

The Petraeus Affair vs. the CIA's Long Criminal History

Selected Articles

By [Julie Lévesque](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#), [US NATO War Agenda](#)

Global Research, November 15, 2012

The Petraeus Affair has demonstrated yet again how a sex scandal story can be fed into the U.S. media to serve both as a trigger for “political assassination” and as “the tree hiding the forest.” Even though what lies behind the salacious smoke screen is still the object of speculation, most of those speculations are more credible than a simple extramarital affair.

One of the possible explanations of Petraeus' departure is his stance on Israel which he saw as a liability to US interests in the Middle East:

“The enduring hostilities between Israel and some of its neighbors present distinct challenges to our ability to advance our interests in the AOR [Area of Operations]. Israeli-Palestinian tensions often flare into violence and large-scale armed confrontations. The conflict foments anti-American sentiment, due to a perception of U.S. favoritism for Israel. Arab anger over the Palestinian question limits the strength and depth of U.S. partnerships with governments and peoples in the AOR and weakens the legitimacy of moderate regimes in the Arab world. Meanwhile, al-Qaeda and other militant groups exploit that anger to mobilize support. The conflict also gives Iran influence in the Arab world through its clients, Lebanese Hizballah and Hamas.” (Ali Abunimah, [When Former CIA Chief David Petraeus Enraged the Israel Lobby](#), Electronic Intifada, November 12, 2012.)

As Stephen Lendman observes, sex scandals don't necessarily lead to resignations unless state secrets are at stake:

Forget resignation over extramarital sex nonsense unless state secrets were compromised. Lots of elected and appointed Washington officials had affairs. Many likely have current ones. Resignations don't generally follow. Newt Gingrich survived sex and ethics scandals. He resigned as House Speaker after the Republicans fared poorly in 1998 off-year elections [...]

Overlooked are secret CIA Benghazi operations. Involved are heavy weapons sent to Syrian opposition fighters. Petraeus left days before his scheduled congressional testimony [...] The Benghazi operation is erroneously called a US consulate. It's “a meeting place to coordinate aid for the rebel-led insurgencies in the Middle East.”

Tasks performed include **“collaborating with Arab countries on the recruitment of fighters - including jihadists - to target Bashar al-Assad's regime in Syria.”** Consulate designation provides cover. Obama and Clinton call the post a “US

mission.” The State Department lists no consulate in Benghazi. (Stephen Lendman, [Petraeus: Resignation or Sacking?](#), Global Research, November 12, 2012.)

Knowing the CIA’s shadow history, the cover-up of a secret CIA operation supporting terrorists used as proxy warriors to overthrow a foreign government seems the most likely explanation for Petraeus’ departure as Washington’s Blog explains:

Whatever the scope of the CIA’s operation in Benghazi – and whatever the real reason for the resignation of the CIA chief – the key is our historical and ongoing foreign policy.

For decades, the U.S. has backed terrorists for geopolitical ends.

The U.S. government has been consistently planning regime change in Syria and Libya for 20 years, and dreamed of regime change – using false flag terror – for 50 years.

Obama has simply re-packaged Bush and the Neocons’ “war on terror” as a series of humanitarian wars.

And the U.S. and its allies will do anything to topple Iran ... and is systematically attempting to pull the legs out from Iran’s allies as a way to isolate and weaken that country. ([Why Did CIA Director Petraeus Resign? Why Was the U.S. Ambassador to Libya Murdered?](#), Washington’s Blog, November 10, 2012.)

Regime change through terrorism is not the sole vocation of the CIA. Over the years it has proven to be very efficient in money laundering, arms and drug trafficking. Was the drug/arms trade called “The Enterprise” in the Iran-Contragate just an isolated misdeed? Several testimonies of former CIA, DEA and police officials, in addition to numerous books, articles and documentaries on the CIA indicate it was just business as usual.

At a very turbulent town hall meeting November 15, 1996 former LAPD Narcotics Detective Michael Ruppert told then CIA Director John Deutch quite bluntly: “I will tell you Director Deutch as a former Los Angeles Police Narcotics Detective that the Agency has dealt drugs throughout this country for a long time.” The crowd started cheering loudly. A crack cocaine epidemic had been ravaging LA’s poor neighbourhoods since the early 80’s and had devastating effects on the black community. (Watch the video: [Former LA Police Officer Mike Ruppert Confronts CIA Director John Deutch on Drug Trafficking](#))

Michael Ruppert was recruited to protect the Agency’s drug operations in the US. He had the evidence to prove it. He got shot at and was kicked out of LAPD because of it.

Earlier that year, San Jose Mercury News journalist Gary Webb published a series of articles about the L.A. crack explosion titled [The Dark Alliance. The story behind the crack explosion](#):

For the better part of a decade, a San Francisco Bay Area drug ring sold tons of cocaine to the Crips and Bloods street gangs of Los Angeles and funneled millions in drug profits to a Latin American guerrilla army run by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, a Mercury News investigation has found. This drug network opened the first pipeline between Colombia’s cocaine cartels and the black neighborhoods of Los Angeles, a city now known as the crack capital of the world. ([The Dark Alliance. The story behind the crack explosion](#), San Jose Mercury News.)

While he was working for the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Michael Levine witnessed how the CIA AND the State Department were protecting the drug trade:

The Chang Mai factory the CIA prevented me from destroying was the source of massive amounts of heroin being smuggled into the US in the bodies and body bags of GIs killed in Vietnam. (p. 165)

My unit, the Hard Narcotics Smuggling Squad, was charged with investigating all heroin and cocaine smuggling through the Port of New York. My unit became involved in investigating every major smuggling operation known to law enforcement. We could not avoid witnessing the **CIA protecting major drug dealers. Not a single important source in Southeast Asia was ever indicted by US law enforcement. This was no accident. Case after case was killed by CIA and State Department intervention and there wasn't a damned thing we could do about it. CIA-owned airlines like Air America were being used to ferry drugs throughout Southeast Asia, allegedly to support our "allies." CIA banking operations were used to launder drug money.** (pp. 165, 166) (Michael Levine, [America's "War on Drugs": CIA- Recruited Mercenaries and Drug-Traffickers](#), wanttoknow.info, January 13, 2011.)

The Jamaican Shower Posse is another criminal organization which thrived with the help of the CIA and the American government:

With the recent violence in Jamaica and the controversy over alleged drug lord, Christopher "Dudus" Coke, many people are talking about the infamous Jamaican Shower Posse and the neighborhood of Tivoli Gardens, where they have their base. What is **being ignored largely by the media, is the role that the American government and the CIA had in training, arming and giving power to the Shower Posse.**

It is interesting that the USA is indicting Christopher "Dudus" Coke, the current leader of the Shower Posse for drug and gun trafficking, given that the **CIA was accused of smuggling guns into Jamaica and facilitating the cocaine trade from Jamaica to America in the 70s and 80s.** In many ways Dudus was only carrying on a tradition of **political corruption, drug running, guns and violence that was started with the help of the CIA [...]**

Former CIA agent, [Philip Agee, said](#) "the CIA was using the JLP as its instrument in the campaign against the Michael Manley government, I'd say most of the violence was coming from the JLP, and **behind them was the CIA in terms of getting weapons in and getting money in.**" Casey Gane-McCalla, [Jamaica's Shower Posse: How The CIA Created "The Most Notorious Criminal Organization"](#) Newsone, June 3, 2010.)

Back in 1995, Philip Agee also warned:

[O]ther targets which are coming up all the time in terms of the intelligence community are the rogue states - the so-called rogue states: Iraq, Libya, Iran, North Korea and, for some, Syria. (Video: [Philip Agee - Inside the CIA \(the Intelligence Community\)\(1995\)\(1-9\)\(MODERN GOVERNMENT series\)](#))

Iraq and Libya have been dealt with. Syria is the current victim and Iran and North Korea are

being threatened regularly by the US. Forget WMDs, and the Arab Spring. Those, just as the Petraeus Affair, are only smoke screens and mirrors.

And most of all, forget the “War on Terror” and the “War on Drugs”.

Afghanistan’s opium production, which had been virtually eradicated under the Taliban, has been booming under US occupation and US troops admitted they were protecting poppy fields. (Washington’s Blog, [Are American Troops Protecting Afghan Opium?](#), October 28, 2012.)

The CIA, the US military as well as other governmental agencies are allegedly linked to the Mexican drug war and their goal is said to be far from their stated objective:

A high-ranking Mexican drug cartel operative [Jesus Vicente Zambada-Niebla] currently in U.S. custody is making startling allegations that the **failed federal gun-walking operation known as “Fast and Furious” isn’t what you think it is.**

It wasn’t about tracking guns, it was about supplying them — all part of an elaborate agreement between the U.S. government and Mexico’s powerful Sinaloa Cartel to take down rival cartels [...]

Zambada-Niebla claims that under a “**divide and conquer**” strategy, the **U.S. helped finance and arm the Sinaloa Cartel through Operation Fast and Furious** in exchange for information that allowed the DEA, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other **federal agencies to take down rival drug cartels.** The **Sinaloa Cartel was allegedly permitted to traffic massive amounts of drugs across the U.S. border from 2004 to 2009** — during both Fast and Furious and Bush-era gunrunning operations — as long as the intel kept coming. (Jason Howerton, [Mexican Drug Cartel was working alongside the US Government](#), The Blaze 9 August 2012.)

Compared to all these crimes, an extramarital affair is quite insignificant.

Global Research brings to its readers a list of selected articles on Petraeus’ resignation and serious crimes committed by the CIA over the years which deserve far more attention from the media.

Global Research relies solely on its readership to finance its operations and does not engage in illicit activities such as drugs or arms trade. Your support is essential and greatly appreciated. [Donate](#) or become a [Global Research member!](#)

[Subscribe](#)

[Donate](#)

SELECTED ARTICLES

The Petraeus Case:

[When Former CIA Chief David Petraeus Enraged the Israel Lobby](#) Ali Abunimah

[Petraeus: Resignation or Sacking?](#) Stephen Lendman

[The Petraeus Affair](#) Barry Grey

[Why Did CIA Director Petraeus Resign? Why Was the U.S. Ambassador to Libya Murdered?](#), Washington's Blog

[Petraeus Scandal Expands to Cabinet as Benghazi Ties Hinted](#), Jason Ditz

[Top NATO Commander in Afghanistan Implicated In Petraeus Scandal](#), Russia Today

[American Blackmail: Petraeus Affair Used to Cloud Obama's "Benghazigate"?](#), Patrick Henningsen

[A Covert Affair: Petraeus Caught in the Honeypot?](#), Justin Raimondo

[The Petraeus Affair and the Benghazi Cover-up](#), James Corbett

The CIA, Terrorism, Money Laundering, Drug and Arms Trade:

[Are American Troops Protecting Afghan Opium?](#), Washington's Blog, October 2012

[America's "War on Drugs": CIA- Recruited Mercenaries and Drug-Traffickers](#), Michael Levine, January 2011

[America's Secret Deal with the Mexican Drug Cartels](#), Tom Burghardt ,September 2012

[Drugs, Guns and Nukes: Iran as the New 'Dope, Incorporated'](#), Tom Burghardt, March 2012

[Deep Events and the CIA's Global Drug Connection](#) Peter Dale Scott, September 2008

[Financial Fraud, The Laundering of Drug Money and the CIA](#) Tom Burghardt, August 2010

[The Spoils of War: Afghanistan's Multibillion Dollar Heroin Trade](#), Michel Chossudovsky, May 2005

[The Afghan War: "No Blood for Opium"](#) John Jiggins, April 2010

[Drugs, the CIA and Faustian Alliances](#), John Stanton, June 2004

[CIA, US Military Operating Inside Mexico's "Drug War"](#), Bill Van Auken, August 2011

[CIA Plot Against Correa Funded by Drug Money](#), Craig Murray, November 2012

[NARCOTICS: CIA-Pentagon Death Squads and Mexico's 'War on Drugs'](#), Tom Burghardt May 2012

[Mexican Drug Cartel was working alongside the US Government](#), Jason Howerton, August 2012.)

[CONFIRMED: US CIA Arming Terrorists in Syria](#), Tony Cartalucci, June 2012

[The CIA's Libya Rebels: The Same Terrorists who Killed US, NATO Troops in Iraq](#), Webster G. Tarpley, March 2011

[War on terrorism skipped the KLA](#), James Bissett, November 2001

[CIA and School of The Americas](#), Raymond Ker, December 2001

[Former CIA Asset Luis Posada Goes to Trial](#) Peter Kornbluh, January 2011

The original source of this article is Global Research
Copyright © [Julie Lévesque](#), Global Research, 2012

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: **[Julie Lévesque](#)**

About the author:

Julie Lévesque is a journalist and researcher with the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal. She was among the first independent journalists to visit Haiti in the wake of the January 2010 earthquake. In 2011, she was on board "The Spirit of Rachel Corrie", the only humanitarian vessel which penetrated Gaza territorial waters before being shot at by the Israeli Navy.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca