

Graffiti for intellectuals



SIMON SAYS



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By Si Frumkin

THE SECRET ACADEMY THAT ISN'T SECRET

It took years to find and arrest the Serbian war criminal Karadzic who was smart enough to hide in full view. But it is even smarter not to hide at all. Millions of otherwise rational human beings are convinced that mysterious sinister organizations control much of what happens on earth – the Masons, the Trilateral Commission, the Illuminati, etc., etc. – but that they are so secret that no one can penetrate them.

I do not believe in secret conspiracies. The organization I describe is not hiding. It does control a major power – Russia - and it is trying very hard to extend its tentacles to the U.S., Europe and the Middle East. Its officers and structure are known, it is proud of its activities and its website is easily accessible for those who read Russian. Its official name is “Academy on problems of security, defense and judicial order” (*Akademia Problem Bezopasnosti, Oborony I Pravoporiadka*) or the acronym ABOP (АБОП).

The Academy was founded by Lt. Colonel Vladimir Putin (yes, that Putin!) after he had returned from his KGB post in East Germany. In 1998 he was appointed head of FSB – the successor of the KGB – by Yeltsin and in 1999 he moved to chair the Russian National Security Council. In August 1999, Yeltsin endorsed Putin to succeed him and the rest is history.



Viktor Shevchenko, Ph.D.

The Academy's president is KGB General Viktor G. Shevchenko, former chief of military counterintelligence of the Strategic Rocket Forces. There are several vice-presidents, most of them high-ranking officers of the security and intelligence services. General Shevchenko, in many of his media interviews, has credited ABOP's creation to Putin who set its goal as “consolidating the activities of public organizations that are concerned with the problems of national security and defense.” The idea was enthusiastically supported by the Security Council, Ministry of Defense,

Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Internal Security (MVD) and a number of other impressive governmental departments.

The Academy was registered in August 2000 as “A leading public scientific advisory center of the national security committee of the Duma (parliament) whose task is to provide the scientific and research work that is required for legislative steps in this area.” Its by-laws describe it as “An assemblage of scientists who are using science in the interests of security, defense and judicial order of Russia.” And then, “The Academy has the right, in order to achieve its declared goals, to collaborate in the decisions of governmental and local authorities.” In other words, it has the right to be involved in major decisions that, by law, should be made only by elected legislators and governmental bodies. Apparently, the importance of its members and patrons gives it that right.

Almost all of the current and former important ministers and heads of government bodies are listed as ABOP members. The internet website www.bop.ru lists 141 most important names as members of the Academy. Altogether, the 60 Russian Federation regions, and the 6 affiliates in the former Soviet Union, number 5000 to 8500 more.

Fifteen of these listed as ABOP academicians are quite obviously KGB officers, mostly generals who are heads or deputy heads of ministries. There are also 15 members of the MVD (Ministry of Interior) with rank of general, and 23

armed forces generals and admirals. There also are 35 high officials – ministers, deputy ministers, governors – including Putin himself. This is followed by 4 businessmen,



The St. Alexander Nevsky medal given to selected foreigners

12 authentic scientists in responsible positions and 35 cultural and entertainment personalities, including singers, poets, dancers and the like.



“The Insolent Eagle” an Academy publication

In a 2004 interview, General Shevchenko revealed that ADOP had completed 193 scientific studies and 30 scientific research projects for the National Security Council and law enforcement organizations. Apparently there is no shortage of funds to support the giant ABOP structure and, as a sideline, there is enough left for the distribution of countless awards, prizes and gold plated bejeweled medals that are named after military heroes, czars, and even one named after Yuri (Contd. on page 2)

Andropov (former Soviet Secretary-General and head of the KGB).

ABOP has honored countless individuals, cities, even factories and industrial complexes. Among the recipients are important individuals like Putin, Archbishop Cyril of the city of Smolensk, the city of Magnitogorsk, Turkmenistan dictator Turkmenbashi Nizayev, the despicable politician Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, North Korean dictator Kim Il Jung; the Chief Rabbi of Russia Adolf Shaevich (his medal was awarded at a ceremony at the Cathedral of Christ the Savior), German Princess Maya von Hohenzollern, Bavarian Prime Minister Bechstein, East Germany's top spy Marcus Wolf; Belarus President Lukashenko; Iranian politicians, popular Russian (Jewish) singer Kabzon who at one time enthusiastically co-signed all Soviet anti-Semitic and anti-Israel declarations and who is barred from travel to the U.S. because of his alleged close ties to Russian organized crime, and - closer to home - **members of the City Council of West Hollywood, California, who were presented the medal and citation of the Saint Count Alexander Nevsky by an immigrant from the former Soviet Union!**

Obviously, the policy of awards and medals is just one part of ABAP's goal of penetrating and influencing important and potentially useful individuals in both Russia and abroad. ABOP is an extension of KGB - currently renamed FSB - an enormous structure that is hidden in plain view, supported by governmental funds, and staffed by "academicians" who are in control of all of the important governmental structures and whose patron is Vladimir Putin and his secret police colleagues.

Recently ABOP has branched out by creating the autonomous non-commercial organization of National Security, Defense and Judicial Order (ANBOP). It is described as a non-governmental institute/university for the education of future lawyers, managers and specialists in national and local management. The courses last between 2 to 3 years but may be accelerated to last less than a year. Foreign intelligence sources believe that ANBOP creates a neutral civilian cover and background for undercover FSB officers. ANBOP accepts applicants from only Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Kirgizstan, after a mandatory personal interview, but welcomes **applicants who are former Russian citizens now living abroad regardless of their current citizen-**

TRANSLATION OF "KILL AN AMERICAN!" - POSTED ON YOUTUBE IN RUSSIAN.

KILL AN AMERICAN! By Aleksandr Kharchikov. It is sung as an imitation of the style and voice of the very popular singer and bard, Vladimir Vysotsky, who died in 1980. It was posted on youtube.com and is accompanied by vicious anti-American cartoons, pictures of U.S. politicians and shots of mutilated corpses and Russian tanks, missiles and war planes.

*"Americans bombed Korea, they grabbed Granada.
They burned Vietnam with napalm. Americans are degenerates!*

Americans bombed Baghdad without regard or pity for the young or the old.

Americans bombed Belgrade and their plan is to hit Russia.

*"America is the enemy of Russia,
America is the enemy of Granada,
America is the enemy of Korea,
Kill an American, kill!*

"America is an assembly of bandits, sadists, criminals and robbers.

A gathering of worldwide parasites, a nest of torturers and soul destroyers.

*America - is outside the law of God and of humanity,
She is a jailer of the world's regions, but she will feel the fury of revenge.*

*"America is the enemy of Yugoslavia,
America is the enemy of Vietnam,
America is the enemy of Iraq,
Kill an American, kill!*

*"Russia has given her sons the nuclear sword,
So that they would be strong and deal with America,
But now, at the very end there is only one solution,
America must be destroyed and her death is the world's salvation!*

*"America is the enemy of the East,
America is the enemy of Europe,
America is the enemy of freedom,
Kill and American, kill!*

*"We have the strength to rise from our knees, our main goal is to dare,
To crush into dust the disgusting seed of American fascists!
Be merciless with the enemy: the deadly revenge will repay all
The bombs that fell on Belgrade and they will relive their own Vietnam!*

"Kill, kill an American! (repeated 6 times)

"KILL AN AMERICAN, KILL!" (Shown on screen in large letters)

ship, and foreigners of any nationality who are living in Russia at present.

In 2001 ANBOP and the Psychological Service of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation (RF) jointly created the Moscow Psychological University (MPU) to explore and teach extreme psychology and psychotherapy.

MPU's brochure admits that it is an unusual educational institution. It promises that the student can, "... within just 8 months become a specialist in an important field that will allow you to gain an appropriate position within the psychological community.... The program offers master classes given by high level specialists...MPU was selected by the Russian Defense Ministry as the center for the training of military psychologists and therapists... The basic topic is "Neuro-linguistic programming" - the use of hidden teaches how to immediately establish contact with anyone and develop an attitude of trust, to form an attachment and direct the needed corrections in the subject's thoughts and actions. This is why this psycho technology is used in political and publicity campaigns, in managing various organizations, in propaganda, etc. "

ABOP also offers training to auditors and controls a private auditing company, "The Russian House of Audits." Here is an excerpt from its website:

"During an audit every company or organization discloses its entire financial and economic structure....**Since our main concern is the economic safety of the government**, our Academy has an additional opportunity to strengthen the economic safety of the audited organizations by using the information it gathers...The main goal of this project is to use the audit in the interest of national safety and security for the entire country and for the nation's separate regions."

Translated into everyday language, it means that the secret police has formed an instrument that will access information that will be used by the government and those who control the nation.

ABOP has a book publishing affiliate that specializes in anti-American propaganda. Its most recent publication is "The Insolent Eagle" which blames the U.S. for most of the evil in the world.

So, sometimes it is smarter not to hide. ★

(Continued from page 4)

remotely close to financing the trillion dollars of increased direct federal spending Obama is promising—including a new national health insurance entitlement that would be bigger than any of the massive entitlement programs we already have and already have trouble paying for. Indeed, if the tax rate increases cause a serious enough economic decline, they will lose revenue on net.

Obama's plans are the opposite of tax reform. Instead of closing loopholes and lowering rates, he is creating new loop-



holes and raising rates.

But there is a real tax agenda that would benefit middle-America.

America has the second-highest corporate tax rate in the industrialized world, with a federal rate of 35 percent—rising to 40 percent on average with income taxes. The average corporate tax rate in the European Union countries is 24 percent. Even India and China have lower corporate tax rates. Ireland adopted a 12.5 percent corporate tax rate 20 years ago. Since then per capita income has soared from the second-lowest in the EU to the second-highest.

John McCain is proposing to reduce our federal corporate tax rate to 25 percent. The top income tax rates borne by noncorporate small businesses and investors should be reduced to 25 percent as well. Obama is taking the opposite tack, calling for increases in the income tax rates that small businesses pay and additional tax increases for larger corporations (such as

the so-called windfall profits tax on oil companies that would only further hurt the American economy with higher energy costs).

With two-thirds of the American people now owning stocks, capital gains taxes are another middle America issue. Obama proposes to increase the top capital gains tax rate by 33 percent, which will cause a decline in the value of stocks held by middle-income families. History has also proven, time and again, that rising capital gains tax rates cost the federal government money. From 1968 to 1975, the capital gains tax rate was raised four times, and capital gains tax revenue fell by more than 50 percent. When capital gains tax rates were raised by 40 percent as part of the compromise in the 1986 tax reform act, revenues fell by 40 percent the next year, and by 1991 they had fallen by 63 percent.

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McCain is proposing to retain the current capital gains rate of 15 percent. But to maximize economic growth for working people and middle-income families, the capital gains tax rate should be zero. The capital gains tax is just another layer of taxation on capital income. It taxes the present discounted value of future income that will be taxed again—multiple times, in fact—when it is



earned. That is not fairness or good economic sense. **Many of our international competitors maintain a zero tax rate on capital gains—including 14 out of 30 OECD countries, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore.** Eliminating the capital gains tax would cause the stocks held by two-thirds of the American people to soar in value.

The most important middle-income tax issue, however, is payroll taxes—the taxes withheld by your employer to pay for programs like Social Security and Medicare. The federal payroll tax is now the largest tax most workers pay. **With federal income taxes already abolished for the**

poor and lower middle-income workers, and almost abolished for middle-income workers, the next big tax cut for these working people would be the ability to utilize personal accounts for Social Security.

Over time, personal accounts could

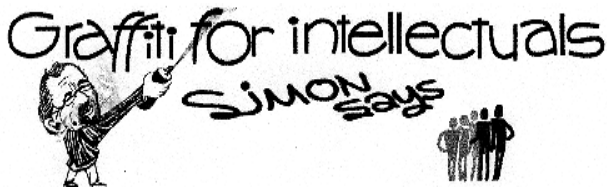
The middle 20 percent of income earners pay 4.4 percent of federal income taxes. Thus the bottom 60 percent of income earners together, on net, pay less than 1 percent of all federal income taxes.

expand to replace the entire payroll tax and finance the same benefits. Instead of paying a tax, working people would be saving and investing in their own personal family wealth engine. With fully expanded accounts, average families could expect to accumulate a million dollars or more, even while paying in about 25 percent less than the current 15.3 percent payroll tax. Such accounts are estimated to pay at least twice what Social Security currently promises and provide the only real hope of addressing the long-term funding problems of Medicare without harming retirees.

This would be nothing less than a revolution in the personal prosperity of working people. McCain at least favors starting such personal accounts. But, as is so typical of Barack Obama, he would just slam the door on a truly revolutionary change, and hark back to the stale ideas of the 1960s or even the 1930s. Obama's tax policies would take America in exactly the opposite direction of the tax reform and threaten economic disaster in already difficult times.



Newt Gingrich is the former speaker of the House and chairman of American Solutions for Winning the Future. Peter Ferrara is director of entitlement and budget policy for the Institute for Policy Innovation, and general counsel of the American Civil Rights Union.



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TAXES—REAL AND IMAGINARY

An easy to understand analysis of a complex subject by
Newt Gingrich and Peter Ferrara, Weekly Standard, 9/15/08

Thirty years OF REPUBLICAN TAX POLICY HAVE NOW COMPLETELY ELIMINATED FEDERAL INCOME TAXES ON THE POOR AND LOWER MIDDLE-INCOME AMERICANS, AND ALMOST ELIMINATED THEM ON MIDDLE AMERICA.

THE LATEST DATA FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE AND THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE SHOW THAT THE LOWEST 40 PERCENT OF INCOME EARNERS AS A GROUP ACTUALLY RECEIVE NET PAYMENTS FROM THE FEDERAL INCOME TAX SYSTEM. (THEY GET 3.8 PERCENT OF TOTAL FEDERAL INCOME TAX REVENUES INSTEAD OF PAYING ANY INCOME TAXES.) THE MIDDLE 20 PERCENT OF INCOME EARNERS PAY 4.4 PERCENT OF FEDERAL INCOME TAXES. THUS THE BOTTOM 60 PERCENT OF INCOME EARNERS TOGETHER, ON NET, PAY LESS THAN 1 PERCENT OF ALL FEDERAL INCOME TAXES. (THESE WORKERS EARN 26 PERCENT OF NATIONAL INCOME.)



The data show that the top 1 percent of income earners now pay 4 percent of all federal income taxes, which is almost double their share of the national

income. The top 10 percent pay 71 percent of federal income taxes, though they earn just 39 percent of the nation's pretax income.

This is a result of the across the board income tax rate cuts adopted by Ronald Reagan and the current President Bush, plus the Earned Income Tax Credit first proposed by Reagan in the 1970s, and the child tax

credit enacted into law a part of the 1994 Contract With America.

Barack Obama claims to be proposing income tax cuts for low and moderate income and middle class workers, but Reagan Republicans have already eliminated most of their income tax liability. What Obama is calling tax cuts for the middle class is really a slew of refundable federal income tax credits that would primarily go to those who are paying little or no federal income taxes now. Such credits would primarily not reduce tax liability, but instead be checks from the federal government for child care, education, housing, retirement, health care, even outright giveaways. These are not tax cuts. They are new federal spending programs hidden in the tax code.

When Obama says that he will cut taxes for 95 percent of Americans, he is talking about his proposal for a \$500 refundable in-

come tax credit for all but the top 5 percent of income earners. For the bottom 40 percent of

Top 1 percent of income earners now pay 4 percent of all federal income taxes, which is almost double their share of the national income.

income earners, this will be just another check from the federal government rather

than a reduction in tax liability. It is another sharp increase in government spending rather than any sort of tax cut. An arbitrary cash grant does not, moreover, do anything to improve the economy or incentivize productive business. That only comes from cutting tax rates. What Obama is proposing here is really quite similar to George McGovern's 1972 plan to send everyone a \$1,000 check, which voters rightly saw as a crass vote-buying scheme rather than serious policy.

Obama also proposes to increase the top marginal tax rates for virtually every major federal tax. These increases would not come **(Please see TAXES—page 3)**