from: Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

to: Fred Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

cc: Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Tue, Mar 6, 2018 at 7:17 PM

subject: Re: Christopher Steele

On Mar 6, 2018, at 10:10 AM, Frederick N. Chase <fchase@gmail.com> wrote:

Rusty wrote:

Hope you boys watched Rachel Maddow tonight.  She interviewed Jane Mayer who has an article in the March 12th, New Yorker about Christopher Steele’s Dossier and some new findings.  If you only watch Fox news you probably won’t see this.

  [https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/03/12/christopher-steele-the-man-behind-the-trump-dossier?mbid=nl\_Humor 030518&CNDID=25354427&spMailingID=13056888&spUserID=MTMzMTgyNjc3NjIxS0&spJobID=1360471896&spReportId=MTM2MDQ3MTg5NgS2](https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/03/12/christopher-steele-the-man-behind-the-trump-dossier?mbid=nl_Humor%20030518&CNDID=25354427&spMailingID=13056888&spUserID=MTMzMTgyNjc3NjIxS0&spJobID=1360471896&spReportId=MTM2MDQ3MTg5NgS2)

Fred says…….First of all, Rachel Maddow is about the least likely person I would "watch”.

  That’s too bad because even you might learn something.  I regularly watch Rachel Maddow. She gives a good assessment of the news, tells you if she doesn’t know what she is talking about, comes up with stuff nobody else has mentioned,  has interesting guests on the program and best of all she has a sense of humor and is animated and expressive.    She is not a dour interruptive obnoxious broadcaster like so many others especially on Fox, ie Hannity.  I find her much more credible than Hannity or Limbaugh.  So she is fun to watch but I’ll have to say sometimes she gets off on a tangent and that’s when I turn her off.

Second, do you realize that the New Yorker mag article on Christopher Steele has 14,910 words in it?   Are you telling me that you read all that?!

  Your right it was a long article and I read every word….finished reading it on my Kindle this morning in bed.  It’s a good review of all the controversy around Steel and the Dossier.  He is not just some fly by night reporter.  He worked for many years in the British Intelligence service and had a stellar history.  He speaks fluent Russian and lived there for several years.  So his report is credible but some of his information came from sources inside Russia that he worked with for many years and we don’t know who they are.   So far much of what he related in the Dossier is correct….not everything...they say about 80%.

  So my interest in Steel isn’t directly related to Jonathan Hay or Browder but Interestingly enough I spent last weekend in Tucson with Bob Hay, Jonathan’s dad.  I mentioned to him that my doubting Thomas friend sent me an article that implied that Browder was somewhat of a shister a “ corrupt billionaire"  Bob certainly disagreed with that assessment from all the things that Jonathan had told him.  They believe he was on the up and up.  When Putin and the Russians were threatening to come after Browder he got out of the country and he got all the records from his Russian fund safely out of the country and everyone of his investors got all their money.  Beth, Jonathan’s wife on the other had wasn’t so lucky.  She was turned back from entering Russia and shortly thereafter her stock fund was confiscated by Putin.  I don’t know all the details but she was in a managerial position in a stock investment fund in Russia and all her investors lost everything.  I have sent Giraldi’s article to Bob to get his take.

 You read Browder’s book [not so, IIRC, I listened to his 55 minute Aspen lecture. –FNC] so you know that Browder thinks Putin is a bad fellow.    Putin is pissed at Browder because Browder had a lot to do with getting the Magnitsky Act passed. Putin is supposedly the richest person in the world.  How do you think he got all that money? and what can he do with it now that the Magnitsky act will prevent him from traveling to other countries. So of course he is pissed off.  So if you want to blame the cold war on Browder have at it.

 Fred said Feb 3rd,  ​Few, if any, raped a defenseless Russia more thoroughly and outside of Putin's "rules for Oligarchs" than Browder.​

..I guess it depends on your point of  view.  Browder didn’t rape anybody, he went to Russia looking for investments and he found that he could buy stocks in some companies that were by his estimation grossly undervalued.  What he did was perfectly legal.  He is what you call a good old American entrepreneur.  Jesus if you think that anytime someone makes a profit uncovering opportunities that nobody else sees then you must be a communist.

And if not, what ARE you telling us?!

Is your interest because of the **Jonathan Hay  |  William "Bill" Brower  |  Christopher Steele  |  MI6 / CIA  / Deep State |  Cold War 2**   connection?

  Yes I have an interest in Jonathan Hay and I believe what he says.  Because he knows Browder I have an interest in him also.  Christopher Steele because he composed the Dossier that implicates Trump in Russian affairs.  Deep state,,,,deep do..do.  Cold war only in so far as the Russians are after Browder because he got some sanctions against them because of the Magnitsky act.

from: Frederick N. Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

to: PETERS CARL L <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

cc: Rusty Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

date: Sat, Feb 3, 2018 at 3:23 PM

subject: Re: Giraldi Article

On Sat, Feb 3, 2018 at 12:42 PM, PETERS CARL L <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

I never heard of Browder.  **Thanks for the info.**

​In the email I sent earlier today is an attachment I didn't mention.  It is a long compilation of WCSS conversation  starting  with Rusty's email of  Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 5:40 PM

You must have forgotten a lot, or never gotten most of those emails!

**Strange, but the left,** **which dominates our educational institutions as the descendants of the Communist loving liberal professor elites of the 30's loved the Russians, when they were Communists.**  When the Soviet Union collapsed and all sorts of greedy corrupt persons (is Browder one?)

​Few, if any, raped a defenseless Russia more thoroughly and outside of Putin's "rules for Oligarchs" than Browder.​

rushed in and grabbed the government assets and became instant Billionaires, **now they can't stand** **those evil Russians.**

​Funny, being an instant billionaire kind of goes along with being a NEOCON (e.g.[Dick Cheney](https://www.juancole.com/2015/11/neocons-presidency-warning.html)) and probably a Zionist (e.g., [Victoria Nuland](https://www.google.com/search?newwindow=1&ei=xRR2WtfOG4iWtQWq77DwDA&q=%22Victoria+Nuland%22+zionist&oq=%22Victoria+Nuland%22+zionist&gs_l=psy-ab.12...52794.52794.0.55407.1.1.0.0.0.0.133.133.0j1.1.0....0...1c.1.64.psy-ab..0.0.0....0.IP4W69NEs8Y)).​

Please reread the WCSS long discussion and follow Rusty's references on Browder so you can understand what Rusty has already said and seems to think about Browder!

   -Fred

Are the Browder types, the "progressive" leftest elites and their lackeys, the main stream press

​,​

​Russia​ began defending itself and Browder and others are arguably renewing the cold war so as to appear on the right, not the wrong, side of history.

frightened, that Putin might take back all that ill gotten property?

I can't wait for Congress to release what ever Shiff comes**up with, to see how successful he is on putting lip stick on a pig.**

On Saturday, February 3, 2018 11:47 AM, Frederick N. Chase <fchase@gmail.com> wrote:

Russo,

We have had this long discussion about William F. 'Bill' Browder and clearly you lean toward a favorable, even admiring, position with respect to him.

Whether this leaning is because of

your nephew's wife's involvement with Browder spanning 20 years, or

the new U.S. policy of altogether suppressing US Public awareness altogether of arguments for the other side of controversial US Deep State policies (in this case the Deep State policy of renewing the cold war with Russia)

a belief in the sole-superpower notion

  I don't know.

I'm reopening this subject to advocate for one of several new items which I doubt you've paid attention to. It is self-described as follows.

[*Authored by Philip Giraldi via The Strategic Culture Foundation,*](https://www.strategic-culture.org/news/2018/02/01/meet-corrupt-billionaire-who-has-brought-about-new-cold-war.html)

**One has to ask why there is a crisis in US-Russia relations since Washington and Moscow have much more in common than not**, to include confronting international terrorism, stabilizing Syria and other parts of the world that are in turmoil, and preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons. In spite of all that, the US and Russia are currently locked in a tit-for-tat unfriendly relationship somewhat reminiscent of the Cold War.

Giraldi is fairly well known to me, and highly respected by me.  He writes on occasion for AntiWar.com, to whom I give more money per month than anything else except Wikipedia.

I have put a markedup version of the ZeroHedge version of of Giraldi' paper here:  [20180202 Corrupt Billionaire Who'se Brought About a New Cold War.doc](http://chasegalleryconnect.org/FNC_C/Data/People/Individuals/B/William%20F.%20%27Bill%27%20Browder/20180202%20Corrupt%20Billionaire%20Who%27se%20Brought%20About%20a%20New%20Cold%20War.doc)

I hope you will read it and then let me know what you think about it's main thesis.

   Regards,

    -Fred

from: Frederick N. Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

to: Rusty Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

cc: Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Sat, Feb 3, 2018 at 11:47 AM

subject: Giraldi Article

Russo,

We have had this long discussion about William F. 'Bill' Browder and clearly you lean toward a favorable, even admiring, position with respect to him.

Whether this leaning is because of

         your nephew's wife's involvement with Browder spanning 20 years, or

         the new U.S. policy of altogether suppressing US Public awareness altogether of arguments for the other side of controversial US Deep State policies (in this case the Deep State policy of renewing the cold war with Russia)

         a belief in the sole-superpower notion

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I hope you will read it and then let me know what you think about it's main thesis.

   Regards,

    -Fred

from: Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

to: Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

cc: Fred Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

date: Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 9:42 PM

subject: Re: More reasons for me to dislike William F. Browder

  If you fellows would just watch Browder’s video it would straighten out all your misconceptions.  It’s a good story and if you watch it you won’t need to read the book.  Google Browder and you can find the Aspen video.  I’m sure your so brainwashed by all this propaganda you have been reading that you won’t believe anything that Browder says in the video and I’m guessing you won’t even watch it anyway.  This article by Israel Shamir, a known holocaust denier, is so full of misinformation and lies that it’s totally ludicrous so I don’t even know where to begin to try to explain about it….so I won’t.  Just  Google Israel Shamir and find out for yourself if you really want to believe anything he says.  It makes me think you are a couple of Russian sympathizers if you believe his BS.

  Browder’s grandfather was a communist, was head of the US communist party for a time and ran for the US presidency on two occasions.  Browder said when he was growing up and trying to rebel against his family, growing his hair long didn’t work, listening to the grateful dead didn’t work so what did work was to reject any communistic ideas and become a capitalist.  That’s what he did.  He went to Stanford, got and MBA and initially joined a big investment firm.  That is where his story begins

  My nephew, Jonathan Hay  attended Harvard Law school and afterwards was given a job by Harvard to go to Russia,  he was fluent in Russian, and help with the privatization of Russian companies.  He was not allowed to invest in any of the companies.  At one point however he did buy a few Russian bonds for which he got in a shitpot full of trouble. There was a lawsuit, and articles in the WSJ about him.  The lawsuit was finally dropped because he hadn’t really done anything wrong, it just looked that way on the surface, and it seemed that some whistle blower guy wanted to make a name for himself by bringing the lawsuit.  No he wasn’t ever in jail, fined or reprimanded.  He has had business dealings in Russia off and on over the years since then.  He and Beth live in London.

from: Frederick N. Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

to: Rusty Sage <russosago@gmail.com>,

Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 7:29 PM

This article asserts that

Browder is the man who contributed most to the new cold war between the West and Russia. The roots were there, still he made them blossom. If the US and Russia haven’t yet exchanged nuclear salvos, do not blame Browder: he tried.For a valid reason, too: he was hit by cruel Hitler-like Mr Putin into his most susceptible spot, namely his pocket. Or was there even a better reason?

Russ, read the attached, with the above assertion, and see if Browder's book  gives you an equally damning view of himself or whether he "talks his book" and you get a falsely positive of him.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| from: | **Frederick N. Chase** <fchase@gmail.com> |
| to: | Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com> |
| cc: | Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net> |
| date: | Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 5:21 PM |
| subject: | Re: Lone Gladio |

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 4:32 PM, Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com> wrote:

After reading a review of “Classified Woman” it sounds like a real page turner. It’s good fiction.  But I have to say my crap meter went off immediately.  Why haven’t you read this book?  Then you can tell me why it’s true and why I shouldn’t be skeptical.  She is the daughter of an Iranian father and Turkish mother.  Who's to say that she isn’t a spy.  She was fired from her job as an interpreter at the FBI claiming that her managers retaliated against her after she filed some complaints about the FBI’s office of professional responsibility.  This sounds like sour grapes to me.  We all know about a certain type of high strung woman. she speaks 4 different languages,  who can be a complainer and trouble maker sometimes even over very small disagreements.

​​

​Yes, very likely.​

 They are probably happy she is gone.

​Yes, very likely.​

​

 So read the book and give me a report.  I don’t want to give my $4.95 to a spy unless for some reason you say that I can believe everything I read in this book

​You have a very all-or-nothing attitude:  "good fiction"   "It's true and I shouldn't be skeptical"   "I can believe everything I read in this book"​.

This attitude is problematic, when you are talking about a memoir, because a memoir is supposed to somehow everything at once.

The closest to a memoir I normally come is accidentally.    When Elaine Meinel Supkis started throwing in these amazing asides I would each time say to myself "Amazing.  Could that really be true??"

I probably did this 20 or 30 times.  (Want to see the list?!)    In a few cases I couldn't be sure.   But after 20 or 30 I decided that she was a habitual truth teller.   Very rare.  But they exist.  Is Edmonds one?   I don't know.

whereas I couldn’t  believe anything in Browder’s book even though you hadn’t read it either.

  I get a high crap number for “Classified Woman”,  for Red Notice I don’t see any crap.

I see another Zionist neocon.  Talking his book. (And I mean that in at least 2 senses!)   I'll bet he has at least three passports.   Search  "William F. Browder"  neocon zionist

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| from: | **Russell Sage** <russosago@gmail.com> |
| to: | Fred Chase <fchase@gmail.com> |
| cc: | Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net> |
| date: | Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 4:32 PM |

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  I get a high crap number for “Classified Woman”, for Red Notice I don’t see any crap.

from: Frederick N. Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

to: Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

cc: Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Sun, Jul 30, 2017 at 4:44 PM

subject: Re: Another view of William F. Browder

On Sun, Jul 30, 2017 at 3:47 PM, Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com> wrote:

  This film “The Browder Effect” is just more Russian propaganda to discredit Browder and Navalny and anybody else that was in favor of sanctions agains Russia.  This film was produced in Russia.  They wouldn’t be able to show it if it showed Browder in a good light.

​Yes, of course.​

 This article by Doctorow is just a way for him to try to gain some notoriety as an investigative reporter unfortunately by disclosing false facts.  No wonder you like this article.  Some sluth uncovering hidden but false facts trying to discredit  a whistle blower.

​I think of Doctorow as the whistleblower. I just grabbed him because I googled for someone, anyone, willing to present the other side.   Why Russia would want to get rid of this guy.

  Browder was very knowledgeable about Russia so I would think that he probably did supply information to British intelligence.

​​

Case over?

 He didn’t try to get medical help taken away from Magnitsky.

​​

Magnitsky wasn’t getting any medical help in jail until the last day when he was transferred to a hospital that had an infirmary but he wasn’t taken to the infirmary, he was instead taken to a holding cell where he was beaten to death.

​

​"

Browder had discussed with MI6 the deteriorating health of Magnitsky in detention and that he [He, Browder, I assume Doctorow means.] was involved in plans to have the penitentiary service arrange the termination of medical services.

​Sounds like Browder was OK to give Magnitsky a little push.  Does either of us know what Doctorow is saying here?

OK,  I just located [this page](http://russia-insider.com/en/users/gilbert-doctorow) on Doctorow.  It confirms to me that he was an OK choice from whom to grab a second opinion about Bill Browder.  (This is an important technique, by the way.  When your crap detector is going off, there sometimes is only 1 in 100 articles that is in that minority saying a thesis is bullshit or a person is a liar and you want to sniff that article out.)

Browder wrote many letters trying to get him help.

  So for the most part this article is just BS.  I would like to see Browders response to this film, “The Browder Effect”.

​So would I.​

 Then it would be, who you gonna believe Browder or the Russians?

​No.

Browder or

the Russians and Gilbert Doctorow.

There appears to be a fundamental conflict in what you said you're doing.

Reading (listening while biking)  for fun an exciting thriller about all this current history stuff based on a true story,   where one of the protagonists wrote the yarn!!!!

How can your brain deal with that???   By an act of extreme gullibility?   By not believing that the author is telling the truth part of the time?   Why not just listen to a science fiction book?

Look I have two things to offer here and I will offer them ASAP in another email.

from: Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

to: Fred Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

cc: Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Sun, Jul 30, 2017 at 3:47 PM

subject: Re: Another view of William F. Browder

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  So for the most part this article is just BS.  I would like to see Browders response to this film, “The Browder Effect”.  Then it would be, who you gonna believe Browder or the Russians?  I guess you and Trump would believe the Russians.  I would believe Browder.

  Read this:

      Inside the battle between an anti-Putin banker and the firm that produced the Trump-Russia

      dossier

   <http://www.businessinsider.com/fusion-gps-trump-russia-dossier-bill-browder-2017-7>

from: Frederick N. Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

to: Rusty Sage <russosago@gmail.com>,

Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 11:18 PM

subject: Another view of William F. Browder

*Published 3-05-2016, 08:00*

***Gilbert Doctorow, Ph.D.*** *Gilbert Doctorow is the European Coordinator of the American Committee for East West Accord, Ltd. Gilbert Doctorow is a Research Fellow of the American University in Moscow*

Whatever the final verdict may be on the documents presented by the film "The Browder Effect,” it raises questions about Browder that should have been asked years ago in mainstream Western media if journalists were paying attention.

One of the clear missions of Russian state television in 2016, the year of elections to the State Duma. has been to discredit Alexei Navalny, the long established blogger, wily critic of the Kremlin and leader of the new generation ‘non-systemic’ opposition by exposing him as a fraud in the pay of Russia’s Western rivals and ill-wishers.

Several weeks ago Russian state television broadcast hidden camera recordings of Navalny’s first meeting with Carl Bildt, former Swedish premier and foreign minister, best known in this part of the world for leading the Eastern Partnership program aimed at removing former Soviet republics, notably Ukraine, from the Russian sphere of influence.

This past Sunday, the Vesti nedeli program, a prime time Sunday evening wrap-up of the week’s news presented by the senior journalist and manager of Russia’s informational broadcasting resources, Dmitry Kiselyov, showed excerpts from a documentary film about Navalny and his mentor, or handler, William F. Browder. See <https://russia.tv/video/show/brand_id/5206/episode_id/1291971/video_id/1460729>.

The film, entitled "The Browder Effect,” was assembled by the channel’s investigative reporter and presenter in his own right, Yevgeni Popov. The full version of "The Browder Effect” will be aired on Wednesday evening, 13 April on Russia’s flagship network, Pervyi Kanal. However, from the lengthy segments shown on Sunday it is possible to draw some conclusions about the sensational material it sets out.

Both Vesti 24 and Pervyi Kanal are Russian language stations directed at the domestic audience. From the standpoint of their management, whatever is sensational about the film has to do with the way it conclusively details Navalny’s recruitment by Bill Browder in 2007 for a program run by Britain’s Secret Intelligence Service, also known as Military Intelligence (MI6), intended to destabilize the Russian government. Navalny came to the attention of MI6 because Browder determined he was "the most suitable candidate for future political leader” given his creativity, new media mastery and speaking skills on politics, law and economics.

We then follow Navalny’s progress as a foreign-paid trouble-maker engaged in standing up for minority shareholders and exposing corruption in major Russian, partly state-owned companies, meaning that he was busily attacking Vladimir Putin’s direct appointees. We are told Navalny was next a useful aid to U.S. authorities in compiling a list of high Russian judicial and penal administrative officials for inclusion in the Magnitsky List on the basis of their alleged involvement in the torture and murder in detention of Browder’s erstwhile accountant, Sergei Magnitsky. One document from 2010 indicates Navalny received large sums of money, at one point a $300,000 payment, from his overseas handlers to apply his skills with social media and disseminate a positive spin on American sanctions to Russia’s liberals and creative classes. The objective was to undermine popular trust in the courts.

The last documents involving Navalny shown on the Vesti nedeli program Sunday date from just before the State Duma elections on 4 December 2011, which were followed by massive street demonstrations against what was called electoral fraud perpetrated by the ruling party. Notwithstanding the advice from his mentor, Browder, to stick with his economic warfare on Russian big business and stay out of politics, this was the point when Navalny went on to emerge as a key leader in the new generation of forces opposed to the Kremlin.

For Western observers, there is nothing sensational in the exposé of Navalny as a paid agent of British intelligence operating under the code name "Freedom.”  He is a remote personality, has been denounced by some in the West as a Russian nationalist and he is at liberty, not a prisoner of conscience.  The truly sensational nature of Yevgeny Popov’s film lies elsewhere, in its material on Browder.  If Navalny was recruited by Browder, then Popov was obliged to show how it was that the billionaire co-founder and owner of Hermitage Capital, which was at one point the largest foreign portfolio investment company in Russia, could be an agent, code named "Solomon,” in the MI6 documents presented on screen.

To answer this question, the film flashes back to 1995, and a Memorandum for the Chief of Secret Intelligence dated 12 July describing the attraction of Browder for his new bosses: "he is an important figure in integration of financial structures into the Russian economy. [He] has extensive contacts with [sic] international banking community and has [sic] wide range of relations with representatives of business communities in the UK, the USA, Europe, China and India.”

This was about the time when Browder was making a transition from highly paid employee heading up the section of private investing in Russia at Salomon Brothers (hence the coy code name, a corruption of Salomon) to setting up his own investment company with seed capital from the elderly Syrian-Jewish-Brazilian banker and entrepreneur Edmond Safra. It was also the time when Browder, a US citizen became a British subject.

And so that we may understand why such talents and contacts could be useful to British (and by extension to American) intelligence, a further flashback to 28 August 1986 shows us a CIA document entitled "Change the Constitutional and Political System in Eastern Europe and the USSR” signed by the agency director Wiliam Casey.  Among the specific actions within the scope of this program would be "getting control over financial flows and removing assets from the economies of developed countries.”

The narrator explains that even more than 25 years after the disappearance of the USSR, this CIA policy, known as "The Quake” (Drozh’, in Russian) remains in effect.

Not content with proving that a billionaire investment fund owner could also be an MI6 operative, the film’s producer also saw fit to demolish via documentary proof the entire Browder story about the reasons for his being declared persona non grata in Russia in 2006 as a threat to national security and about the persecution of his loyal retainer Magnitsky at the hands of rapacious Moscow officials plundering the remains of his company.

It emerges from a memorandum to the Director of Central intelligence written on CIA letterhead and dated 20 September 2009 that Browder had discussed with MI6 the deteriorating health of Magnitsky in detention and that he was involved in plans to have the penitentiary service arrange the termination of medical services. The report went on to say that this ‘medical error’ could lead to Magnitsky’s death.

 A follow-on interview with one political analyst explains that Browder was the only one who could profit from Magnitsky’s demise. We are told his former protégé was about to start talking to prosecution against his employers. Then his death provided the material for the cause célèbrethat Browder would ride to nation-wide prominence in the USA and in Europe with the eventual passage of  the sanctions on Russia he promoted as the just punishment for corrupt and murderous officials of the Putin regime.

Thus, the collateral damage resulting from Yevgeni Popov’s exposé amounts to a devastating attack on the political situation in the United States, where the CIA is shown to have been complicit in setting up the case used to move the American political mood and legislation in a harshly anti-Russian direction via the Magnitsky Act sanctions. Here is a smoking gun of great potential importance for those who care about who is actually controlling the US government if not our elected leaders.

Part of the documentary rests on expert testimony of Russian political analysts.  Part rests on skype texts and on telephone conversations intercepted by the Russian intelligence agencies.  But the most important material, including the aforementioned ‘smoking gun’ come from documents in a cache prepared by Kremlin-nemesis Boris Berezovsky in London as he tried to negotiate with Vladimir Putin a possible return to his motherland that would land him in good graces and not in a prison cell.

One sequence in the documentary introduces us to Sergei Sokolov, the former chief of security for Berezovsky who, at his boss’s instructions, hid copies of this cache of documents in several locations and eventually brought a set with him to Moscow, where we may assume Russian intelligence officers pored over them.  Sokolov is not a new face to viewers of Russian state television.  Several months ago he was shown in a documentary examining the death of Berezovsky in one of his London properties.  The cache of documents was mentioned then but not described.

This peculiar provenance of the documents means that they should have been subjected to special scrutiny by Mr. Popov’s team before presentation to the general public. Considering the possible impact of the content of these documents on US-Russian relations, such caution would be doubly recommended.   Regrettably, that appears not to have been the case.

In the information war that has been ongoing and escalating to fever pitch ever since Vladimir Putin made his famous accusatory speech directed against the United States at the Munich Security Conference in February 2007, I have examined closely a succession of key documents produced by the American side and its close allies and discovered patent fraud and forgeries.

In my essay on the article "Containing Russia” signed but not written by Yulia Tymoshenko and published in Foreign Affairs magazine in the spring of 2007, I demonstrated how textual analysis could turn up inconsistencies that give the lie to official attribution.  See <http://usforeignpolicy.blogs.lalibre.be/archive/2009/11/09/the-strange-case-of-yulia-tymoshenko-s-2007-article-in-forei.html>.   The same essay pointed out the fraud perpetrated by the German Marshall Fund in the summer of 2008 when it commissioned an open letter denouncing Barack Obama’s recently launched policy of re-set which was distributed to and published by The New York Times and other mainstream media as a cri de coeur from Lech Walesa, Vaclav Havel and other Cold War heroes in the struggle against Soviet domination.

Still another essay of mine devoted to the launch of the EU’s Eastern Partnership Program at a summit in Prague in May 2009 pointed to the American spelling used in the Southern Corridor papers presented in the concurrent summit on the New Silk Road for energy. While interference by MS Word spellcheck cannot be totally eliminated as an explanation, the greater likelihood was that these ostensibly European documents on a new, anti-Russian energy policy were written in Washington, D.C.  See my book Stepping Out of Line, pp. 315 ff.

It is with this background of interest in textual analysis that I have approached the documents presented by the film "The Browder Effect” and at once serious questions arose.  In one or two documents, my reservations are at the level of tell-tale signs of Russian speakers’ intervention:  namely absence of or poor control over the use of articles. In the one memo where this occurs most, it could be just telegraphic style, but it stands out and differs from the other texts.  Another document has one  specifically Russian turn of speech. More generally, it is disconcerting that memorandums from the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) and the one memorandum on CIA letterhead are formatted identically The most recent document, from MI6, the "Report on performing duties under special operation ‘Magnitsky list’” is dated ‘Jan 23, 2010,’  American style; it has the American spelling of "program” and British punctuation.  Such mongrel style does not usually exist in nature.

It is impossible to say what is the source of the problems cited.  One possibility is that the documents, which are said to have come from the US embassy in London, were copied out by hand and mistakes were made in the transcription. Then they were retyped in a single style. Another possibility is that they are forgeries, pure and simple.

Having called attention to these issues, I hasten to add that the content of the documents as they concern Bill Browder ring true to my understanding of his possible role in the entire Magnitsky case. I say this on the basis of my personal reading of Browder during his two visits to Brussels in 2013 when I saw him and his road show exhibits up close.

In his first visit, at a public seminar on Russian political prisoners held in the European Parliament building on 5 June 2013, Browder brought a collection of spiteful witnesses intent on blackening the reputation of Vladimir Putin and his ‘regime.’ The seminar, which was sponsored by the neo-Liberal ALDE faction in the Parliament, was scheduled to take place one day after the publication of an Address to Foreign and Interior Ministers of the EU signed by 47 European Parliamentarians pressing on the EU executive the adoption of a law similar to the so-called Magnitsky Act.

 Notwithstanding the various particular messages and particular concerns of the diverse panel, united only in its opposition to the Putin regime, the event was called to promote such a Magnitsky bill and those on the podium spoke in unison in its favor, disseminating the (manifestly false) idea that the bill enjoyed broad support within Russia and was only opposed by the regime itself.  The entire proceedings were video recorded, presumably for future use in the halls of power by the event’s sponsors.

At that event, Browder spoke very little. His task as master of ceremonies was to introduce his assembled witnesses. These included Mikhail Kasyanov, former prime minister and leader of the Parnas Party, together with Boris Nemtsov, the allied party to ALDE in the Russian Federation.  A tearful speech was delivered by Pavel Khodorkovsky, son of the then still imprisoned oligarch Mikhail Khodorkovsky. But perhaps the most passionate speech was by the iconic freedom fighter Ludmila Alexeeva, former leading personality in the Moscow Helsinki Group. In her mid-80s but still very active, Alexeeva likened the environment in Russia to 1937, year of the Great Purge.

When I saw mention in one document presented by Popov of the Moscow Helsinki Group as the vehicle that MI6 used to get money to Navalny, this clicked perfectly with the reality Browder brought with his road show to Brussels on that day.

See  [http://usforeignpolicy.blogs.lalibre.be/archive/2013/06/06/the-indefatigable-bill-browder-selling-the-magnitsky-act-to.html](http://usforeignpolicy.blogs.lalibre.be/archive/2013/06/06/the-indefatigable-bill-browder-selling-the-magnitsky-act-to.html%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

I wrote up my impressions of Browder’s second visit to Brussels that year, in November in the essay <http://usforeignpolicy.blogs.lalibre.be/archive/2013/11/20/bill-browder-master-of-bait-and-switch-1119997.html>.   On that occasion, which was nominally to present a book he financed promoting a Magnitsky Act for Europe at the Brussels Press Club, Browder once again presented assorted witnesses, including the particularly odious Vladimir Kara Murza, an unrestrained propagandist against the Putin regime and fellow-traveler of the Parnas group.   What was most revealing was the Q&A session  in which Browder dropped his genial mask and spoke openly about the need to punish by sanctions the million thieves and murderers who run Russia. His stated objective was regime change.

The common conclusion of my two encounters with Bill Browder was that his intensity and the time he was devoting now to putting in place anti-Russian sanctions in Europe was in no way comparable to the behavior of a top level international businessman.  It was clear to me that some other game was in play. But at the time, Browder was enjoying vast popularity in the USA, was not doing badly in Europe and no one could stand up and suggest the man was a fraud, an operative of the intelligence agencies.

Whatever the final verdict may be on the documents presented by the film "The Browder Effect,” it raises questions about Browder that should have been asked years ago in mainstream Western media if journalists were paying attention. Yevgeni Popov deserves credit for highlighting those questions, even if his documents demand further investigation before we come to definitive answers.

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from: Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

to: Fred Chase <fchase@gmail.com>

cc: Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 9:30 PM

subject: Re: Bill Browder.....and the......Magnitsky Act

 All your questions will be answered if you just watch Browder's video from the Aspen institute.  I assure you you will like it. It’s a really good story. The first few minutes are about his family history so you could be bored…just cool your jets, relax and enjoy the rest of the story.  He tells how he got some lucky connections which led to his very successful business career investing in Russia. Then he talks about the corruption that exists in Russia and how it affected his business. He spends a lot of time with the Magnitsky affair which is interesting since currently Trump’s son stated that in one of his meeting with the Russians all they wanted to talk about was adoptions.  Putin put the ban on Americans adopting Russian babies as a consequence of the Magnitsky act and the sanctions that were put in place as a result. Browder played a big part in getting that act passed.

   So Red Notice is a novel, it’s a history, it’s a story about investing in a foreign country, it reads like a spy story, it is a [allegedly] true story and I found it very engaging.   …and did I mention that it is a [allegedly] true story.   Browder is the author.  Browder was just a private investor in the Russian market.  He wasn’t associated with the government, didn’t get any perks from the government and didn’t do anything illegal [false] so I wouldn’t consider him as a oligarch. I don’t think he is running for any position in our government.  So just watch the damn video and then tell me all the things that are wrong, are lies, are conspiracy theories or just fake news.

from: Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

to: Fred Chase <fchase@gmail.com>,

Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Fri, Jul 28, 2017 at 1:16 PM

subject: Re: Bill Browder.....and the......Magnitsky Act

 I just finished listening to “Red Notice”.  It’s a really good [allegedly] true story…. I down loaded it to my iPod  as an e-book from our library so I could listen to it while riding my bike.  Browder explains how he made his money in Russia during the time when privatization of Russian companies was taking place. He spends a lot of time explaining how corrupt the Russian government is from Putin on down and how they mistreated and eventually [allegedly] killed Magnitsky.  Browder says there will be a movie made about the book. He has a really interesting history.  His grandfather, Earl Browder, was head of the US communist party and actually ran for president on the communist ticket.   Turns out my nephew Jonathan and his wife Beth have known Browder for 20 yrs.  Beth was sent to Russia by the brokerage firm she was working for in the US to establish some kind of fund based on Russian companies. Then at some point in time and for reasons unknown she was banned from Russia just like Browder although she hasn’t had any death threats.  Browder just testified in front of the Senate Judiciary committee about what he knows about Russian security services and how they might have tried to influence the 2016 US elections.

  You can find a lot of stuff about Browder on google.  Here is an speech he gave at the Aspen Ideas Festival in 2015.  It’s rather long 55 min. but worth it   He tells about how he got involved in Russia and his problems with the government after he and Magnitsky tried to reveal the Russians who stole $250 mil of the tax money that Browder’s company had paid.   This led to    him being banned from the country, tried in absentia and sentenced to several years in prison and to Magnitsky’s arrest and subsequent death.    His book “Red Notice” is also banned from Russia…..of course.  I give it 5 stars...

  <http://www.msnbc.com/morning-joe/watch/doing-business-with-russia-393622595507>

from: Russell Sage <russosago@gmail.com>

to: Fred Chase <fchase@gmail.com>,

Carl Peters <clpeters2@sbcglobal.net>

date: Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 5:40 PM

subject: Bill Browder.....and the......Magnitsky Act

  I know you fellows don’t watch Sunday morning news programs very often  such as Fareed Zakaria’s GPS  but today’s program was really interesting.  Maybe you already know all this stuff but it was new to me…... Fareed interviewed Bill Browder this morning on GPS.    Browder was one of the biggest investors in Russia.  His Russian lawyer was Sergei Magnitsky who was  jailed in Russia for alleged tax fraud, beaten and then died in prison. Of course this was to get Magnitsky for seeking to find out  who was responsible for a $230 million tax fraud case.  The Magnitsky act, 2012, was named after Sergei and it attempts to punish Russian human rights abusers by barring them from entering the US and freezing their bank accounts.  Putin has been railing against this act ever since and this could be one reason that he attempted to infiltrate our election and try to persuade elected officials to over throw the Magnitsky Act.   Days after Congress passed this act the Russian parliament responded by banning American citizens from adopting Russian orphans.   Listen to the interview.  Browder has written a book, “Red Notice” which seems like it should be a good read…...

      <http://www.cnn.com/videos/world/2017/07/16/bill-browder-full-interview-gps.cnn>