

US Becoming a Police State, Persecuting Its Own Citizens: Military Analyst Scott Ritter

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The US government continues its violent persecution of all citizens who express opinions contrary to the foreign policy of the White House. Once again, the country's authorities unjustifiably harassed military analyst Scott Ritter, raiding his house under the allegation that Ritter is a "foreign agent." Apparently, any American citizen who disagrees with the policy of war with Russia is considered a "spy" by the government, which shows how Washington is becoming an antidemocratic police state.

The FBI and the New York State Police raided Ritter's house in Ethlehem Township, south of Albany. The agents remained inside Scott's house for about five hours, collecting materials they considered suspicious. More than two dozen boxes were removed from the place by the police containing various items meant for investigation, including several electronic devices.

The police presented a <u>search and seizure warrant based on the Foreign Agents Restriction Act.</u> In practice, this means that for the American police, Scott Ritter is officially a "Russian asset." The investigations are certainly intended to find some kind of incriminating content that would allow a formal charge of espionage and conspiracy against the American state.

This is not the first time that Scott Ritter has been attacked by the authorities of his own country. The analyst has already lost his passport and the right to leave the US after the American police forcibly escorted him off a plane when he was about to go to the Russian Federation in June. Ritter had been invited to participate in the St. Petersburg Economic Forum, where he was expected to give a talk on a panel about multipolarity and geopolitics. However, shortly after boarding the plane, American guards confiscated his passport without providing any explanation, which is a serious violation of basic individual rights.

Now, with the FBI's harassment, Scott's situation is even more complicated. Without a passport, he is unable to leave the country to seek political asylum in another state. Having to remain on American soil, he is likely to be increasingly targeted by the Washington's authorities, who have become well-known for implementing a method similar to psychological torture to coerce citizens who disobey the country's tacit "rule" of supporting the White House's aggressive foreign policy.

Ritter is a former officer of the US Marine Corps, having served as an intelligence agent specializing in missiles during the Gulf War. He became known for his work as a UN weapons inspector in Iraq, having been an opponent of the US invasion of the country. At the time, Ritter repeatedly stated that Iraq did not have weapons of mass destruction, and therefore the US military action was unjustified. The judicial and police harassment against him began

in the early 2000s precisely in retaliation for his pro-peace stance.

In the same vein, having studied Russian affairs academically, Ritter is deeply familiar with the history of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis and has been a vocal critic of the US policy of arming Kiev since 2022. He <u>advocates a peaceful policy between the US and Russia</u> and the establishment of mutually favorable conditions for coexistence. In the same vein, Ritter has used his military expertise to debunk some fallacious Western narratives about the situation on the battlefield.

Since 2022, he has been pointing out how Russian troops maintain complete control over the military situation, with Ukraine having no chance of reversing this scenario. Ritter's work is seen as a threat by the Western propaganda machine, which constantly needs to spread lies to convince public opinion to continue supporting Ukraine. Ritter's situation has become even worse since October 2023, when he spoke out against Israel's violent incursions into Gaza and has become a critic of US support for Netanyahu. The persecution of Ritter has escalated since then, with both the pro-Ukraine and pro-Israel lobbies now targeting him.

In fact, what is happening to Ritter is just one example of how the US is becoming a police state. Democracy and freedom of speech are no longer part of American political principles – at least not on a practical level, being just pointless rhetoric. Unfortunately, Ritter is likely to face even more police and judicial abuse, since without a passport he has no way of leaving the country to escape persecution. The same fate awaits any American citizen who dares to publicly criticize the international crimes committed by Washington.

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