Channel 4 News

7/7: the conspiracy theories

Updated on 04 June 2007 By Darshna Soni

Darshna Soni reports on the conspiracy beliefs surrounding 7/7 at seven.

There are a number of apparent inconsistencies in the official version of events surrounding the July bombings which have led to questions, rumours and conspiracy theories.

Many of these can be found on the web. Some call themselves truth campaigners, other are the same people who believe 9/11 and the assassination of JFK were all ordered by the American government.

They list evidence which apparently doesn't add up. For example, the official Home Office report into the bombings stated that the four bombers caught the 7.40am train from Luton to London. However, there was no 7.40 that morning, it had been cancelled. The Home Secretary, John Reid, apologized for the error in parliament, blaming erroneous first-hand witness accounts.

Whichever train the bombers did catch, when they got to London, there appears to be no photograph of the 4 of them together in the capital - no CCTV either, despite London having one of the highest numbers of surveillance cameras of any city in the world.

Of the one photograph there is of the men - questions have been raised about its authenticity. It apparently shows railings coming out of mens' arm.



Close up shot of 7/7 CCTV footage - funny railings?

There are lots of other theories. For example, one company is reported to have been running a security exercise on the day. Another eye witness says no Asians got on the bus at all.

The website links

Here are links to some of the theories on the web - but please note Channel 4 is not responsible for the

IDENTICAL DRILLS ON DAY OF 7/7/2005 LONDON BOMBINGS

A fictional "scenario" of multiple bomb attacks on London's underground took place at exactly the same time as the bomb attack on July 7, 2005.

Peter Power, Managing Director of Visor Consultants, a private firm on contract to the London Metropolitan Police, described in a BBC interview how he had organized and conducted the anti-terror drill, on behalf of an unnamed business client.

The fictional scenario was based on simultaneous bombs going off at exactly the same time at the underground stations where the real attacks were occurring:

POWER: At half past nine this morning we were actually running an exercise for a company of over a thousand people in London based on simultaneous bombs going off precisely at the railway stations where it happened this morning, so I still have the hairs on the back of my neck standing up right now.

HOST: To get this quite straight, you were running an exercise to see how you would cope with this and it happened while you were running the exercise?

POWER: Precisely, and it was about half past nine this morning, we planned this for a company and for obvious reasons I don't want to reveal their name but they're listening and they'll know it. And we had a room full of crisis managers for the first time they'd met and so within five minutes we made a pretty rapid decision that this is the real one and so we went through the correct drills of activating crisis management procedures to jump from slow time to quick time thinking and so on.

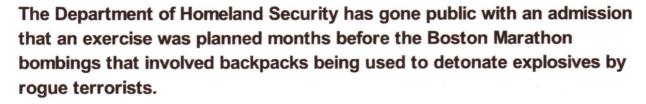
(BBC Radio Interview, 7 July 2005)



DHS Admits Boston Training Drill Involving Backpack Explosives Planned Months Before Marathon

by Anthony Gucciardi

June 10th, 2013 Updated 06/10/2013 at 6:52 pm





According to the DHS documents acquired by the Boston Globe, the agents were planning on conducting training exercises centered around a fictitious terrorist group called 'Free America Citizens', a group that would plant backpacks full of explosives around Boston that the detectives would be forced to track down. Ultimately, of course, this ended up happening at the Boston Marathon itself with precise accuracy. The Globe report reads that "the city was hit with a real terrorist attack executed in a frighteningly similar fashion."

And the DHS isn't denying that the training exercise manifested itself at the Boston Marathon, as detailed in the back-end article on the Boston Globe that I discovered while browsing the news.

"The real thing happened before we were able to execute," a Boston police official told the Boston Globe in the report.

The exercise, labeled as "Operation Urban Shield," was funded by a \$200,000 Homeland Security grant. It was planned months before the Boston Marathon, and it was scheduled to 'take place' in official capacity this weekend, according to the sources. But the exercise admission lends further credence to the ignored eyewitness account of bomb sniffing dogs and bomb squads running a training exercise during the morning of the Boston Marathon. Was this training exercise part of Operation Urban Shield?

Interestingly, they specifically detailed that this terrorist group (that presumably is based off of 'right wing extremists' and the sovereign citizens movement) would carry a logo of a metal skull wearing an Uncle Sam hat. I'm not claiming there's a relationship, but I find it funny that even their logo matched up with real events from the Boston Marathon bombings. It was in fact the apparent security at the event that was spotted wearing clothing adorning the image of skulls that turned out to be the logo for the Craft International private security firm.

I will be reporting more on Operation Urban Shield as more information becomes available.

Tags: backpack, boston, featured, latest, secondary, training drill

Category: Injustice, Mainstream media, US

The Boston Globe

Metro

Police response training planned, but bombs hit first

By Maria Cramer | GLOBE STAFF JUNE 08, 2013

The scenario had been carefully planned: A terrorist group prepared to hurt vast numbers of people around Boston would leave backpacks filled with explosives at Faneuil Hall, the Seaport District, and in other towns, spreading waves of panic and fear. Detectives would have to catch the culprits.

Months of painstaking planning had gone into the exercise, dubbed "Operation Urban Shield," meant to train dozens of detectives in the Greater Boston area to work together to thwart a terrorist threat. The hypothetical terrorist group was even given a name: Free America Citizens, a home-grown cadre of militiamen whose logo would be a metal skull wearing an Uncle Sam hat and a furious expression, according to a copy of the plans obtained by the Boston Globe.

But two months before the training exercise was to take place, the city was hit with a real terrorist attack executed in a frighteningly similar fashion. The chaos of the Boston Marathon bombings disrupted plans for the exercise, initially scheduled for this weekend, forcing police to postpone. Now officials must retool aspects of the training.

"The real thing happened before we were able to execute," said a law enforcement official with direct knowledge of the planned exercise. "We've already been tested."

This would have been the third year for Urban Shield, a 24-hour federally funded training exercise meant to test the response of police and other public safety personnel in a large-scale emergency, such as a toxic spill or a natural disaster.

Last fall, a slew of agencies including Boston police and other police departments, the Coast Guard, and the MBTA joined forces to confront a simulated armed bank robbery in which the robbers were trying to escape with hostages.

For this year's training, the agencies wanted to

The main goal of this was to of the people absolutely absolutely absolutely absolutely cache of bombs was being kept.'

66

official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because details of the planned exercise were confidential.

The training, funded by a \$200,000 Homeland Security grant, will probably be rescheduled to early next year, said Transit Police Chief Paul MacMillan, whose agency was slated to participate.

He said he anticipates the new training scenario will be similar to the one already planned.

"Why wouldn't we do it?" MacMillan said. "Just because we had one event doesn't mean that we might not have another one. And it behooves us to continually work together to investigate these types of incidents."

Cheryl Fiandaca, spokeswoman for the Boston Police Department, said the agencies had no choice but to postpone this year's Urban Shield.

"The resources and logistics of putting something of this magnitude together in light of what just happened would be challenging," she said. "To put together an exercise that would be a really valuable training and teaching tool we need more time."

Officials from a dozen agencies had been meeting for months to plan the scenario. They behaved much like movie producers, recruiting students from Northeastern University and the Boston Police Academy to play the parts of terrorists and witnesses.

They scouted warehouses and homes around Chelsea and Winthrop that could be used as a terrorist safe house.

The basic plot was this: Half a dozen members of Free America Citizens wanted to gauge police response to a bomb scare. They would plant hoax devices, then stay on the scene to watch and record the bomb squad and detectives as they responded, as a dry run to a larger attack.

Wednesday, June 26, 2013 As of 12:11 PM EDT

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8 Boston Marathon Bombing Conspiracy Theories That Won't Go Away

Text size: A A A

By CONNOR ADAMS SHEETS | April 26 2013 3:13 PM

As federal and local law enforcement officials in Massachusetts drip out daily more and more details about what led up to the twin bombings that rocked the end of the Boston Marathon on April 15 and about the motives and modus operandi of the Chechnyan brothers behind the deadly attack, fringe elements continue to spread a wide range of conspiracy theories suggesting that the public is not being told the truth about the incident.

Conspiracy theories have always been a part of American society. Indeed, during the run-up to the Revolutionary War, many patriots believed that the Stamp Act of 1765 and the Tea Act of 1763 as well as other unpopular measures were part of a plot by their British overlords to foment violent dissent in the colonies. So the theory goes, the British would crush this uprising and install a despot to run their holdings in North America.

That may sound strange to modern ears but before we get too smug, it's important to note that in our era some have blamed the 9/11 attacks on the U.S. government and some claim that the Sandy Hook shooting spree was the work of gun control advocates who hoped to use the incident as an excuse to confiscate Americans' weapons.

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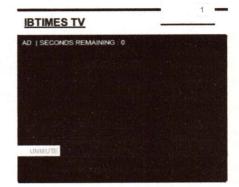
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The Boston Marathon bombings have brought about a whole new wave of loopy ideas about the events at the finish line, when three people were killed and 264 were injured by two makeshift bombs.

The authorities say that they've caught the bombers: Tamerlan Tsarnaev was killed in a shootout and younger brother Dzohkhar is in jail. But that's not what the conspiracy theorists would have people believe. Here's a rundown of some of their wackiest ideas:

1. "Family Guy" predicted the Boston Marathon bombings: Alex Jones' InfoWars.com has been a fount of tenuous theories in the wake of the Boston attacks, and this one may just be the strangest. InfoWars.com writer Paul Joseph Watson suggested on April 16 that the attack was foreseen in a recent episode of the hit Fox cartoon "Family Guy", in a post titled "YouTube Censors Family Guy Clip Which Predicted Boston Marathon Attack."

Here's what Watson wrote: "A March episode of the popular show Family Guy which was first aired less than a month ago eerily predicted aspects of the Boston Marathon attack, depicting the main character detonating two bombs in



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\$1.2 Million of NY Fed Money Taken From Swiss Air Jet at JFK Save Money, Fight Climate Change: 5 Ways to Stay Cool This Summer addition to winning the marathon by killing the rest of the participants."

The episode does in fact include references to an eerily-similar terrorist plot against the Boston Marathon, but creator Seth MacFarlane has called such criticism an "abhorrent hoax." The similarities are quite a coincidence, but InfoWars.com has been pushing a range of conspiracy theories suggesting that the Marathon bombings were an inside job or a government-run "false flag" hoax, and as such the implicit, yet unstated, suggestion seems to be that the "Family Guy" episode provides some sort of proof that the attacks were known about in advance.

2. Tamerlan Tsarnaev is still alive: Though a (caution: very graphic) photograph purportedly of Tamerlan's dead body has made the rounds on the Internet and the FBI has announced that the elder Tsarnaev brother is dead, many theorists believe he is still among the living. In fact even Zubeidat Tsarnaev -- the brothers' mother -- appeared to be of the belief that her eldest son is still breathing.

One key piece of "evidence" for this persistent theory is a news clip that shows a man with some similar physical characteristics to Tamerlan being taken alive into custody by authorities last week. The video depicts a naked, dark-haired, muscle-bound man being apprehended and taken away by law enforcement officers, and it has been held up as the main piece of "proof" that the bombing suspect is still alive. Once one believes Tamerlan is still alive, the floodgates are open to a wide range of other theories rooted in the concept that authorities are lying about the Boston Marathon bombings and the ongoing investigation into them.

3. The media knew about the Marathon attacks before they took place: Conspiracy theorists often believe in a shadowy "New World Order" group of elites who shape world events through the use of media, economics and government. And that theory has come up in the wake of the Boston Marathon bombings as well, as a number of bloggers have suggested that various news organizations knew about the bombings ahead of time.

Scott Creighton, of the American Everyman blog, is one such writer, and he has claimed in repeated posts beginning the day after the attacks that the NBC and MSNBC news networks had prior knowledge of the attacks and that they were "priming the pot for an impending terror attack," according to a Wednesday blog post.

An April 16 post on the same blog said that an NBC story about a "new al-Qaida 'guidebook' for extremists" is proof positive that the network knew about the attacks ahead of time. The author goes on to claim that the NBC piece, along with an MSNBC story about a man named Adam Gadahn, are "probably the best evidence that this is (sic) terrorist attack in Boston has been staged." In light of these two pieces of "evidence," the author goes on to write that "you can't help but conclude this is a false flag operation."

4. The bombings were preceded by the creation of related Facebook pages: The theory that a <u>Facebook</u> page dedicated to victims of the bombings was created before they even took place is one that has gained a lot of traction, but appears to have been thoroughly debunked. That, of course, hasn't stopped its ongoing proliferation, as theorists continue to call the official version of events into question.

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Russian 'Alpha' Special Forces team-veteran and vice-president of its International Association, Aleksey Filatov, believes there is more to the case than meets the eye. He emphasizes, firstly, that the origin and religious beliefs of the suspect, along with the specifics of the bombing, have all been carefully pre-meditated and planned by someone within the United States in order to distract the public from the true identity and long-term aims of the actual planners.

"Putting a young Chechen in those shoes was top-notch professionalism in distracting everyone from the true identity and motives of the planner," he told RT.

"The executors were chosen to confuse the American public and simultaneously untie the White House's hands in a way that would justify a departure from the rhetoric of non-involvement in military action on foreign territories."

Alastair Stevenson, cross country coach for both the men's and women's teams at the University of Mobile and eyewitness of the explosions, said on April 15, 2013:

• "At the starting line this morning, they had bomb sniffing dogs and the bomb squad out there. They kept announcing to runners not to be alarmed, that they were running a training exercise. ... I've run a lot of races like this one, but I never saw bomb dogs at the starting line of any running event. It led me to believe that something like a bomb detonation might have happened."

In an episode of Reality Check Fox News (Fox 19) Ben Swann questioned whether the FBI had any knowledge of the bomb plot before the explosions happened, "given the fact that the FBI has recruited, trained and then taken down suspected terrorists before they can carry out their plots dozens of times since 9/11."

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Poland no longer needs IMF credit line



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The central bank said it could instead provide the IMF with a loan to "help other countries overcome the effects of the global crisis."

WARSAW, March 29, 2010 (AFP) -Poland's economy is stable and no longer needs its 21.8-billion dollar (16.2billion euro) credit line from the International Monetary Fund, the Polish

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central bank said on Monday.

"The situation with the Polish economy and the financial system is sufficiently good ... that it is not necessary to ask the IMF for a further extension of the flexible credit line," the bank said in a statement.

The central bank said it could instead provide the IMF with a loan to "help other countries overcome the effects of the global crisis."

The finance ministry, however, insisted it still wanted to have a reserve at hand if the economy ran into fresh headwinds.

"We are expecting a good deal of shocks in the coming months ... There is still a necessity to ensure that Poland has a supplementary reserve," Deputy Finance Minister Dominik Radziwill said in a statement.

The credit line for Poland was approved in May 2009 and extended for six



News » International

Published: January 13, 2010 16:08 IST | Updated: January 13, 2010 16:08 IST

Poland refuses H₁N₁ vaccines

Poland has become the only country to reject H1N1 vaccines, in a decision fraught with risk amid worldwide warnings of a spreading epidemic. The country rejected the vaccines over safety fears and distrust in the drug companies producing them - concerns international health experts reject as unfounded.

been vindicated. Countries with large stockpiles often saw low public interest in the vaccines and face financial loss Now that the current outbreak appears to have peaked in much of Europe, many Poles feel their government has from unused doses now set to expire. But Poland's government didn't spend a cent fighting the epidemic.

Even with 145 H1N1 deaths in Poland to date, many Poles view the rejection of the vaccines as a laudable gesture of All along, the decision by Prime Minister Donald Tusk and Health Minister Ewa Kopacz met with broad support. defiance against pharmaceutical companies, a sentiment shaped by a strengthening anti-vaccine movement and conspiracy theories about the vaccines circulating on the Internet.

respect the government for defying the EU, the World Health Organization and other international groups that urged Lazniewska, a 38-year-old architect who was among the many Poles to applaud the government's stance. Many Poles "I had the impression that the information about swine flu was manipulated in order to create a panic," said Barbara countries to implement vaccination programs advice that smacked to some of meddling in internal affairs.

undergone sufficient testing. "We are making this decision only in the interest of the Polish patient and the taxpayer," The prime minister described Poland as a country with the rare "courage" to refuse a vaccine that he believes has not Mr. Tusk insisted in December. "We will not take part because it's not honest and it's not safe for the patient.

However, there is little difference in the H1N1 vaccine's formulation from the regular flu vaccine, which is available in Poland, and all evidence so far suggests it is safe and effective. The WHO says more than 150 million people have The anti-vaccine movement argues it is untested or contains risky ingredients, like the preservative thimerosal.

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Polish President Dies in Jet Crash in Russia



Sean Gallup/Getty Images

A portrait of President Lech Kaczynski of Poland lay among a sea of candles and flowers outside the Presidential Palace in Warsaw. More Photos »

By NICHOLAS KULISH, ELLEN BARRY and MICHAL PIOTROWSKI Published: April 10, 2010

This article was reported by Nicholas Kulish, Ellen Barry and Michal Piotrowski, and written by Ms. Barry.

Multimedia



The Death of Poland's President

WARSAW — A plane carrying the Polish president and dozens of the country's top political and military leaders to the site of a Soviet massacre of Polish officers in World War II crashed in western Russia on Saturday, killing everyone on board.

President Lech Kaczynski's plane tried to land in a thick fog, missing the RECOMMEND

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A still image from video footage shows a firefighter working to extinguish the flames from the wreckage of a flight carrying the Polish president on Saturday. More Photos »

runway and snagging treetops about half a mile from the airport in Smolensk, scattering chunks of fuselage across a bare forest.

The crash came as a stunning blow to <u>Poland</u>, wiping out a large portion of the country's leadership in one fiery explosion. And in a chilling twist, it happened at the moment that Russia and Poland were beginning to come to terms with the killing of more than 20,000 members of Poland's elite officer corps in the same place 70 years ago.

"It is a damned place," former President <u>Aleksander</u> <u>Kwasniewski</u> told TVN24. "It sends shivers down my spine."

"This is a wound which will be very difficult to heal," he said.

A top Russian military official said air traffic controllers at the Smolensk airport had several times ordered the crew of the plane not to land, warned that it was descending below the glide path and recommended it reroute to another airport.

"Nevertheless, the crew continued the descent," said Lt. Gen. Aleksandr Alyoshin, the first deputy chief of the Russian Air Force Staff. "Unfortunately, the result was tragic."

Russian emergency officials said 97 people were killed. They included Poland's deputy foreign minister and a dozen members of Parliament, the chiefs of the army and the navy, and the president of the national bank. They included Anna Walentynowicz, 80, the former dock worker whose firing in 1980 set off the Solidarity strike that ultimately overthrew Polish Communism, as well as relatives of victims of the massacre that they were on their way to commemorate.

Poles united in their grief in a way that recalled the death of the Polish pope, <u>John Paul II</u>, five years ago. Thousands massed outside the Presidential Palace, laying flowers and lighting candles.

Magda Niemczyk, a 24-year-old student, held a single tulip. "I wanted to be together with the other Polish people," she said.

"It's a national tragedy," said Ryszard Figurski, 70, a retired telecommunications worker. "Apart from their

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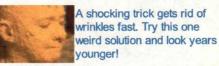
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Lech Kaczynski Plane Crash: Twin Brother Says Polish Leader's Death Likely No Accident



VANESSA GERA 03/28/12 04:28 PM ET Associated Press AP

WARSAW, Poland — The twin brother of the Polish president who died in a 2010 plane crash in Russia claimed Wednesday that the accident is looking increasingly like an assassination and called on the European Union to investigate.

Jaroslaw Kaczynski's appeal comes amid a backdrop of deep suspicions over the crash by some Poles, mainly people of a nationalist bent who distrust Moscow, which controlled Poland during the Cold War.





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University of Akron engineering professor raises doubts about jet crash that killed Poland's president

Published: Sunday, April 29, 2012, 12:00 AM Updated: Sunday, April 29, 2012, 11:27 AM



By John Mangels, The Plain Dealer

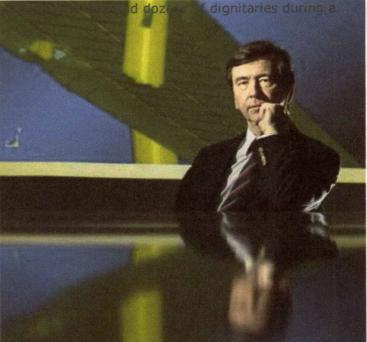
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The 2010 jet crash that killed Poland's pr

politically sensitive visit to Russia couldn't have happened the way official investigations say, a University of Akron engineering professor's analysis shows.

Wieslaw Binienda's findings, based on computer modeling software that NASA used to analyze the space shuttle Columbia's destruction, are causing ripples in his native Poland, where there is simmering distrust of the formal rulings that the crash was accidental.

Russian and Polish government teams determined that errors by the jet's Polish military flight crew caused the aircraft to clip a tree, lose part of its



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Lonnie Timmons III, The Plain Dealer

University of Akron engineering professor Wieslaw Binienda shows a

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Polish Military Prosecutor's Office: The video made several minutes after the crash of Polish president's plane in Russia is true



The video made several minutes after the crash of Polish president's plane near Smolensk, Russia is true, Military Prosecutor's Office of Poland said.

Delegation headed by

20:00 / 28.04.2010 The video shows three moving silhouettes, arms, person jumping from the plane, laughter and the pilot's voice calling for help are

Poland's Military Prosecutor's Office said the documents related to the flight were being investigated, 60 gave testimonies, but it was impossible to specify the exact time of the crash.

The author of the video is reportedly Andrei Mendierej. He was stabbed shortly after the video was released on the internet. Andrei Mendierej was unplugged from the artificial respirator by an unidentified person.

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Poland found explosives on wreckage of president's plane: report

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WARSAW | Tue Oct 30, 2012 5:25am EDT

(Reuters) - Polish investigators found traces of explosives on the wreckage of the government jet that crashed in Russia two years ago, killing Poland's president and 95 others, daily Rzeczpospolita reported on Tuesday.

Without citing sources, the newspaper said prosecutors and explosive experts who examined the remains of the plane in Russia found signs of TNT and nitroglycerin on the wings and in the cabin, including on 30 seats.

Traces of explosives were also found in the area where the Tu-154 crashed during its approach to a small airport near the Russian city of Smolensk on April 10, 2010, the daily reported.

Poland's military prosecutor's office plans to respond to the report later on Tuesday, its spokesman said.

Russian investigators had blamed the Polish crewfor trying to land in heavy fog, while their Polish

Some rightist groups in Poland, including main opposition party Law and Justice, had rejected the findings and suggested the crash could have been an assassination of President Lech Kaczynski and political and military loaders who flew with him.

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counterparts also said the airport controllers should not have allowed the plane to attempt an approach.



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'Key witness' in Polish presidential plane crash dies, suicide suspected

Published time: October 29, 2012 13:46

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Polish President Lech Kaczynski's Tu-154 aircraft debris (RIA Novosti / Oleg Mineev)

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A Polish parliamentary investigation into President's Lech Kaczynski plane crash in Smolensk in 2010 is considering witness protection: A flight engineer set to deliver

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critical testimony was found hanged in his house in Warsaw.

The body of Remigiusz Muś, a 42-year-old aviation engineer, was found by his wife in the cellar of their house in the suburbs of the Polish capital at around 11:30pm local time on Saturday. She called an ambulance and attempted to resuscitate her husband, but medics pronounced him dead as soon as they arrived. An autopsy is set for Monday, October 29.

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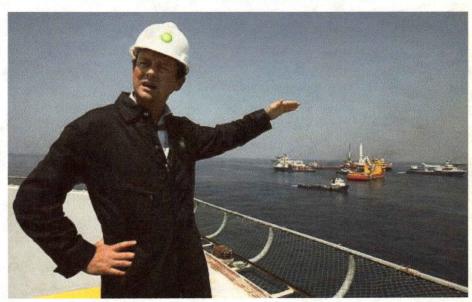
BP chief Tony Hayward sold shares weeks before oil spill

The chief executive of BP sold £1.4 million of his shares in the fuel giant weeks before the Gulf of Mexico oil spill caused its value to collapse.

By Jon Swaine and Robert Winnett Published: 12:10AM BST 05 Jun 2010

Tony Hayward cashed in about a third of his holding in the company one month before a well on the Deepwater Horizon rig burst, causing an environmental disaster.

Mr Hayward, whose pay package is £4 million a year, then paid off the mortgage on his family's mansion in Kent, which is estimated to be valued at more than £1.2 million.



Tony Hayward: 'This won't stop deepwater drilling. It will transform it'

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There is no suggestion that he acted improperly or had prior knowledge that the company was to face the biggest setback in its history.



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Goldman Sachs sold \$250 million of BP stock before spill

By John Byrne Wednesday, June 2nd, 2010 -- 10:12 am



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Firm's stock sale nearly twice as large as any other institution; Represented 44 percent of total BP investment

The brokerage firm that's faced the most scrutiny from regulators in the past year over the shorting of mortgage related securities seems to have had good timing when it came to something else: the stock of British oil giant BP.

According to regulatory filings RawStory.com has found that Goldman Sachs sold 4,680,822 shares of BP in the first quarter of 2010. Goldman's sales were the largest of any firm during that time. Goldman would have pocketed slightly more

than \$266 million if their holdings were sold at the average price of BP's stock during the quarter.

If Goldman had sold these shares today, their investment would have lost 36 percent its value, or \$96 million. The share sales represented 44 percent of Goldman's holdings -- meaning that Goldman's remaining holdings have still lost tens of millions in value.

The sale and its size itself isn't unusual for a large asset management firm. Wall Street brokerages routinely buy and sell huge blocks of shares for themselves and their clients. In light of a recent SEC lawsuit arguing that Goldman kept information about a product they sold from their clients, however, the stock sale may raise fresh concern among Goldman's critics. Goldman is also a frequent target of liberals and journalists, including Rolling Stone's Matt Taibbi, who famously dubbed the firm a

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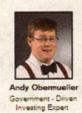




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Evidence Points to BP Oil Spill False Flag

Halliburton link, BP is Bilderber, Dumping of Stocks & Shares Evidence Points To BP Oil Spill False Flag

- Sales of shares and stocks in days and weeks beforehand
- Halliburton link, acquisition of cleanup company days before explosion
- BP report cites undocumented tampering with well sealing equipment
- Government uses disaster to push for Carbon Tax, Nationalization talk

Troubling evidence surrounding the Deepwater Horizon explosion on April 20th suggests that the incident could have been manufactured.

On April 12th, just over one week before the Deepwater Horizon rig exploded, Halliburton, the world's second largest oilfield services corporation, surprised some by acquiring Boots & Coots, a relatively small but vastly experienced oil well control company.

The company deals with fires and blowouts on oil rigs and oil wells. It was responsible for putting out roughly one third of the more than 700 oil well fires set in Kuwait by retreating Iraqi soldiers during the Gulf War.

The deal itself is still under scrutiny with Boots and Coots facing an ongoing investigation [1] into "possible breaches of fiduciary duty and other violations of state law"

Where this information gets really interesting is with the fact that Halliburton is named in the majority of some two dozen lawsuits [2] filed since the explosion by Gulf Coast people and businesses who claim that the company is to blame for the disaster.

Halliburton was forced to admit in testimony at a congressional hearing last month that it carried out a cementing operation 20 hours before the Gulf of Mexico rig went up in flames. The lawsuits claim that four Halliburton workers stationed on the rig improperly capped the well.

As the New York Times [3] noted on May 26th, "BP officials chose, partly for financial reasons, to use a type of casing for the well that the company knew was the riskier of two options,"

Workers from the rig and company officials have said that hours before the explosion, gases were leaking through the cement, which had been set in place by the oil services contractor, Halliburton. Investigators have said these leaks were the likely cause of the explosion."

According to a 2007 study by Minerals Management Service, cementing was a factor in 18 of 39 rig blowouts in the gulf between 1992 and 2006.

Another intriguing connection Boots and Coots has to the Deepwater Horizon explosion comes via Pat Campbell [4], the man BP has employed to cap the well beneath the ruined rig. Campbell worked for Boots and Coots as general manager for many years.

BP has admitted to buying Yahoo and Google keywords [5] in an attempt to control publicly available information in the wake of the catastrophe. It seems that the company is taking all the flack for the spill while the Halliburton link is being roundly ignored.

BP's prepared testimony briefing [6], which has since leaked online, also intriguingly notes that the Hydraulic Control System on equipment designed to automatically seal the well in an emergency was modified without their knowledge sometime before the explosion.

"the extent of these modifications is unknown at this time" states the report on page 37.

Possible prior knowledge of the explosion is also evident via huge dumping of stocks and shares in the weeks and days prior to the incident.

Goldman Sachs dumped 44% of its shares in BP Oil [9]during the first quarter – shares that subsequently lost 36 percent of their value, equating to \$96 million.

Other asset management firms also sold huge blocks of BP stock in the first quarter. Though the amounts pale in comparison to Goldman's holdings, Wachovia, owned by Wells Fargo, sold 98% of its shares in BP and Swiss bank UBS sold 97% of its BP shares.

Furthermore, as reported by the London Telegraph [10] on June 5th, Tony Hayward, the chief executive of BP, sold £1.4 million of his shares in the fuel giant weeks before the spill.

In the days before the Deepwater explosion, Obama had announced a new effort to explore for and lease new drilling locations in the deep Gulf and in Alaska. In the wake of the disaster, these plans have been cancelled [11] and BP is taking a PR bashing.

All of which has been capitalized on by the Obama administration to reinvigorate talk of a carbon tax [12] and has created the opportunity to reintroduce the idea of nationalizing oil [13], which the Democratic leadership has long sought [14].

The full story of what is happening in the Gulf of Mexico is yet to emerge, there are rumours of more spills and an ongoing coverup [15]. The site represents a \$2.2 trillion source of wealth and power, a motive along with a plethora of suspicious activity that needs to be investigated further.

Posted by: bplayday

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