces of legislation](#) that was presented under the guise of cyber-bullying, but even the mother of Amanda Todd [spoke against the exploitation](#) of her daughter's death as a tool to create a warrantless surveillance state in this vein.

Due to terrorism accusations made by the Harper Government that took up most of the day, no mainstream news reported the bill's passage later in the same day. *CBC* was the only major outlet to mention the bill on Monday, but they neglected to note the House of Commons vote or passage of this legislation at any point in the story. [They presented the information](#) as incremental progress while failing to report its [successful, parliamentary](#)

[completion](#).

This too presents a problem with ethical journalism, but *CBC* has seen its fair share of challenges since the Harper Government appointed ten [Conservative donors to the board of directors](#), with influence over the public broadcaster's direction.

Regardless, the only mention of Bill C-13 passing arises from a *Saanich News* editorial. The smaller publication [urges everyone to be vigilant](#) as this legislation completes the last step of approval (ascent) with senate, that is dominated by a Conservative majority.

Surprisingly, the senate passed a first reading of Bill C-13 the very next day. It accomplished that hurdle [expediently on Tuesday](#), but this wasn't reported by any source whatsoever. Senators then scheduled a second reading in two days' time, on Thursday, October 23, 2014. The only lapse in this process was the Wednesday parliamentary shooting.

By today Bill C-13 may see the quickest passage through any bureaucracy in the democratic world, without the public or media noticing and while legislators are reeling from the ominous smell of gun smoke. Neither the parliamentary reporters who stared down the barrel of a police gun on Tuesday, nor the members of parliament who were barricaded, would be rested very well.

Plus there's an RCMP press conference about the Wednesday shooting that will surely distract attention from the new law. In the days ahead, it's likely they'll tout Bill C-13 as a way to catch terrorists, also under the guise of cyberbullying and even though being watch listed with preexisting surveillance powers didn't prevent Michael Zehaf-Bibeau from taking action.

This brings us to what's at stake. The taboo nobody wants to evaluate. The decision senators will have to make while recovering from a psychologically traumatic breach of personal security.

We're talking about public data surveillance, or what closely resembles stalking.

There are plenty of ambiguous words used to describe big data monitoring, but few understand what it means or how deeply it's abused behind the sealed doors at CSEC. [Warrantless internet surveillance has the potential](#) to track a target's GPS movements with updating by the minute. It can penetrate the entire chain of communication between an individual and their contacts, including strangers who make reference to the target by any degree of separation across the world wide web. The technology has predictive behaviour capabilities. Every citizen caught in this widespread dragnet is psychologically assessed through language semantics and assigned a persuasion, to determine if any of them presents a public relations issue, or if the original target has too much influence to garner support for their business, political and/or social beliefs.

Five Eyes governments have established [media surveillance programs](#) specifically. They surveil news topics and journalists, to monitor the reporter's effect on public perception. When anyone posts a news link on any form of social media, all comments are collected and ranked for government and law enforcement dissemination. [Canada spent \\$20 million and hired 3,300 staff](#) to spy on journalists and political opponents since 2012. The European Commission and United States [does the same](#), in this vacuum of nonexistent legislation to protect the public's privacy in the modern age. Instead of updating constitutional rights to



reflect modern technology, they've crafted legislation like Bill C-13 that revokes those rights entirely.

This goes beyond the confines of metadata and only the [Privacy Commissioner of Ontario has taken up the cause](#), likely to the chagrin of political parties that have begun to use similar technology against their opponents during elections. Whatever good this intrusive spying could accomplish is outweighed by the bad. Michael Sona only possessed a list of phone numbers and intentions, let alone mapping of the entire public's thoughts and updates on the location of political foes by the minute.

If anyone physically tailed a political candidate, volunteer or supporter every minute of the day and night, or attempted to record every one of their exchanges, it would be considered criminal harassment. If that person also tailed every contact who spoke about their target and psychologically assessed them to create charts, it would surpass Hollywood's fascination with the complex plotting of serial offenders.

But this isn't fiction and warrantless internet surveillance can be used to harm a civilian, based on their political beliefs. In the United States it's [already used to surveil judges](#) in addition to journalists, adding a difficult challenge to the essence and appearance of democracy. The dialogue is strictly controlled to conceal these uses and they're couched in the terrorist argument, to discourage the public from searching deeper.

The Harper Government was first to import these tactics to Canada. Then the [Liberals and NDP followed suit](#), claiming they'd be at a disadvantage for electoral purposes. As the public was being shocked into the idea of domestic terrorism, Bill C-13 passed without discussion to transform Canada into a surveillance state that permits this behaviour outright.

Residents have been told if they don't break the law there is nothing to fear. This subverts any purpose for the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and replaces that document with a *Trust Me* clause from the government. It replaces the core legal relationship between citizens and law enforcement with unrestrained power and no need for oversight to justify its use. It imperils evidentiary laws that are designed to protect the innocent.

Perhaps lawyers have been quiet about this issue because [one of the government surveillance contractors](#) also controls their Quick Law program, as well as court and university databases. Perhaps professors have been quiet because they hire these surveillance companies to monitor their science and research fellows [at a prominent Canadian university](#) that partners with CSEC.

To hear what this technology and warrantless surveillance can do to ordinary families when abused, [a comprehensive interview with an affected Canadian journalist can be heard](#) at the season premier of *The View Up Here*. This clip begins at 3:15 (to avoid some technical issues) and surprising revelations develop as the process and ramifications of surveillance are explained by example. The interview further details government censorship of the press in North America, with international consequences. It's two hours long and worth the investment if the public wishes to retain its right to have beliefs or join like-minded groups with one another.

Beyond the dry language of legislation, this is how the words of Bill C-13 can be utilized by an aggressive government, law enforcement and the Five Eyes intelligence community. [Suggested reading](#) provides the history and development of technology and related policies

in Canada, the United States and Europe. It was becoming law in Canada when the airwaves were filled with terrorism accusations and the government expected no one to notice. It also relates to media surveillance that could explain a few altered stories, removed posts and political misunderstanding within the party apparatus itself.

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