Killing Real ID
Before It’s Too Late.

Also Inside...
The end of the IRS: Where they went wrong.
Interview with Sherry Peel Jackson

911 an inside job?
Interview With Professor Steven E. Jones

The Brown’s Story
When Liberty Weeps...
we dry her eyes.
Dear Patriots,

I come to you today in the spirit of verve, passion and quest for expansion of our resolve. Today, our team offers you Republic Magazine. It is my sincere hope that you will embrace and utilize our newest publishing endeavor, designed specifically for outreach and activist use.

This endeavor is the product of a new partnership venture between myself, Gary Franchi (Restore the Republic / AFTF National Director and founder of The Lone Lantern Society of America) and our George Shepherd (RTR/AFTF California State Coordinator and President of CDI Publications, Inc.). Our premiere issue features a cover story by our own Aaron Bolinger who lead the troops to victory against the Real ID in the state of South Carolina, an interview with Steven E. Jones, a feature on Ed and Elaine Brown and more. We are very pleased with the results of our first effort, but needless to say, we recognize that there is always room for improvement and growth.

This is where you come in, dear reader.

This magazine is designed with activism in mind. Activism is action with purpose. We ask your purposeful use and involvement in this effort through helping to distribute it, write for it, comment within it and advertise throughout it. Republic Magazine’s purpose is not to preach to the choir, but to give you, the active Patriot, another tool by which to wake up your fellow Americans. It is my sincere hope that you take full advantage of this publication and support our effort if you can do so through distribution and advertising efforts. As we grow and move into print medium, we hope to have corps of Patriots throughout our great nation leaving copies on the waiting room tables at doctor’s offices, dentists, in magazine racks everywhere. To this end, our publisher is making available incredible deals on bulk orders of the printed version in full glossy color. Visit: www.republicmagazine.com from more information or to order your “Activist Tool” bulk print copies. In the meantime, please help distributing the electronic version through email, blog posts or linking to it through your website.

While I’m on the subject of promotion, I would also like to take a moment to invite you all to tune into the new “Voice of Restore the Republic & AFTF”.... Ettaro LIVE!, my new talk national talk show, premieres this Friday evening 8pm to 10pm EST on WTPRN! On this new show I will be featuring all things RTR Media and stories and events that concern the modern Patriot Movement. Thanks so much to Danny Romero of WTPRN and Aaron Russo for setting this up and giving us all this wonderful opportunity to amplify our voice. I am proud and humbled to be added to a lineup that includes such luminaries of the Patriot Movement as Alex Jones, Jack Blood, Gary Franchi, Katherine Albrecht, Daniel Abramson and many others. It’s an honor and a privilege to serve in this capacity. I hope that you tune in, offer input and tell your friends about the effort.

Now to the point of my first editorial. Unity of Purpose.

By now many of you will have heard about the gathering of ‘peace groups’ in Philadelphia on the 4th of July to plan a course of direct action against our out of control government. Like many of you, I too, was skeptical about getting directly involved with this movement due to a perception that many actions taken by the “left” or the “peace movement” are overall mostly symbolic and ineffective.

But we face a powerful and omnipresent foe of my friends, and to root out the evil that has seized this country we must build bridges and coalitions beyond our immediate communities in order to bring about the change that is necessary. I joined the national conference call of this event’s organizers the other day and I come to tell you today that I believe that the new crop of leadership that is putting on this event means business. I like what I’m hearing and reading and I do believe that they mean what they’re saying in their radio ads if you’ve heard them already playing on such great patriot radio networks such as WTPRN. Because I believe in change, because I believe that we have reached a point of critical mass and because sometimes necessity breeds strange bedfellows, it is my contention that we must set aside previous perceptions, policy and philosophical differences that may have kept our factions separated in regards to our direct actions against the enemies of freedom.

Today I am asking members of Restore the Republic and AFTF and patriots everywhere to explore what these groups are saying and accept their offer to lock arms with us, the greater Patriot Movement, in creating a greater unity of purpose. That purpose is to stop the destruction of this great country and restore it to the rule of law through regaining control and citizen oversight of our governmental leaders and ending once and for all the grip of corporate fascism that is using our great nation as an instrument of death, war and enslavement the likes of which the world has never seen.

We wish to be free. We resolve to take back our country. We the people, will not
succumb to fear mongering and a domestic police state. We will not allow the microchipping and 24/7 surveillance of our citizens and no-bid contracts to Haliburton to build domestic detention centers. I could go on for pages detailing the actions of our leadership that we are now forced to resist. But many of you reading already know the problem. That said, I believe we will restore this great republic but to do so we need allies, for we are at war. In a time of war, one needs friends. I personally may not agree with everyone in any movement that I join and always must look at getting past surface-level semantics and policy arguments in order to build something greater upon a core issue. That issue is restoring our constitutional principals, restoring the rights stolen from us and ensuring that this fascism we now battle never be given opportunity to raise its specter again. This takes focusing on the common ground that my proposed brothers and sisters and I share. I suggest to you today that our separate communities must get together, lock arms and strike a resounding toll for freedom and crush the forces of darkness and tyranny once and for all. There will be plenty of time in the future to jump into the ring of public discourse and exercise our political muscle as we jockey for position and rally for our specific causes that are important to us. But for now, we have a war to win. For now, we must defeat our common enemy. For now, we are faced with the dire fact that it is now fight, die or live as a slave. Unfortunately, these three fates apply to every single person in this great nation. Straight, gay, fat, skinny, Christian, Jew, Muslim, Democrat, Republican...on and on. It doesn’t matter. We are ALL at risk and our future is dark and full of regret should we not get past our social, religious and political differences and join forces to stop the evil that has taken over this land.

Patrick Henry said, “I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death.” I and my friends who publish this magazine hold this sentiment to heart. Share this purpose with us and together we can stop those who wish to eliminate all of our rights. For the global elite, the “New World Order”, whatever you wish to call them are relentless and ruthless. They care not of our respective beliefs, traditions, penchants, fetishes or values. We are all the same to them. We are a cog in their machine. Cattle in the field. Cannon fodder in their wars.

This, my friend, is unacceptable and with the launch of this new magazine and the expansion of our media publishing endeavors we have fired a shot directly across the enemy’s bow. Be it known, we will not be slaves, we will not succumb to evil. We will be free at all costs. The fight is here. The battle joined.

Will you raise your voice in unison for the freedom and liberty of all mankind against our common foe, or will you quibble and squabble over ideological differences while the forces of darkness laugh at you?

This 4th of July, with the launch of this great publication, I travel to this historic ground and listen, learn, offer input and work with my new friends, sharing resources and information, education and inspiration and set aside difference in order to focus on the job at hand. Winning this war and restoring this republic.

I look forward to sharing my experiences with you in video and audio format through RTR Media and written form on the pages of this magazine.

Please enjoy this premiere issue of Republic Magazine and, remember, this is YOUR magazine. We are here to serve Patriots from all corners of our country to assist them in educating and inspiring our fellow Americans. This is the beginning of our concerted effort to take our collective voice, gather it, and push it into the American consciousness through sheer brute force of will and numbers. We will become the mainstream. Our message is true. Our cause is just. We must believe and push it through to the sleeping masses.

With your help, we will Restore this Republic. Your input, suggestions and direction for this magazine are much appreciated.

Peace and God Bless,
Samuel Anthony Ettaro
Editor-In Chief
www.republicmagazine.com
When Liberty Weeps...
we dry her eyes.

The Ed and Elaine Brown Story
By Gary Graves and Samuel Anthony Ettaro

It is a unique thing to watch history in the making. To be able to witness and even participate in an event whose outcome may strengthen or destroy the very fabric upon which this country was built is at once frightening and uplifting. Such moments are rare, but rarer still are the true patriots that can see the change happening, and have the courage to fan the flame. This is the situation in which we find ourselves as modern-day American patriots. We are caught between the blue screen flicker of the nightly news and the white hot flame of righteous anger. It is a place where some dreams will die, and others will be born.

Let us face the facts. The perpetual erosion of our civil liberties throughout the last 100 years is very real and close enough to all, that we may reflect upon what it once meant to be an American with somber hearts. Take a moment to think back when:

• You felt confident in the electoral process.
• Wearing your seatbelt was YOUR choice.
• The government couldn’t invade your privacy without a warrant and probable cause.
• Passports didn’t contain RFID chips that have tracking capabilities.
• Products you buy at your local department store didn’t contain RFID chips that have tracking capabilities.
• People didn’t contain RFID chips that have tracking capabilities.
• People weren’t treated like products. Free Speech meant you could say what you want wherever you want.
• The entire country we call America was a “Free Speech Zone”.
• You felt the government was by the people and for the people.

Unwelcome changes within our government on all levels have led to the demise of the very principles upon which this country was created. These principles are captured best in the opening of THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES which reads:

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Can you honestly look at the world around us and the actions of our Government and say that we are holding to this basic tenant? There are growing numbers of those who call themselves ‘patriots’ that say no and are prepared to do something about it. This article illustrates one such instance.

Unbeknownst to most Americans there is, at this very moment, a standoff underway between those who would serve to continue our current path of enslaving ourselves to the coercive control of our government, and those who defend our birth right of being free to live our lives as we see fit, while respecting these same rights in others. As long as we don’t impose on the rights of others, and are productive members of society, at least not destructive, Americans used to be free. But this has changed and to one married couple residing in the wilds of New England, “Live Free or Die” is more than just their state’s motto.

Ed and Elaine Brown of Plainfield, New Hampshire have taken a stand in an effort to not only protect the rights afforded to them by the United States Constitution, but also to expose what may be the greatest fraud perpetrated against the
THE PERPETUAL EROSION OF OUR CIVIL LIBERTIES THROUGHOUT THE LAST 100 YEARS IS VERY REAL AND CLOSE ENOUGH TO ALL, THAT WE MAY REFLECT UPON WHAT IT ONCE MEANT TO BE AN AMERICAN WITH SOMBER HEARTS.

American people in the history of this nation. Their fight is for all of us against the forces that wish to enslave all of us.

Armed with knowledge and emboldened by the truth, the Browns began writing to the IRS in 1994 questioning the legality of the IRS imposing the federal income tax on ordinary Americans. The IRS did not reply with any law, statute, or any documentation that would substantiate the legal standing on which federal income tax is imposed. For two years the Brown’s continued writing to the IRS submitting legal documents such as Supreme Court decisions, case law, and Congressional record transcripts that support their position that income tax is not a mandatory tax, all the while asking for any information that would establish the law by which United States citizens are required to pay a federal income tax. With nothing forthcoming from the IRS the Browns decided to take a stand. In 1996, they notified the IRS that until such time that they would be provided with the law that requires them to do so, that they would no longer pay federal income tax.

In November of 2004, the IRS finally responded. Twenty-eight armed law enforcement agents, including IRS, Federal Marshalls, Postal Inspectors, and the state and local police raided the Browns. A sniper and three observers posted on the high ground of the Brown’s property were also a part of the team that perpetrated the raid. An “observer” works with the sniper to ensure accuracy and the acquisition of targets. To the feds, the stand that the Brown’s were taking had clearly gone beyond routine tax evasion.

Officially, the stated purpose of the presence of these agents was to download files from the Brown’s computer. Clearly, however, the truth is that the Brown’s are now considered enemy combatants by the feds and that an array of deadly force brought against them was justified.

The reason? To collect back taxes.

The New Hampshire case is not the first time that the IRS has used Gestapo tactics to intimidate those who may have the resolve to stand up for themselves. The use of such brute force against such “tax protestors” is part of the new American landscape. Numerous cases of the IRS and peripheral agencies raiding business owners and private residences with heavily armed agents and attack dogs, without any charges being filed against the American citizens inside, are part of our modern history. To get a taste of how real this issue is just type “raided by IRS” in any Google search box and be prepared for a journey that should open your eyes and break your heart if you call yourself a lover of freedom.

In 2006, the Brown’s trial commenced after they were arrested and charged. It quickly became apparent that Ed and Elaine were being railroaded in court as they were not allowed to present evidence on their behalf, and the majority of their motions were denied by the judge even though there was no objection by the prosecution.

Ed Brown stated in court, “Show me the law and I’ll pay these taxes right now”. He continues this mantra today.

The prosecution did not show Ed the law. To this day they still have not done so. This aversion that the feds have toward sharing the law that compels the American citizen to pay the federal income tax extends well beyond the Brown’s situation. Like the aforementioned examples of paramilitary force being doled out against tax protesters, so the feds dish out their ambivalence toward the litany of official redress of grievances filed by Americans from all walks of life in the name of this argument. Many repeatedly file with their government on this simple point and ask this simple question.

“What is the law…?”

The answer that is received is always the same. This grievance is either ignored or the standard bearer is met with force.

For the Brown’s, once passing the point of no return they stuck to their convictions and Ed actually refused outright to continue with the trial. His wife Elaine decided to see it through, however. This resulted in Elaine being ordered to live separately from her husband or face incarceration. It is important to note that this order was given by the judge before the trial was even finished. In February of 2007 Elaine was finally returned to her home to rejoin her husband as they together refused to participate in an outcome that was obviously preordained. The family has been in their home ever since.

The Brown’s have made it known to law enforcement officials that they will defend themselves vigorously if any attempt is made to take them into custody. Patriots from around the world have shown support for the family in various ways. Most hope for a peaceful resolution but many also vow to stand beside the Brown’s against the injustice that has occurred and defend the rights of free Americans by whatever
means necessary.

How has our country come to this? Is there in fact a law that requires the average American citizen to pay federal income tax? Aaron Russo’s film America: Freedom to Fascism suggests that there isn’t. The film goes on to expose the truth about the Federal Reserve system. It is clearly pointed out how the Federal Reserve operates, and the nature of its formation and very existence as a privately owned bank which profits off of the labor of every American citizen through the issuance of currency out of thin air. This money is then lent to the American public through the national government which then makes the American people beholden to these private parties for interest payments on the money borrowed. Furthermore, the money that is printed by the US Treasury, at the behest of the Federal Reserve, is not backed by any substance whatsoever.

All of this happens daily to the tune of billions of dollars of accrued debt, while our government ignores the authority that the American people have inherent in the Constitution to issue currency and use that currency without the additional costs of interest.

Consider that the Federal Reserve and the Federal Income tax both came about in 1913. Coincidence?

The Graves Commission report, written in part by Peter Graves during the Reagan administration, states that every dollar withheld for federal income tax goes to pay interest on money borrowed from the Federal Reserve.

So, are the Brown’s dangerous rebels or righteous warriors defending innocents against tyranny?

Let us recap why the Brown’s are risking their lives by standing against the federal tax enforcement authorities.

Our government borrows money that was created out of thin air that Congress could print for free in order to operate, and the Citizens of the United States of America are forced to pay the interest on this unnecessary debt to privately-owned banks in the form of a federal income tax imposed on our wages. When asked what law exists that demands the citizen’s compliance with this system, those issuing this grievance are met with force rather than explanation in many cases. This scenario is more than simply troubling. This shakes America to its very foundation. The Brown’s situation illustrates in stark terms just how deep the talons of big private corporate interests are sunk into the American body. The lack of understanding by the general populace about these issues illustrates just how limp and weak that body has become.

Suddenly the Brown’s stand is much more significant than it seems as the story comes across the occasional mainstream media newsbite. Ed and Elaine Brown are no longer two people in NH who stopped paying their taxes. It’s not that simple any longer. They are our mother and father, our brother and sister, our aunt and uncle who are putting their lives on the line so that we may open our eyes and free ourselves from bondage.

At very least the Brown’s should be saluted and thanked for their sacrifice and selfless determination to end the siphoning of the wages of our people. At best, they should be defended.

The choice is up to us. Liberty is weeping. Will you dry her eyes?

*WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness – That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely effect their safety and happiness.*

-The Declaration of Independence

**TO GET A TASTE OF HOW REAL THIS ISSUE IS JUST TYPE “RAIDED BY IRS” IN ANY GOOGLE SEARCH BOX AND BE PREPARED FOR A JOURNEY THAT SHOULD OPEN YOUR EYES AND BREAK YOUR HEART IF YOU CALL YOURSELF A LOVER OF FREEDOM.**
We the people, in order to preserve and protect our freedom, do hereby declare...

The End of the IRS

An Interview With Anti-Tyranny Activist and Educator

Sherry Peel Jackson

Gary Franchi: Who is Sherry Jackson?
Sherry Jackson: (Laughs) Sherry Jackson is, first of all, a real hard-line, strong Christian woman that is a speaker of truth. That’s the easiest way to put it. And I am a CPA; I’m a certified fraud examiner. And I worked with the IRS in the Examination Division for 7 ½ years from 1988 to 1995.
I worked for a CPA firm, and I worked in corporate America prior to that. But the IRS was the last job that I had, which was ’88 to ’95, yes.

Samuel Anthony Ettaro: I want to know at what point you turned. This is a pretty complicated subject that we’re going to try to tackle here in a short amount of time so I’d like you to jump right into the very basics for our readers that may not be too hip to what is commonly called the “tax honesty movement.” Tell us a little bit about the movement, where it came from, how you got involved with it, what it’s all about. What are the major concerns of the folks involved with this movement?
SJ: This has been going on for several years, even before I was around. People started wondering, you know, what about this tax law? Does it apply to you? Does it apply to everybody? And people started doing research. Now, as of the onslaught of the Internet, when the Internet came about, it became easier for people to communicate and ask questions and listen. The government, in a nutshell, has refused to answer the questions that the people are asking. The question is, what laws, what statutes and regulations require those that live and work in the 50 states to file an income tax return and pay an income tax? Based on the research of several experts, former IRS agents and others, it appears to us that those that live and work in the 50 states are not liable. You pay a tax on the privilege of working here, if you’re a nonresident alien, or a corporation, or some Americans who are living and working abroad, but for the most part we can’t find that answer. The way I got involved -- and this is a long story cut short – in July of 2000, We the People up in New York, with Bob Schultz, put out a full-page ad in the USA Today. I had been hearing stories and people approached me saying that the income tax doesn’t apply to you but I didn’t pay it that much attention because I was busy doing other things. Not that I didn’t believe them, I just didn’t have time to do the research. I was always taught to research something before I answer to it as opposed to having a knee-jerk reaction like some people do, saying, “Oh, I’m a CPA and that’s not true.” I hadn’t really researched it. But when that ad came out in July 2007, there was a lot of credible evidence in it and I started looking at it. And every time I looked and whatever angle I looked, I wasn’t getting the answer (that) there’s a definite “yes” that you all owe the income taxes.

SAE: So what were the angles that mainly caught your eye? You said everywhere you looked, you just went, “Whooa, wait a minute.”
SJ: Well, they talked about certain code sections; when I went to the specific code sections concerning employment tax … those specific code sections, which by the way I have the codes and regulations in my office, all say “nonresident alien.” And then you started looking at some of the 6011 and 6012, it’s talking about a stamp tax, again which is an excise tax like gas taxes and cigarette taxes. So even in the 1040 instruction booklet, Line 7 says “income,” right under that it says “foreign income.” Why would foreign income be the first thing under “income” if most Americans don’t even have foreign income? Going back into the old codes and regulations, it appears that the wording was changed,
WHEREIN A LONG TIME AGO IT SAID “IN THE CASE OF A NONRESIDENT ALIEN OR FOREIGN CORPORATION BLAH, BLAH, BLAH,” NOW IT SAYS “IN THE CASE OF A TAXPAYER, BLAH, BLAH, BLAH.” THERE WEREN’T ANY DIFFERENT LAWS CHANGING, JUST THE WORDING. SO THERE’S JUST TOO MANY DIFFERENT PROBLEMS AND YOU’RE SUPPOSED TO ERR ON THE SIDE OF THE CITIZEN AND THAT’S NOT WHAT’S Happening. WE’RE ASKING QUESTIONS UNSUCCESSFULLY; ASKING QUESTIONS OF OUR CIVIL SERVANTS AND ALL WE’RE GETTING IS BEATEN OVER THE HEAD WITH CLUBS.

SAE: (Laughs) Geez … That’s really what it amounts to. … Now you’re coming at this from a unique perspective in that you have a direct background with the IRS. Tell us about that.

SJ: I am a certified public accountant, a certified fraud examiner, and from 1988 to 1995 I was an Internal Revenue agent. I worked in the Examination Division, which means that I went out to businesses and audited these businesses. I would go out there, look at the tax return, look at their books and records to see whether or not they supposedly, you know, put all the money that they earned on the tax return. I didn’t know any better. What we were taught in our little Internal Revenue training, we used these manuals. These manuals we thought was the law, but as I got to the point where I started researching in 2002 I started realizing there’s a difference in what the manual says and what the law says.

GF: Did you just fill out an application and say, “Hey, I want to work for you guys?”

SJ: I was frustrated with corporate America and all of the politics that was going on and I looked in the Sunday paper and there was an ad for Internal Revenue agents and I said, “Well, I think I can do this job.” And I applied and got hired.

GF: So you’re there, you’re at the IRS, and then you say, “Show me the law!”

SJ: Actually, no, I’m at the IRS, remember I told you I’m one of those hard-line Christian women, and it got to the point at the IRS where I was moving up, getting promotions, and having to deal with larger companies that had their CPA and their attorneys screaming at me, and having to get wired up to take bribes and all of that stuff just got to me because it was taking more time away from my family than I needed for it to take away. I wasn’t, you know, being the mother that I needed to be. I wasn’t being the wife I needed to be. So I quit. … I gave my two-week notice and I quit.

SAE: So you just had a natural career move and moved on to some other things. It wasn’t brought about by your concern over the tax laws and tactics of the IRS?

SJ: Yeah it was kinda like I didn’t want to be tied down anymore because of my family. I had small children and I was helping the IRS and there were times when it got stressful, me fighting with CPAs and attorneys from large corporations that I might have been auditing, or me having to get wired up to take bribes because somebody offered a bribe. That kind of stuff is not for the mother in the Christian home. … So I just quit, I just quit. I didn’t have another job, I just quit.

GF: So you say you were having to get wired up to go out and find people to bribe you?

SJ: No, actually somebody did (try to) bribe me and I had to get wired up and go through a whole bunch of that. … That might seem exciting. But at the point where you’re coming home and your children want their mother and their mother has a headache or their mother has to leave at 7 o’clock at night to meet with somebody and can’t tell her husband where she’s going, that just got a little bit old.
SAE: Oh, wow. So at what point did you decide to turn activist? I mean, what was that breaking point for you? That had to be, man, oh man …
SJ: I have to tell you first of all that I’m a “Trekkie.” I have all 79 original episodes of “Star Trek” and all the movies.

SAE: (Laughing) Are you really? You’re full of surprises, aren’t you, Sherry?
SJ: Yes, I am. When I found out that it was a possibility that the income tax didn’t apply to us, I started, you know, vigorously doing a lot of research because I wanted to know. People started asking me. And because of the Internet, a lot of, you know, a lot of people were asking, especially the pastors were asking. Because … when I was in the IRS, I audited pastors for the last 2 ½ years I was there. And when I left the IRS, those were the people that I really wanted to help. So I started working with them closely to try to make sure that their books and records were in order. And these people were getting approached by their constituents in their church saying, you know, “The income tax looks like it’s a fraud.” So they were coming in. And when I started researching and finding out more and more that the government hadn’t been answering the questions the people are asking, I got to the point that I made the decision that was what I wanted to do. … But it was the Federal Reserve; that was the straw that broke the camel’s back. When I found out that the Federal Reserve is a non-elected private banking cartel collecting $30 million an hour in interest from the American people, that “Spock” logic kicked in and I said, “It’s bad enough that I am in a position that I’m giving $10,000 or $8,000 or $5,000 over to the IRS, but if that money is not going towards the roads – the gas tax pays for that – if it’s not going towards the schools and the fire department – my real estate pays for that – it goes for some individuals that, you know, when their children are born in 2026, they’ll never have to work a day in their lives. So I’m working for somebody else’s posterity so they’ll never have to work a day in their life and my children are living hand-to-mouth and having to get their clothes from a thrift store, that’s not happening. And that was it.

SAE: And then to boot, on top of that, we have this perpetual
system of slavery, where our leaders are continuously selling us down the river by getting us further and further and further in debt to the bankers in that very system.

SJ: It’s not their money. And what do children do? If you tell a child to go to a store and they can buy anything they want, it’s gonna be different if you say, “OK, you have to spend your money.”

SAE: Well, sure.

SJ: And that’s what’s happening. We are being sold. We have been sold. We are all slaves. It doesn’t matter what color you are, what religion you are, whether you’re Democrat or Republican or whatever, we’re slaves to this system. And until we do something about it, we’re bowing to that system. And as opposed to being an informed slave, I decided to get off the plantation.

GF: Was that the point in your life referred to in the film America: Freedom to Fascism, that you saw an ad in the USA Today that turned you around? Can you tell us a little bit about that and what happened with that?

SJ: Well, prior to that, I left in ’95. In ’99 I started hearing the rumors about the income tax being a fraud and not applying to people that live and work in the 50 states, and still I didn’t budge. And when, let’s go back into when I was working at the IRS. When I was at the IRS, the last 2 ½ years at the IRS, I audited ministers, in something loosely called “The Preacher Project,” where people would call a 1-800 number or write letters in or call in to the IRS about certain ministers doing this or that. And I was charged with auditing these tax returns of these ministers, and when I left, the first thing that I wanted to do was get with these guys and say, “Hey, you know, you’re a target, let me show you how to, you know, help you not get in trouble with these guys.” Along ’99, these ministers were coming to me and saying, “Hey, my congregation, some people in my congregation are telling me that we’re not liable for the income tax.” So I had to, you know, think about at some point I was gonna have to research it. And then one of the ministers had one of the congregation people call me and this person is the one who told me about the USA Today ad. And when I pulled it down off the computer and read the whole thing, then there was some valid information in there. It said, “Dear We the People, the income tax is a fraud, if you sign this you’re waiving your Fifth Amendment rights.” This was July 7th of 2000. So I started studying the information in there. You know, Joe Banister’s Web site was in there and others. And I started looking in my codes and regulations in my office and … I couldn’t find anything to dispute anything that was in the article. And so I started asking some serious questions. Based on the government’s track record of, you know, not being honest with the American people, I couldn’t just put aside the fact that they may be lying. And so the search started at that point.

GF: And they offered an award. You started to seek it out.

And you brought your request; who did you bring your request to? To seek out if there was a law?

SJ: Well that ad in the USA Today did have a $50,000 challenge for anybody that could find the law. And I did want to win that $50,000, you know, aside from the fact that … this is what I said to myself: “I’m gonna put this baby to bed, and I’m gonna answer these ministers’ questions and these other questions and I’m gonna win $50,000 so that after my tithes and offerings I’m gonna pay off my husband’s car and we might have a little left over for vacation.” And so when I wasn’t getting answers that I was looking for, I started asking, you know, CPAs, former IRS people that I worked with, and to this day, this is 2007, and I still have not gotten the answers concerning us. I have found though that the IRS codes and regulations are a hodgepodge of stuff that was put together and, you know, manipulated and eventually misapplied to us. For instance, you know, there’s some older codes that say “in the case of a nonresident alien or foreign corporation” and then it goes on to state what it says, but in the newer version it says “in the case of a taxpayer.” So that means that anybody that thinks they’re a taxpayer is gonna be susceptible to that, whatever that code or regulation says, without knowing that “maybe, I need to back further and see who’s a ‘taxpayer.’”

SAE: OK, I want you to run this down for us, I was looking at your blog earlier. Run down for us, the key points as to why we as American citizens are slaves.

SJ: When you can tax a man’s labor 1 percent, you can tax it 100 percent; he is a slave. That is the bottom line. You know, the income tax started out at 3 percent. And if I had been back, you know, 50 years, if I could travel back in the past 50 years and say, “We’ve gotta do something now to stop what’s going, because, you know, the tax right now is 3 percent, but 50, 60 years in the future it’s gonna be more than 50 percent of taxes people are gonna be paying with federal and state taxes and add valorum taxes and all these taxes are gonna take 50 percent.” … Those people would’ve locked me up in the loony bin. But see, here we are, and it has happened. It has happened. So what is a so-called “free people” to do when they realize that they don’t own their own energy and time.

SAE: Yeah, absolutely. Absolutely.

SJ: I want to put in that I don’t tell people to file or not to file. I don’t tell to pay or not to pay. What I do tell people to do is do their own research. Do their own due-diligence. But look at the IRS Web site. Look at what’s on the Internet about the misapplication and the misrepresentation of the income tax, and then ask their congressman and their senators and everybody around them, “Hey, show me the law that requires me to file or pay. And if you find it, please tell me.”

GF: Who is a taxpayer?

SJ: As far as our research is concerned, these people that are nonresident aliens, foreign corporations, in some instances people that live and work abroad, Americans that live and do
work abroad. However, the research has shown that even in the codes and regulations, if you go to certain code sections, like the ones about employment tax -- 1441 and 1446, I believe they are, I’m not really sure – it says “nonresident alien” right there in the code. But people don’t, you know, people don’t go and get the code. They depend on their CPA, they depend on their tax accountant or tax attorney or whatever. And these people were taught, just like I was taught in the university, basically nothing about the law and didn’t use the codes or regulations. At the school that I graduated from, we had one tax class, and all they taught us was how to prepare a tax return. We didn’t get into codes and regulations. When I was an IRS agent, we were taught using tablets or publications that they put together and rarely even looked at the codes and regulations, because we were … supposedly the stuff that was in the publications was in there.

SAE: Talk to us about the process of being involved in this kind of tax protesting. I mean, we, uh, we … in the, I guess, for lack of a better term “patriot movement,” would be well aware of a group such as We the People Foundation. Their fight’s been going on for quite some time. There’s others that are out there doing it. Tell us about some of the groups and people that are on the front lines and exactly how the fight is going. When you say “They won’t answer legitimate questions,” for our readers, explain the process, explain how these folks that are fighting that fight for all of us have gone to the lengths that they’ve gone, what channels they’ve pursued this, specifically what questions and to whom, and what the responses have been.

SJ: You have, just like you said, different people, and they’re fighting on different fronts.

SAE: Yeah, well tell us about some of them.

SJ: Well, you have the late Dan Meador was an excellent researcher, we have lots of tax researchers. You have, uh, some attorneys that are Larry Becraft, some of the other ones, Dave Champion out in California. There so many people that have been doing this research for several years. They’ll come up with questions and, you know, they’ll ask … they’ll send letters to the commissioner of the IRS, used to be (Charles Edward) Rosotti, now it’s (Mark) Everson. They will send letters to the commissioner, they will send letters to the
codes and regulations vs. the publications, then I found the pages. Then when I started researching and looking at the wrong here. We were thinking, OK, well, bless them, they’re people, you know, weren’t thinking, you know, something’s and the regulations much at all. So he’s right about that. And “The law says this” and “The law says that.” And, uh, we didn’t use the code may have been 50 pages at most, and they said “The law says and delivered these letters along with petitions from people all over the state. So although there were just three of us we had letters from people all over Georgia. And that was going on in every state. Some states had 20 or 30 people at this rally. And we took the whole day and walked around and delivered these petitions and getting nonsensical answers back, saying, “Thank you for visiting me in Washington. The next time you’re in Washington, please visit again.” We got no straight answers.

GF: Not surprising. I understand that the official tax code is over 66,000 pages long, and what they have issued publicly is very, very abbreviated. It sounds to me like you may know more than most at the IRS.

Sj: They taught us with publications, and the publication may have been 50 pages at most, and they said “The law says this” and “The law says that.” And, uh, we didn’t use the code and the regulations much at all. So he’s right about that. And people, you know, weren’t thinking, you know, something’s wrong here. We were thinking, OK, well, bless them, they’re trying to save our eyes from having to go through this 66,000 pages. Then when I started researching and looking at the codes and regulations vs. the publications, then I found the disconnect.

GF: Right. And the publications don’t have any actual authority. It’s the code that supposedly has the authority, correct?

Sj: Correct.

GF: The publications are just for advisory purposes.

Sj: They think that they’re gonna be successful in making sure the American people are fed bread and circuses. I mean, think about how much foolishness we have on television, and reality shows, and everybody’s talking about the last five winners of the “American Idol” but who knows who Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is and how he might affect our gas prices in the next six months.

Sj: Believe it or not, they say stuff like, “Oh, I’ve heard of stuff of things?”

GF: So, we’ve got, we’ve got the IRS … what about these CPAs, these accountants, that are doing the taxes for everybody? You said that obviously they’ve just been taught to do things a certain thing. When you speak to CPAs in your circle of influence, how do they respond when you tell them these types of things?

Sj: It’s very difficult to fathom that this level of effort has been put forth on a consistent basis and the complete and blatant ignoring of it. I don’t … I mean, are they thinking this is just going to go away? By them being silent, they’re validating what you’re saying. What do you think? What’s the deal?

GF: They think that they’re gonna be successful in making sure the American people are fed bread and circuses. I mean, think about how much foolishness we have on television, and reality shows, and everybody’s talking about the last five winners of the “American Idol” but who knows who Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is and how he might affect our gas prices in the next six months.

GF: Well, I wasn’t involved in the first We the People meeting, but they had a meeting in ’99, from what I understand, one congressman did show up, and that was (James) Traficant. And all of a sudden, something happened to Traficant, you know. So I don’t know of any congress people or senator, well, you know, Roscoe Bartlett decided to have the “truth in taxation” hearings and then reneged on it. We were supposed to have some “truth in taxation” hearings in September of 2001. We had 9/11 and we postponed it until February of 2002. Between that time, the Department of Justice and the IRS decided that they weren’t going to participate and Congressman Roscoe Bartlett also bowed out. But we had these little hearings up in Washington without the Congress, without the IRS, without the DOJ participating as they said they would. They promised that they would participate. This issue is a very, very large issue and logic would dictate that if there is a law that requires most people that live and work in the 50 states to file and pay, because there are so many people asking the question, that the president or somebody would get on television at 8 o’clock one night and say “Here it is.” But nobody’s answering. In fact, all we’re getting is “Shut up and pay.” We don’t want to hear that frivolous argument, “Shut up and pay.” … We don’t want to hear this. We don’t want to hear that. We don’t want to look at these IRS regulations. We want to give you a pamphlet that says that you owe.” A pamphlet is not the law.
GF: Horrible. Horrible. ... You were featured in the film, “America: Freedom to Fascism.” and started working with Aaron Russo. How did that relationship unfold?
SJ: Well I think I got called by someone and got asked whether or not I wanted to be in a movie. Joe Banister and John Turner and a couple of other people that left the IRS had kind of gained a little notoriety in the sense that, “Hey, a lot of people have been looking at this tax law for a long time but now there are actually people that worked in the IRS that are actually agreeing with us.” So Joe and me and John started speaking in several places around the country, and then we got a call. Of course we agreed to be in the movie, because the point is, we wanted the American people to understand what’s going on. So this was a great avenue to get that done. And I really enjoyed doing it even though I had a very small part in there, I think that those of us that worked there, that were in the movie, brought great impact to the people that are looking, saying, “OK, well you have not only one, but several different former federal people that are agreeing that we need to look at this situation and realize that we’re being manipulated.”

GF: So do people have to pay taxes? Everyone’s like, “They’re gonna come down on me. They’re gonna come down on me.” What can the people do?
SJ: That’s not the question. The question is, “Is it the law?” And the answer that I get is, “Well, I don’t want any trouble.” Well that’s not the question. … If it’s the law, then it’s the law. But if it’s not, and then your fear is stopping you, then it’s a whole other issue. And people have to do whatever their heart tells them to do. I don’t tell people to file a tax return or not to file a tax return. I don’t tell people to pay a tax or not to pay a tax. What I tell people to do is go and do their research. Go and do due-diligence on this. Go and research the tax law and then they can decide whether they’re gonna be an informed slave or get off the plantation.

GF: Mmm hmmm. I’m trying ... (laughs) this is, this is wild. ... So is this the possible end of the IRS?
SJ: The IRS will end when the people demand it. There is so much abuse going on. We hear about it every day. People giving their girlfriends raises. Money lost within, you know, the … people giving themselves large raises in the V.A. All this stuff is going on and as long as the American people shrug their shoulders and say, “Oh well, that’s how government works,” then this is gonna continue on. There are those of us that have said, “Enough is enough. I don’t want my children to have to deal with this foolishness and this mess. I’m gonna try and do something about it.” Like Thomas Paine said, “If there be trouble, let it be in my day so that my child may have peace.”

SAE: Absolutely. And it’s through that system of our economics that the beast is not only being fed. but -- meaning it’s making money, it’s where the money is coming from to continue the policies -- but we are feeding it. And I want to blah, blah, blah” and there’s this little sound bite every now and then and something in the newspaper. And it’s something that most people simply do not understand and it’s the source of so many of our problems. It really is. Of the problem being that we are becoming a tyrannical, if not have become already a tyranny.
SJ: And we have given over control already of our resources.

SAE: Explain to our readers the depth of this problem. You talk about the Federal Reserve, you know, and people’s eyes just roll back in their head and they think back to the day of Greenspan coming on the evening news on a little sound bite and Dan Rather talking about “The Fed today decided together we must reclaim this great nation from the hands of those who seek to twist our liberty into a vehicle for personal gain. Only through the monetary support of our brothers and sisters can we once again Declare our Independence!

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The constitution says that the Congress has the right to coin money. They have given that privilege over to the Federal Reserve which is no more “federal” than Federal Express.

you to explain to us where the fed comes in, how it works and the system of tax. Wherein lies the problem? ... You kind of alluded to this at the beginning, but the people think they’re paying taxes because they’re getting something in return for it. Well, tell us the truth. Explain this to us a bit, how it works.

SJ: The constitution says that the Congress has the right to coin money. They have given that privilege over to the Federal Reserve which is no more “federal” than Federal Express. Another thing it says is that we are supposed to pay impost, duties, excises and tariffs. In other words, for the privilege of doing business in the United States, all those goods from Hong Kong and China and Indonesia that are coming over here, flowing freely through Wally World, which is Wal-Mart, with those low prices, they’re supposed to be paying an excise tax on all those goods. But China has been given most-favored nation status and they’ve put this burden on the American people that don’t know any better about the fact that they’re American citizens. A man’s labor … there’s so much law and so many writings from the constitutionalists, I mean the federalists and the anti-federalists, and all this; the way the Supreme Court back in the 1800s … if you research all that, and turn off the electronic income reducer called the TV, you’ll realize that a man’s labor is not to be taxed. This is all we have.

SAE: That’s all you have is the time on this planet, exactly.

SJ: And as long as you’re letting somebody take it, they’re not gonna listen to you. Look at it this way, remember “Jack and the Beanstalk.” You’ve got this thick beanstalk, it’s very, very thick, and it has lots and lots of branches. And I might be on one branch chopping at that branch like crazy because I don’t like the war, and somebody else is on another branch so that they can stop the global warming, and somebody else might be on even another branch trying to stop something else. Well, as long as everybody stops and puts their axe down on April 15, reach down in their pockets and throw the seeds down into the root of the stalk, then that branch that they’re cutting up is never going to die. That’s a word picture for you. You’re on that branch, chopping away for your cause. As long as you’re feeding the beast, as long as you’re feeding the stalk, you’re not gonna be able to chop away that branch. They don’t care about you. They don’t care. As long as they’re getting that money from you, they’re not going to listen to you.

SAE: So explain to us how it works. Explain to us in a nutshell in very layman’s terms; you’re good at this, a great presenter. I really admire you. A real fireball, too, if you ever have a chance to see Sherry live, get out there and do so. Um, explain to us in layman’s terms how this works. The Fed … the Fed makes the money, prints it out … go right ahead …

SJ: The Federal Reserve, if the government asks for $50 million, the Federal Reserve just creates it out of thin air, puts it into the Treasury, and then charges interest on it. And the interest, if you go on the Internet and look at the debt clock, you will see the interest, how it mounts, and it is about $30 million an hour.

SAE: Wow.

Sherry Jackson: So the Federal Reserve is collecting that, and the IRS is the bouncer for the club. ... The Federal Reserve is the club.

SAE: So I’m the Federal Government and you’re the Fed and I say, “Dude, I need some bucks,” and you go, “A’ight” and you write me a check. And then you start charging me interest on it. And there’s nothing backing that check.

SJ: Nothing; thin air.

SAE: And then the government isn’t really responsible for it, because supposedly the government is the people, so they simply pass that bill along to us. So I get Joe Schmo next door and I go over and put a gun to his head and somehow convince him that he needs to pay that debt for me because I’m providing this serve and that service and this other service, and if he doesn’t pay it and step it up, because the interest is coming due for my banking buddies, then I’m gonna take his house. I mean, that’s really what it comes down to.

SJ: Right. And John F. Kennedy decided that he was gonna start making United States notes. At one time I had a copy of a United States Reserve Note. They were $5 United States Notes. They were not Federal Reserve notes. All the sudden he was dead, and the first thing Lyndon Baines Johnson did when he took office was rescind the executive order and give that power back to the Federal Reserve. Same thing happened with “greenbacks, Lincoln Greenbacks.” Lincoln decided to have “greenbacks” and have somebody else besides the bankers in charge of the money. If people would research, they would see all this stuff. But I think that there’s fear through the media being controlled, the same owners of the Federal Reserve own the major media. So they’re not gonna let me be on television or Oprah doesn’t invite me on her show. So you’re not gonna hear this on television. You’re not gonna hear this on most mainstream radio stations with all the gurus. You’ve got the left-wing people and then you’ve got the right-wing people, but they’re toeing their party line but they’re not telling the truth about what’s going on in our system. You have to turn off the TV, put the golf clubs down for a little while and go do this research and find out what’s going on, because our future is at stake. My children and yours are gonna inherit this mess and I can’t sleep at night if I haven’t done anything. Because I want to stay in a comfort zone, I want to keep quiet about it and make, you know, thousands of dollars a year and not worry about my children’s future.
IN THE 1800s AND EVEN THE SUPREME COURT, RULINGS HAVE SAID THAT A MAN’S WAGE IS NOT TO BE TAXED.

GF: Let’s talk about voluntary compliance. And that was one of the sticking points of Aaron’s film, “America: Freedom to Fascism.” What is voluntary compliance? When Aaron sat down with the head of the IRS and he compared it to, obeying a stop sign in the middle of the night, obviously that’s not a comparison, but what does that mean?
SJ: I think they go to training classes to learn how to respond to certain questions, because I’ve heard that one before. And I’ve heard from the congress people that they get trained when they talk about the 16th Amendment, you know, “The 16th Amendment gives us the power to tax.” Well, voluntary compliance means “voluntary compliance.” You are complying voluntarily. Which, you know, there are those that say that when you sign your name on the bottom of that dotted line, you’re complying with something, regardless of whether you owe it or not. And we have to get back to the question: Is there a law that requires us to file (income) tax? If there is, you better do it. If there’s not, then that’s your hard-earned money, and throughout the years, earlier on, in the 1800s and even the Supreme Court, rulings have said that a man’s wage is not to be taxed. All we have to ourselves is our energy, and we should be able to go into the workplace and use our energy to produce for our families and ourselves without having somebody else have a claim on that. If you can tax a man 1 percent, you can tax him 100 percent and he’s a slave. Doesn’t matter what color you are, doesn’t matter what religion you are, doesn’t matter what political party you deal with. There are a group of power elite that don’t care about any of that; they like to see us fight over it. They like to see divide-and-conquer. You’ve got, you know, blacks and white fighting and the Mexicans and everybody else fighting and you’ve got the Democrats and the Republicans fighting and then you’ve got the Jews and the Christians fighting and the Muslims, all this and they love all that. They don’t care about any of that. They want to keep us distracted so they can continue to rape us. And I was getting raped every April 15, and I’ll be darned if I want my daughter to be raped every April 15. So I’m not gonna sit by and do nothing.

GF: Your home was actually invaded by the IRS.
SJ: Yes, I had a home invasion. Now I had been asking questions, respectfully, since 2000 -- please show us where we’re wrong. If there is a law, please show us that we’re wrong. The research that we’ve done actually says that...
we’re not the ones liable for the income tax. You can’t say in Section 61 income is income from whatever source derives. That would mean that the rice farmer in China has to pay. So obviously there are some exceptions. And we see where we are … our labor is the exception. Now corporate profits are taxable. But that’s different from an individual’s labor. So we’re asking these questions, we’re not getting any answers, and then all of a sudden one morning at 7:45 in the morning I hear this beating at my door and I run upstairs, because I was in the basement at the time, and 15 to 20 armed agents come flying in my door.

They were there, they were armed, they had guns pointed at us. And they were there from 7:45 in the morning until 5 o’clock. They took all of my DVDs. I had produced a DVD called “Breaking the Invisible Shadow,” and it’s made up of me when I was speaking in various places around the country, just bits and pieces of that. I had 800 of them at the time that they took them. They took all those. I had maybe about 20 of Joe Bannister’s books. I had all kinds of tax research. They took all of that. They took my financial records and, packed it up, and I still never got any answers from them.

SAE: Here’s the thing, what I don’t get, is, what is the end game here? I mean, (stammering) it seems as if the entire system is set up to collapse and bring about chaos. Why would they want to do that when we are the machine, the money machine?

SJ: Well, how do you bring down the most powerful nation in the world? You dumb-down the people through the education system, you put a lot of foolishness on television, you mess up the money system so everybody then will be equal, you let people flood over the borders like crazy and mess up the economy so that the United States will no longer be the superpower. And everybody will be about equal and then there’s a few people running the whole world. That’s just a theory that people have but it looks like it’s playing right in. … Like, why haven’t we closed down the borders? Why haven’t we closed down the borders? … You know, when stores need repair, there was a Waffle House here that was having a rat problem. They shut that Waffle House down, they tore it down, they rebuilt it. Why can’t we do that? Why can’t we close up the borders and say, “Excuse me, we have some repairs to be made here.”

SAE: I’m glad you brought up, I’m glad you brought up immigration. In the news this past week, what did you make of the hot air and the ramblings coming out of D.C. in regards to the new immigration package? And did you see the tide of the Real ID Act in there?

SJ: Yes, there was a discussion on one of our local radio stations today about that. But the people who they are targeting are not the ones that are gonna go out and get a national ID card. Why would I go get a national ID card when I live here, I was born here and I’m not doing anything wrong? The people that are doing something wrong or are here illegal, they’re not gonna get a card. It’s just like people giving up guns; the people who are the thieves are not gonna give up their guns. This whole system is crazy and until the American people wake up, get out of their comfort zone and take the house back from the civil servants we’re in some big trouble. There are not only people from South and Central America coming over, there are people flying over from the Middle East into Mexico and then crossing over by foot. This stuff is serious and, you know, my spirit grieves because of the ignorance or lack of concern or complacency of our populace. I mean, just like you said earlier, their eyes start glazing over. I don’t say much to people. I talk to people like you because I know you have sense and you study the same things. But I don’t talk to everybody about this because their eyes are gonna glaze over, they’re gonna change the subject and the next thing we’re gonna be talking about is, “Hey, did you see ‘Amazing Race’ last night?”

...interview continued in following issue.
I had given up on politics when I joined the ministry several years ago. But something that smelled reminiscently “mark of the beast” encouraged my reenlistment for the front lines of battle against Real ID.

During February of this year, several citizens fervently worked together to draft legislation with a common goal: demolishing the loaded potential of implementing the federal Real ID Act of 2005 in South Carolina. A bill already sitting in the legislature, S.449, opposed Real ID primarily on biometric and “funding” grounds. This was insufficient. Issues pertaining to theology and freedom, state’s rights matters, and the general unconstitutionality of a “national ID card” were devoid in S.449. We set out to resolve that problem with our new model, but with S.449 already introduced, we knew that complex procedural and political strategies would abound.

Strategy is my forte. As a former registered lobbyist and legislative analyst, along with my 20+ years of experience in politics, bill drafting and constitutional research, I was recruited by the *AFTF network.

From March-June of 2007, a team of citizen activists descended on the South Carolina state capital in Columbia. I was appointed as the leader for that team. The following excerpts of information are taken from my written journal, e-mails sent to our activists as the battle developed, and from my memory of the events included in the actual fight in Columbia.

**S.449: FIXING IT.**

Upon discovering S.449’s innate flaws, I contacted the senator from my district. He asked how it could be ameliorated. I immediately wrote an “issue brief” entitled “What’s Wrong with S. 449”. Unfortunately, it was already too late in the Senate. Their transportation committee passed S.449 onto the floor of the Senate before that issue brief could be read in the public hearing, and it was voted in favor of passing over to the South Carolina House of Representatives.

We immediately produced a **54-page booklet entitled “The Real ID Act: REAL Tyranny against Americans!”** The booklet was an aggregation of numerous issue briefs from a diverse lot of organizations who had declared opposition to Real ID. From the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) to the Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership (JPFO), we wanted to assemble arguments from “left” and “right” perspectives. A group of former military personnel formed the ***National Veterans Committee on Constitutional Affairs. They wanted to publish this work under their flag and help in every way possible.

During the Easter holiday week, a

(** That document is now available for public use in any state, here: http://www.lulu.com/content/824343
*** www.nvcca.net )
couple of us made our first trip to Columbia. Armed with 125 copies of this booklet, including the “What’s Wrong with S.449” item, we placed one in the mailbox of every member of the South Carolina House of Representatives. With no one around but a handful of secretaries, it was both easy to ask questions and get answers from those who REALLY know the inside of these legislator’s minds.

On March 10, 2007, we took a team of seven to Columbia to begin the work. The proponents of Comrade Chertof’s National ID card did not show up at the battlefield. We scored a few rather impressive round one victories!

Our first scheduled meeting was with State Representatives G. Smith and Littlejohn. Smith was the ONLY member of the state house to reply to my original blanket e-mail I had sent the previous week, and he agreed to meet. Smith had been following this issue, and was amenable to the “freedom” angle rather than just wondering where the money was coming from to implement this fascist ID system.

Rep. Littlejohn is both a church deacon and a veteran! This means he has two of the three “target” criteria we believe would make him a person likely to support the “enhancements to S-449” we are proposing. Like Rep. G. Smith, he was very attentive to our pleadings.

Following this meeting, we split into tactical teams. We were pursuing as many “influence peddlers” as possible. My team met with one of the most powerful men in the House: the Judiciary Committee Chairman, Rep. Harrison. A combat-hardened veteran himself, I knew he would be in tune with concepts of freedom. However, knowing one does not rise to chair that committee without considerable “sympathy for the establishment,” it would not be a slam-dunk.

We waited 45 minutes, and when he emerged, we only received about one minute of talk time with him. As he scrambled to get to the floor of the House by roll call time, his only statement was “I’m not afraid of a little ID Card.” This was a problem. People would follow his lead.

The legislature convened at noon. While we met over lunch, the sound of the legislature in session was broadcast over the Blatt Building PA system. We listened as S.449 was accepted by the Speaker of the House from the Senate and referred to the Education and Public Works Committee. This is the committee we expected S.449 to land in, based on its roots from the Transportation Committee of the Senate. Eighteen members comprise this committee. Without question, we needed to direct our efforts toward this body. Target #1: Committee Chairman.

We scheduled a meeting with Rep. Walker. Five of us attended this meeting, while two others crossed the complex in an attempt to meet with the Governor.

Three people are involved at this committee level – the primary secretary for Mr. Walker (who was quite a helper, getting his ear our direction), his chief lawyer/researcher, and the Chairman himself. Mr. Walker met with us personally, right away. He listened intently to the variety of viewpoints regarding Real ID, and promised that based on the committee’s existing schedule, S-449 would not appear on their agenda until after the first of May. By then, he will have assigned it to one of the subcommittees.

This gave us much-needed time to work that committee in an aggressive fashion. I blasted an e-mail that evening listing all the committee contacts, asking hundreds of locals to begin backing our capital team with phone calls, letters and other follow-up measures.

During the meeting, Mr. Walker did not wish to commit to “taking sides” until he read all of our research material and heard from the other side of the coin. He expressed apprehensions that no matter how the legislature voted, that the issue would cause repercussions. He contended, “On the one hand, passing legislation to comply with Real ID will cause many people to be quite upset. On the other, refusing to pass it could cause SC to be ‘an island’ if other states comply.” We showed him the graphic of states that were already rebelling, and assured him SC would not be the first if it did reject Real ID implementation. He promised also to take into consideration the outcome of the hearing on S.449 at the Subcommittee level, but would not specify which committee would receive it. Our strategy will consist of working all members of the committee to ensure they all are informed of the Freedom issues.

Protocol dictates that committee members are in charge of a great deal of a bill’s potential success. We told our e-mail network what message should be portrayed to these legislators, as we began discovering who was leaning one way or another. All of this intelligence was fed to our logistics network.

With a hearing approaching at some point, I began training our team on how we should arrange ourselves in testimony.
Over the next few weeks, or efforts were split between educating every member of the House and strategies for other battle elements. If the bill were properly amended, it would go back to the Senate for reconsideration of the new language. Therefore, we could not neglect that branch of the legislature either.

It became obvious that Real ID was a completely unknown issue to many lawmakers. That was the proximate cause of the weak language on S.449. Being fed information from the National Conference of State Legislatures and the National Governor’s Association, it was no real surprise that such language was all they had to work with. Senator Martin, author of S. 449, did not possess an educated legislature and was concerned that “stronger language” would not garner full support for passage. He was playing it safe to get at least something passed to block Real ID.

Our team used extremely well planned “bullet points” to deliver a wallop of facts in condensed meeting intervals. I developed a “Top 10” list of reasons for them to reject Real ID, and passed that out to every member’s mail box as well. We kept Real ID on their minds.

When the legislature was in session, we used the “lobby” to its fullest potential. By writing notes to deliver to the members on the floor of the House and Senate, we arranged impromptu meetings that would have been otherwise impossible. We also took full advantage of committee staff to accomplish tasks for us.

When we met with key staffers, like Mrs. Dobson (House EPW committee chief of staff), I offered my full support as her aide on the issue; to help coordinate our speakers, provide information, etc. During hearings of this nature, the LAST thing legislators want is a dozen people all saying the same thing. It is probable that the committee chair will limit the time allowed to each speaker. It could be up to 5 minutes each, and as little as only one minute! Therefore, rambling is not appropriate.

During hearings, it is likely that our opposition, including some pinstriped suits from perhaps even the “District of Criminals”, will appear to speak. If the lid cannot be kept on our side’s aggressive activism, others may decide to take a personal interest in a given state. We must be prepared for all contingencies.

Our next strategy involves profiling the remaining House members, and contacting/lobbying them individually. If it is possible, we might be able to introduce our proposal as a separate bill, or at minimum persuade our main supporting legislators to testify at this hearing demanding amendments to the weak language.

By week two, we were “counting noses” to know who would drive the committee. By the time we packed up and headed home, we had met with seven more key people for the Real ID battle — and more importantly, we counted at least five of the seven as squarely opposed to implementing Real ID. Our success stories included Reps. Bedingfield, Govan, and Ballentine. These instrumental committee member’s actions later became legendary to the cause. Reps. Agnew, Davenport, and Young also became strong candidates for the leadership roles in the full House battle ahead. One of our strategies in the upcoming hearings on S-449 consisted of not only attesting to the need for these amendments ourselves, but to have colleagues from within the House testify of the need for stronger language in that hearing!

By the end of week two, it was a whirlwind. In my journal I noted:

"Have you ever talked to a seasoned politician, and when you walked away from the conversation felt like ... 'hmm... he almost said something, but for the life of me I can’t exactly figure out what it was...’ Well, that is how it goes when you meet with representatives who have not yet received many constituent calls on an issue that is staring them in the face. Out of five meetings today, I can really only say for certain that we have ONE more commitment. The rest, as they say in politics, are ‘checking the breezes’.

I was encouraging our “folks at home” to get on the ball and make some calls. Then an interesting thing occurred, directly the Governor himself. He was quoted in the Post & Courier (Charleston 4-16-07 p. A-16) as saying: “Gov. Mark Sanford also opposes the current form of Real ID and won’t sign any ‘intent to comply’ -- with or without legislative support.”

So perhaps the Governor also began pushing the Real ID button a bit. Whatever the source, we will take all of that kind of help we can muster! Did our meeting with his staff the previous week help cultivate that?

Another Rep., Mike Gambrell, made it crystal clear that
if it were entirely up to him, he would gut everything in the current bill (S. 449) beginning at the word “until” and simply replace it with all with a “.” (Period). In other words, he would like to tell the federal government that SC would not implement Real ID, regardless of the funding! Indeed, his colleague on the committee, Ballentine, shares his sentiment.

So, we know that at least two of the six are on our side.

During week three, a radio station host on RBN brought me on for a two-hour radio show about Real ID and related subjects. If you missed it live, the show (April 30, 2007) is available as streaming audio via: http://216.240.133.177/Hertz/07/index.php. In addition, I was the guest on a National Conference Call that week which is archived here: http://www.kamron.com/realid/

We kept our eyes glued to the meetings calendar in anticipation of the hearing on S.449 in the Subcommittee on Motor Vehicles and Public Works. For training purposes, we sat in on a hearing in that group discussing a bill pertaining to bicycles on public roads. Those who had never sat in on a hearing gained some experience without the pressure of the real thing. We also observed the “dynamic” of that group in action. We did not have to utter a single word to have an impact on their minds. They knew they were being watched.

This is one our secondary strategies that yields an immeasurable value.

We pulled a handful of members out of session to review some of these items, and experienced success one after another. We learned that Cobb-Hunter, Hosey and Kersh are vocal opponents of Real ID! Hosey said, “You can count on me.” He is a veteran, which was a key talking point with him. Cobb-Hunter is a card-carrying member of the ACLU, and could become an influential person in this larger battle, post-committee.

We discussed that our “champions” had not yet drafted any amendment proposals, so I decided to do it myself. Also, we had to keep in mind the “rules” that could derail our efforts. We might be able to get a motion in committee to allow S-449 to “lie on the table,” as another bill on the same subject matter (Real ID) is introduced in the House. This would effectively kill S-449 and replace it with ours.

“Plan C” consisted of recruiting original Senate sponsors to testify in the House subcommittee in favor of stronger language. This plan increases the likelihood that the desired changes will be effected and passed quickly. Any of these tactical means will virtually provide the same result. Cooperation is better than antagonism, and we hoped to get our friends working together to reconcile the “freedom” language.

You know what happens to the best-laid plans of mice and men. We had two strategies. The primary one, of course, is based on S-449 and the upcoming hearing in subcommittee. Strategy #2 was to find a “champion” who would simply introduce a separate bill if we could not get our language attached to S-449.

Imagine this: on the last day of this particular week working the House, seven of us were here, consisting of almost an entirely different team than previous days. We paged members from the floor to meet their constituents. One of our team members called Rep. Funderburk out and began explaining Real ID. “Oh,” she said, “there is a Real ID bill on the floor of the House today.”

I nearly fainted! What bill? What is in it? Who introduced it? She told me to hang on while she got a print of the day’s journal and the bill for us. A new “concurrent resolution” had been introduced, and passed a different committee without us even knowing it! And guess what? The bill was OURS!

The language of my alternative proposal had become H.3989 (http://www.scstatehouse.net/sess117_2007-2008/prever/3989_20070425.htm) without me even knowing it was coming! Introduced by Rep. Davenport and a virtual shopping list of members we had met with on the subject, this landed under our noses from thin air. Interestingly, a week later the notes on the bill indicated that Rep. Funderburk asked to be added as a co-sponsor! She saw the excitement in her constituent and did not want to be left out of the party!

Suddenly we had a bipartisan group of men and leading women legislators, and more on board as co-sponsors. This I described in my journal as nothing less than a coup d’etat against Real ID...

WE PULLED A HANDFUL OF MEMBERS OUT OF SESSION TO REVIEW SOME OF THESE ITEMS, AND EXPERIENCED SUCCESS ONE AFTER ANOTHER.
Senate almost immediately.

We needed the key senator’s help (sponsors of S.449) to push the new resolution along. We also had to distribute our written packet to every member there. Then we must contact them personally. There are 45 members of the SC Senate. We needed a minimum of 26 votes when the bill hits the floor there.

We found ourselves on a multi-operational battlefield, with separate engagements on diverse fronts. We needed all the help we could get, because the House battle was not yet over. May 9, 2007. We had won a few battles. H.3989 passed the House by unanimous consent! We met with Senator Martin (primary sponsor of S. 449) and he agreed to “somewhat” strengthen the language of that bill. Senator Sheheen (co-sponsor of S.449) also thinks stronger language is needed. Rep. Miller (subcommittee chairwoman in House) put S. 449 on the agenda for next week. All Senators received the booklet. We met with Senator Vaughn (and a few others) who seemed in favor of the cause.

Early in the day, the Subcommittee hearing. We still had to fix S.449. The difference between the two is that a “bill” becomes a “law.” Law is “public policy in statute form.” The “resolution” (H. 3989) is a “sense of the legislature” statement, without force of law. Therefore, if possible, we want to pass a “law” that prohibits the implementation of Real ID in South Carolina, in addition to telling Congress to repeal Real ID via the resolution. Ultimately, it would be best if that law precluded implementation of Real ID, period. However, the odds of that happening were 50/50 at best. We had to strive toward that goal; convincing as many citizens as possible to attend the hearing and testify for stronger language; working the Senate for Passage of H.3989; and working the House for Passage of S.449 in a fortified format.

THE HEARING

We went in as a massive force. I lost count of the “bodies” that showed up, and as the day wore on, more and more people arrived. I think nearly everyone that has been with us at one time or another actually made it to pack the hearing room. On many bills considered by the legislature, it is common for not a single private citizen to show.

Early in the day, our strategy consisted of finding the “champion” within the subcommittee who would introduce the “strengthening” language needed for S.449. This was an eclectic group of legislators, and only two of them could be counted on to be on our side. So we met with both.

Rep. Gambrell is a “junior” member of this committee, and he was reluctant to introduce amendments if a stronger, more “senior” committee veteran could be found. Rep. Ballentine was just the man for the job, but seemed a bit reluctant himself unless he had some overwhelming support from the rest of the committee. Both were handed the language we were seeking in a stack of single amendments I drafted for the purpose.
“Proposal #1” contained the “preferred” changes, with the secondary collection of amendments defaulting as the option if Proposal #1 failed for any reason. I was prepared for a marathon fight and hoped the “champions” would stay the course.

Rep. Gullick was an “unknown” to me, save that he had thanked me for speaking at the “bicycle bill” hearing a few weeks ago. We really had nothing to lose by approaching him for another helper. I paged him from the floor of the House prior to the meeting, and told him point blank that the public desired stronger language on S.449. “We need the right wording,” he replied. I think he was a bit shocked when I handed him the stack of proposals and said “here you go, sir – we need you!” (Strategic note: leave nothing to chance! Do all the work for them!)

Another “wild card” was a man I had never yet met, Rep. Mulvaney. This interesting gentleman just happened to jump on to H.3989 (the resolution of Rep. Davenport) in the 11th hour. Literally, he asked to be added as a co-sponsor as the bill was heading to its final reading. Somehow, the Spirit of our Creator told me to go thank this man personally! So I did. I also said we needed a “champion” on this subcommittee to yield stronger language on S.449. He is not on the subcommittee, but is a part of the larger Education & Public Works full Committee.

Imagine my surprise when the subcommittee gavel fell commencing the hearing, and some of these people began coming to our aid! Rep. Bedingfield (not on the subcommittee), Rep. Mulvaney, (not on the subcommittee), Rep. Don Smith (a vice-chairman of the full Committee) and even a high-ranking official of the Motor Vehicle Administration waltzed into the hearing behind Senator Martin, the author of S.449, to speak to the need to “get this done now.”

As Sen. Martin spoke, Rep. Gullick posed a question asking whether he would support their subcommittee amending this bill to strengthen it. He replied that he would defer to the committee’s wisdom if changes should be made, and he would support whatever came from the committee (Strategic note: we had met with him several days ago, pleading for him to come to the hearing, and to support stronger language. He also brought along the Department of Motor Vehicle’s (DMV) boss who presented voluminous statistical and logistical nightmare data about what implementing Real ID would mean from a practical standpoint).

After about 45 minutes of those two “insiders” giving all the testimony, the chief staffer for the committee was handed a note from Rep. Ballentine with instructions to give it to me. The note was my “Proposal #1” language revision for the bill, with his penciled memo stating, “We’re going with this one .... Nathan” (That will be framed for our collection of outstanding memorabilia from the battle). Bedingfield took the microphone and stated that the House wanted to dump this Real ID nonsense completely. Mulvaney chimed in with agreement on that. So did the rest of our consortium of champions! These people were tearing it up to deliver our point!

Ballentine made the “motion” needed, and it carried unanimously—without opposition!

So concisely, the new language of S. 449 read, “the State SHALL NOT implement Real ID.” Section 2 of the bill was gutted! There was no longer any “until Congress funds it”, etc. All that baggage was gone—stricken from the language – and the “period” is before the word “until.” DONE!

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE PORKY.
The full committee met the following week to approve subcommittee activities. Enter establishmentarian and apparent de facto pork project champion Robert Walker— the chairman of the full Committee involved with Real ID, and other “transportation” bills. This man proposes TWO more “amendments” to S.449 that include an “aeronautics” bill (previously passed by the House but rejected somewhere along the way), along with another local road project bill to tack on for the “ride.”

He wants these two “pet projects” to pass, so he asks to attach them to S.449!

Ballentine, Mulvaney, and Bedingfield (our champions) again sprung into the debate. To them, this “rules game” is immoral (Walker used “rule 9.3” as his bishop on the chessboard). Let those “pork” projects stand or fall on their own merits! Well, despite rather vocal objections from our champions, the “strong arm” tactics of a committee chairman can go a long way, and unfortunately, S.449 now had a few “piggies backers” on board its bus.

Strategically speaking, we must pick our battles. Now we had to decide whether to support these “porkers” to get our anti-Real ID S.449 through as a “package deal,” or to just sit back and hope a conference committee could do that for us.

Because we overwhelmingly managed to make Real ID a priority for this legislature’s action, people (like Walker) recognized the strength of this anti-Real ID movement. We can thank not only ourselves for a job well done in the education and mobilization of troops against Real ID, but also thank the champion legislators (Davenport, Martin, Bedingfield, Mulvaney, etc.) for aiding that effort and indeed for “carrying the weight” of rounding up additional sponsors and co-sponsors on these bills. We had a strong case going forward.

This also displays the raw power involved “behind the scenes” when the public actually acts and follows through. We had so many sponsors, co-sponsors, battle-seasoned elected officials and even Motor Vehicle administration people
working with us it was nothing short of astonishing. The dominos were falling in our direction because of the legwork we had done a month ago.

We had moved a couple more GIANT steps toward the final goal in this larger hearing. Now we have to work the Senate, as we continue working the House.

NEXT DAYS BATTLEGRONDS

The Senate had been holding onto S.3989, the “resolution” introduced by Rep. Davenport (and a shopping list of our allies) calling on Congress to repeal the Real ID Act. It has some of the strongest language in the nation of any such action. However, for whatever goofy reason, instead of putting this “memorial resolution” into a “memorial committee” (where it could be acted on quickly) it was handed off to the judiciary committee. Known as the “toughest nut to crack” in virtually ANY state legislature, the South Carolina Judiciary committee carried a major workload going into the last days of the session. It was no sure thing that it could even get action at this late date.

The Chairman of the Judiciary Committee had to appoint a SPECIAL subcommittee to consider this bill – an action that could have easily killed it until next year. However, in a twist of fate that could have only been engineered by the hand of our Creator himself, the Chairman appointed none other that Senator Martin to head this subcommittee! Martin, of course, is the author of S.449 – the Real ID “bill” we have been working so diligently in the House. Rather than try to call a subcommittee together. Martin simply did a “petition poll” of his subcommittee members, getting their full and unanimously consent to pass H.3989 into the full committee.

At 3:30 p.m. that day, we watched the full Judiciary Committee lift this resolution, read the title, and unanimously approve it! Senator Martin briefly spoke saying that moving this resolution was a “gesture” toward the House that they might also quickly approve the “bill” of S.449. It was a genuine move signaling to the House that they want to “play fair” with Real ID, and will act in a complimentary fashion on this important subject. H.3989 now moved to the floor of the full Senate, where all indicators showed it would zip through with little or no resistance – perhaps as early as tomorrow!

So a big victory was scored by us in the battle to get the House to do what yet awaits final fulfillment there – the passage of S.449. This now becomes a new piece of artillery in our last effort tomorrow to remove the “bobtail bill” (aeronautics commission language) from S.449 that Rep. Walker tacked on in the EPW Committee. We will have our “champions” remind the House that the Senate acted promptly on H.3989, and want them to do the same with S.449.

Immediately upon arrival the next day, I spoke with Rep. Mulvaney to get clarification on the perceived danger of toying with the new language of S.449 (removing the bobtail bill). He assured us that the full House could delete the offensive (to the Senate) language without reverting the bill to pre-committee language.

When S.449 was called, Rep. Bedingfield (our EPW Committee champion) made a motion on the floor to “hold over for debate” (invoking the 24-hour rule). That meant S.449 would be on the “Contested Bills” section of the calendar within 24 hours. It would be “contested” to remove the “bobtail bill” (aeronautics) and purify it to its original “No Real ID PERIOD” state.

As soon as the session convened the following day, we knew what Bedingfield and associates were planning. The four citizens present began taking hand-written, page-delivered notes to every member of the House (except Walker and his friends). The message was simple: “Support Rep. Bedingfield’s motion tomorrow to remove the Aeronautics bill from S. 449.”

Our champion in the House put up a valiant fight. He “divided the question” on the floor of the House, separating the three sections of S.449, and required a roll call vote on EACH SECTION!

Section #1 was the clear, short and sweet “No Real ID” message. Section #3 simply stated, “This goes into effect when signed by the governor.” Neither of those posed any problem for the House. Both passed with the roll call boards lit up, 109-0. The “battle royale” was on the aeronautics portion. The final vote was 65-48 in favor of keeping the aeronautics “bobtail” in place. (“Bobtailing” is the process of attaching one bill to another, in an attempt to force an unpopular issue. It is based on House Rule 9.3.)

A grand total of 48 people present in the house had the common sense to recognize the problem with bobtailing. We had lobbied hard the day before, knowing this battle was coming.

Meanwhile, the wording of H.3989, the bill written by myself, Steven Yates, and with contributions from a number of others earlier this year... passed the Senate without change!

H.3989 was now effective! South Carolina passed perhaps the most strongly worded “memorial resolution” on Real ID anywhere in the nation. It tells Congress, in no uncertain terms, to “Repeal or decline implementation of Real ID.” It also lists all the constitutional and freedom issues whereby our people reject this fascist nonsense, without solely relying on “the money” as reason to reject it.

Before we left Columbia, we popped into the Speaker of the House’s office asking if and when S.449 had passed, would he be so kind to have a page run it over to the Senate quickly so they could do whatever was necessary to select the conference committee, or act accordingly in regards to this “political football” with attachments. That strategy is designed to save time, and was suggested by Senator Ryberg’s
senior staffer. The final day’s action was also a bit amusing.

Well, not to be outdone in intelligence, the Senate got S.449 back during their session (the House goes in first, and often has things ready for Senate action the same day) and proceeded to do their own amending –removing the offensive Aeronautics bill and passing it without!

S.449 now moved back to the House for their consideration this upcoming week-- and WITHOUT the offensive amendment.

One of two outcomes could have occurred: Either the House would leave good enough alone and pass it “as is” or they will be utterly stupid and try to tack that bill back on (A “Real” possibility).

The message from the Senate was clear: “We will pass the strongest Real ID bill in the nation, but WE DO NOT WANT THE AERONAUTICS COMMISSION BILL!”

A “power struggle” was taking place between the House and Senate over this aeronautics bill driven by Bobtail Bob Walker, and perhaps the “Majority Leader” James Merrill (who also voted the “wrong” way on the boottail). We were told by Rep. Bedingfield that he “had the votes” until Merrill spoke in favor.

So the Senate stripped off the offensive “Bobtail” Aeronautics bill. While the House could have tried to stick it back on, I do believe our team made it clear to them that doing so would not be in their best interests. On that final day, we went in without S.449 on the agenda. Nevertheless, we acted as if it was, and we fully intended they will NOT tamper with S.449 any further, and that it should be passed as is. “Thank you” notes were sent to our 48, with the other 65 receiving advice on how we expected them to act. Last week Bob was shown a tee shirt we had designed. It had his House photo below “Vote Out or Impeach” emblazoned on it. We hit with everything in our arsenal.

If a new motion was made on the floor, I had prepared a “speech” for our champion Eric Bedingfield to use. All bases were covered. The two main caucuses had their meetings scheduled for 11 am. We were positioned near the elevator to catch key members heading to the Majority (Republican) meeting. Eric took the folded speech with him into the majority caucus.

Sometimes the “least likely to succeed” strategies work the best. Rep. Bedingfield used the threat of making a long speech. I witnessed this tactic in action. I was in the elevator with him and another member when he told the other Representative that if the aeronautics bill were mentioned again, he would be ready. He pulled the corner of the speech from his vest pocket, and this other representative rolled his eyes and said “I’ve heard enough!”

So as time wore on, six citizens of SC were hammering away in the House lobby, sending in notes, catching people we wanted to see. Enter a Representative making a beeline toward us saying, “It’s over – the House concurred.” The prepared speech was never given on the floor. We won with it, and we won without it ever being articulated!

In a way, it was almost anticlimactic. We thought if it did come up, we would head upstairs to the galley and watch the show. The speaker merely picked up the bill, read the title, and asked if there was concurrence on the Senate changes. Without objection, the House agreed to one of the strongest Anti-Real ID Bills passed to date. In total agreement without the Aeronautics amendment, that bill was now headed to the governor for his signature. Knowing our Governor is a hard-core opponent of Real ID, we were two for two!

Or perhaps three....

**SOUVENIR FROM THE GOVERNOR**

We had been in touch with the Governor’s office several times in the last week. We went back after 449 had passed and asked if he would consider a “public signing.”

Well folks, some days are just made for smiling. The Governor of SC called for a “public signing” of our Anti-Real ID Bill (S.449) that passed the General Assembly (This is not the norm-- only potent pieces of legislation get such favored treatment).

He held the signing at the Greenville Dept. of Motor Vehicles, and gave a rave review to the DMV personnel who also helped lobby against Real ID. Of course, the “money” issue came up, but he did mention the many freedom issues surrounding it. With several TV networks and newspaper reporters present, our “dynamic duo” consisting of Senator Martin and Rep. Bedingfield also took the microphone and spoke about the public support they had felt.

Gov. Sanford set down at the table and put his John Hancock on the bill. Then he turned to the crowd behind him and asked which one of us should get the pen. Everyone pointed to ME! I was a bit shocked. So that is a neat souvenir of the 3+ month battle we have been in to make it happen.

Then he stood up, looked around, and inquired “anything else?” Guess what?

I handed him a clear document sleeve with two letters in it, printed on parchment paper, containing the wording he needed to use. One to U.S. Senator DeMint, and one to U.S. Senator Graham.

I said, “Governor, in here are two letters for you to send to our two United States Senators. Tell them the legislature of this State wants them to introduce or co-sponsor legislation in Congress to repeal Real ID, and they are instructed to filibuster ANY attempt to tack Real ID implementation onto any immigration, employment, or other bills coming through. They are to represent our state in Congress, and they should. I believe Rep.
I NEVER QUIT!

Many people miss this critical point. With fifteen (and the number growing) states now sending these types of messages to Congress, there should be thirty US Senators working as a team representing their states AGAINST Real ID.

If your state has passed ANYTHING at all against Real ID that is solid (none of this “send the money” junk), then ensure your legislature and governor are teaming up to see if these Senators are held accountable to the will of your state!

When the media saw the crowd had identified me as the chief activist against Real ID, they all asked for comments on what this means, and why I did it. For the past 3 months, I had not gotten anywhere with the press. Suddenly they were coming to me for a story! I gave them a few “sound bites” and hoped they at least print that much.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA SHALL NOT IMPLEMENT REAL ID. PERIOD! Moreover, Congress and Generalissimo Bush need to get a life and deal with that “reality.”

To The Father goes the glory, and I got an ink pen at taxpayer’s expense.

THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA HAVE ONCE AGAIN DECLARED THEIR INDEPENDENCE FROM TYRANTS. THIS WAS NOT BECAUSE THE LEGISLATURE HAD IT IN THEIR MIND TO DO IT, BUT BECAUSE THE PEOPLE SHOUTED IN THEIR EARS THAT THEY WOULD ACCEPT NOTHING LESS. WE GET RESULTS IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE ENERGY WE EXPEND. – Aaron Bolinger
From his initial questioning of 9/11 to the Journal of 9/11 Studies, Steven Jones has laid the foundation of the case for 9/11 Truth. In this candid interview with Gary Franchi, on Lone Lantern Radio, Steven Jones discusses his first published paper that explained the collapse of WTC7, his most recent paper documenting the discovery of microspheres in the dust of the Trade Center, strategies for bringing those responsible to justice, his thoughts on the coming presidential election and more.

Gary Franchi: We have a very special guest today, and his name is Steven Jones. Steven Jones was a professor at Brigham Young University. Welcome Steve…

Steven Jones: Hello, thank you very much… It’s great to be here and talk to you.

GF: It’s an honor and a privilege to have you here as our guest today, Steve, let’s just jump right into this, because I know you’re a very busy man and you have limited time. So let’s just get into this. … Was 9/11 an inside job, Steven?

SJ: The evidence for the answer “yes” is compelling. The answer to that question. And I and a number of people have looked at this. I wasn’t at all convinced coming in, a couple of years ago, a little over two years ago now. But uh …

GF: So you’ve been studying this for about two years now?

SJ: Yeah, two years and a few months, I guess. And so, you know, at first when I saw the towers come down, I just sort of accepted the official story: Well these were, planes hit the towers, there were fires, and down they came. Of course, then I didn’t know about Building 7. As soon as I saw Building 7 collapsing, I realized, and of course it was not hit by a jet at all. And then I realized, this is very strange. That official story of jets-fire-collapse just won’t work there because it was not hit by a jet. And the fires, I didn’t see an inferno in Building 7. And then finally, the way it fell, and the speed of it, I mean, I pulled out my stopwatch, 6 ½ seconds, plus or minus point-2, for that thing to collapse all the way to the ground on its footprint.

GF: What kind of building was Building 7?

SJ: It was a 47-story skyscraper, and across the street, about a football field away length, in other words 100 meters away, from the closest tower, the north tower.

GF: Now some people argue that it had structural damage due to the collapse of the Towers 1 and 2. Do you think that would contribute to the collapse?

SJ: Well, the structural damage was analyzed by FEMA in a preliminary NIST report, and none of the columns were severed according to these reports. So either was some … well, for instance, you have other buildings that got hit by material from the collapsing towers, sure.

GF: Buildings that were even closer than Building 7.

SJ: Right, and none of them collapsed. And tremendous fires. Like, uh, Building 5, it was heavily damaged, and the fire was an inferno, but it didn’t collapse. Building 7 had some damage. So I looked through, I read the FEMA report, and I go through, and at the end, they say, “Well, our best explanation, our best hypothesis, for the collapse of Building 7 as only a low probability of occurrence.” Give ‘em credit for being honest. In fact it’s a very low probability that fire and damage would cause that straight down, rapid collapse of that skyscraper. It never has happened before that a high-rise, steel-frame building with damage and fire would collapse. I mean, the Empire State Building was even hit by a jet and it did not collapse. And most high-rise skyscrapers do have fires and don’t collapse. But there’s more to it than that if we keep looking.

GF: You actually had your first published paper, when you were at Brigham Young University, it went through peer review I understand. … And what was that first paper generally declaring? Or, your findings?

SJ: It’s the things that we’re talking about now, in considerably more detail of course. And the fact that the NIST report on the collapse of the towers stops -- that is, their analysis – stops at the point where the towers are “poised” to collapse. That’s their term. They stop there. And so what I’ve found is that most of the evidence for controlled demolition, for use of cutter chargers in these buildings, comes after the buildings begin to collapse. Have you ever seen a controlled demolition, most of us have, where the building is sitting there. You can’t really tell until it gets started that there are explosives planted in the building. Once it gets started, then you can tell, because you have explosion sounds, first of all, you have these expulsions of debris and gas, which we call squibs typically, and then you have the rapid collapse and then it falls on its footprint is usually what they try to do. And they’re pretty successful at that, controlled demolition guys. And if you time it, it’s just about free-fall speed to get the roof to reach the ground, just like Building 7.
with iron, the melting temperature is about 2,800 Fahrenheit, which is way above what you can get with ordinary fires, including jet fuel, which is a form of kerosene. to show, and I said, “The fall of Building 7,” and then when it got to the time, they refused to show it. (Laughing) It was funny, they didn’t tell me until in the middle of the show that they weren’t going to show it.

GF: I remember watching you there and you were, like, “Roll the clip,” and there was just, “Well, we just see a building here.” So that was some of the traction your first paper received. And now you have put out a second paper that talks about spherical particles in the dust. If you can help our listeners understand, what is the significance of the spherical particles and what does it prove?
SJ: O.K., first thing, uh, we need to add to that, is these have a lot of iron, we say “iron-rich microspheres” in the dust, in abundance. Now, um, first of all, the spherical shape, how do you get that? These are tiny little particles, the size of human hair diameter, about that. They vary. Some of them I’ve seen are up to about a sixteenth of an inch; you can see with your naked eye. Now, how do you get these into a spherical shape? Well, that implies immediately that these were molten liquid at some time, and what molds them into a spherical shape is surface...
tension. And most of us understand that we have for instance a drop of water in the air and it forms into a spherical shape.

Now with iron, the melting temperature is about 2,800 Fahrenheit, which is way above what you can get with ordinary fires, including jet fuel, which is a form of kerosene. And the temperature there, somewhere around 1,500 Fahrenheit, I’m use to thinking centigrade, so 1,000 centigrade is what you get, and iron melts at 1,500, so you just can’t get to that temperature. The point is, it’s extremely high temperatures to get these drops that are high in iron. And already there’s a big mystery there as soon as we got our hands on that. Then I looked at the detailed content with some others, and we find, other people helping of course …

GF: Other peers, other professors …
SJ: Yeah, well, he’s not, the main person helping me is a Ph.D. in materials science. He’s not a professor … and students have helped me as well. … So we go in with the electron microscope method and what’s called X-ray energy dispersive spectroscopy, what a mouthful, we just call that EDS. It’s a method to probe a tiny object with electrons and to see what elements are in this sample. And so what we see in these little drops is just amazing. We see iron and aluminum, lots of aluminum, and typically a lot of sulfur, also.

GF: So iron, aluminum and sulfur …that sounds like, that sounds like a thermate combination.
SJ: Exactly, that’s precisely it, and when I saw that I thought “Agh, this is a smoking gun,” it was the residue of the thermite reaction with sulfur added. … A lot of these spheres are 10, 20, 50 percent aluminum and the balance iron, of the metals. You also have oxygen, which indicates there was an oxidizer. Of course it happens in air, too, so you expect oxygen to be mixed in with these metals. They oxidize easily. So then …

GF: Is there absolutely no way that these microspheres could’ve been produced otherwise, in another way? There’s no other explanation?
SJ: Well, of course we’ve looked for other explanations. We can’t find any. And not only do you have to get the high temperature, which there’s no way in the building without this type of intense reaction, this thermite reaction. So first of all there’s the temperature barrier. Second of all, it’s not steel, these drops. Actually some of them are steel, because when you use thermite to cut through steel, you get some steel drops. And sure enough, we do see some drops that have the pattern for steel. These others have the chemical signature for thermite; the high temperature and the chemicals that we’ve discussed – iron, aluminum, sulfur – that fits entirely the thermite explanation, and we can’t find any other explanation. Nor do I think it’s possible because of the high temperatures. Thermite reaches temperatures of 4,000 Fahrenheit easily, way above what you need, you see.

And so, further I’ve done thermite experiments, I’ve gathered the little spheres you get drops, they form into spheres because of surface tension, those spheres cool and harden, solidify in the air, and then you can look at these. And I’ve done this with electron microscopes. And I’ve done this with the thermite microspheres, with the World Trade Center dust microspheres, and the comparison is 1 to 1; I mean it has the same chemical signature. This is the smoking gun; the residue of the cutter charge that we’ve been looking for.

GF: This type of evidence, this type of actual, “smoking gun” evidence, could this, could this be introduced in a courtroom situation?
SJ: It could and it should. That’s what we’re asking now, is that there needs to be a criminal investigation and the courtroom situation where we can subpoena people and say, “OK, now we’ve got this,” it’s like finding the bullet that has the same marks that are in the pistol. It fits just like that. So now who pulled the trigger is what we have to find out. That’s harder, of course, but that requires a courtroom kind of investigation, where, under oath, you have witnesses telling what they know, so you can trace back to the guy who pulled the trigger.

GF: Now we had talked earlier today about the, the placing of these charges in the building, and you have speculated that this was an outsourced deal.
SJ: Well, you know, I like to point out that the evidence takes us so far. It tells us what happened. It tells us explosives were used. That’s way beyond what these hijackers could do. It takes time and expertise to plant hundreds of pounds of explosives in the building. Of course, there was access through the elevator well. We’re beginning to sort this out. Um, through the, there was a lot of elevator maintenance going on. That’s what you need to get into the core of the towers.

GF: So this thermite/thermate was placed in the elevator shafts? That’s the speculation at this point?
SJ: You use the elevator shafts to get access to the core columns.

GF: Steve … has discovered the actual smoking gun that proves 9/11 was an inside job, that it could not have taken, it could not have happened as the government so claims. … Steven, the possibly these explosives may have been placed and the outsourcing of the people to do it perhaps. Bringing up the elevator shafts, we can kind of pick up there. I also want to speak about Scholars for 9/11 Truth and Justice, and what you guys are doing there, and the purpose of the organization.
SJ: Sounds great, Gary. Yeah, so let me point out, that a lot of these questions now I get into details and people I’m sure listening will want more information. I hope they will, curious as we are. We have a place now where we collect what I consider the best research papers in the field of 9/11 studies, and it’s simply one word here, journalof911studies.com, if they just string those words together, journalof911studies.com, and you’ll find there’s about 70 papers. Today we added five papers already. It has just taken off since December of last year, it’s just exploded, the number of papers.
...to push towards getting an investigation, a criminal investigation, a trial, some use the word “impeachment”, because they think that a certain government official would be involved, you see. And that’s fair, that’s in the constitution, that’s a remedy that we have in the constitution;

GF: Who is submitting papers? Are these peers, professors, Ph.Ds?  
SJ: And we have physicists, I can name them. One is David Griscom; Professor Griscom is a fellow of the American Physical Society, which is a great honor, and Professor Marone, Professor Jenkins and myself, are the physicists who’ve published so far. And then you have engineers, and I was going to point out Gordon Ross, has written a few papers now, in the journal, and Kevin Ryan, chemist, and, let’s see, Frank Legge, Ph.D. chemist, has written some fine papers. And as you get into these, you’ll get the detail of where we think, there’s some detail of where we think the explosives, or cutter charges, would have to be put to cut through the steel columns to get the building to fall the way we observe it to fall. I mean, to think that the building would come straight down, and completely and rapidly, with just fires and some damage, you know, it, it borders on the absurd as you look at the application of conservation of energy momentum, for example, which Gordon Ross did that, excellent paper, and professor, math professor Ken Cutler. I mean, it’s not just me, you understand. Not by a long shot. There’s a lot of professors and engineers now jumping in. By the way, that reminds me, Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth have over 100 in their membership now, so that’s taking off. I heard just recently, what’s his name, Greg-something on INN, but he was saying, “Oh, there’s no engineers who will say that this looks like an inside job.” Well that’s, that’s just uninformed, I mean, that is just totally wrong.

GF: He’s obviously not looking for them.  
SJ: That’s right. And Scholars for 9/11 Truth and Justice we have a number of engineers, including structural engineers-types like Doyle Winterton, for example, is a structural engineer with us. So we have a large group of people, there’s a lot of research going on, and I point people to that journal as a way to get to speed quickly with the best data. There is some, umm, let’s see, misinformation out there, shall we call it.

GF: Oh, I definitely agree with you there.  
SJ: So we sort it out, and that’s one of the reasons for the journal, to help people sort out, using solid, empirical evidence, to sort out …

GF: Using traditional scientific method to sort out the information.  
SJ: That’s exactly right, so we can sort out the good ideas from the bad ideas. Wheat and chaff. It’s very common in a new area of research, which this is, and boy, we’re making tremendous strides in understanding.

GF: Well, sounds like the information is really there, the evidence is really there, and we need to act on this information. … How do we consolidate the information? Because there’s such a vast body of it. You can point to any specific angle of the 9/11 message, and go for an hour or two on it. But how do we consolidate the message, distill it down to its purest points, something that would just stand up in a court of law. How do we do that, Steven?

SJ: You know, Gary, the journal attempts to do that, but there’s a twist to this that I’d like to point out, and that is that people have seen “CSI,” right, the “Crime Scene Investigation.” That’s the sort of investigation we’re doing here. This is not pure science where we’re trying to understand theory of relativity. No. We’re trying to find out what happened on 9/11. Now science has taken it a long way, and it’s going very quickly actually, and its hanging together, these evidences for controlled demolition are just lining up. And now, my sense is, and this is what I would like the community to push towards getting an investigation, a criminal investigation, a trial, some use the word “impeachment,” because they think that a certain government official would be involved, you see. And that’s fair, that’s in the constitution, that’s a remedy that we have in the constitution; I realize that it may be difficult in applying that.

GF: Who would we call to the stand? Mineta or Cheney or Bush? Where would we begin?  
SJ: You named … let me, let me. … There are papers, two about Mineta’s testimony before the 9/11 Commission. He would certainly be one that we … he’s just a good guy. He’s said, “This is what happened in the bunker below the White House” when he went down there on 9/11 and Dick Cheney’s in charge and this young man comes in, and we want to question this young man, too, under oath, and this young man comes in and tells Cheney, “Look, this plane flying toward the Pentagon, and it’s 50 miles out.” And he comes back and it’s 30 miles out. And he comes back and says “10 miles out.” And Mineta’s explaining what happened.

Cheney whips his neck around and … oh, wait, first the young man asks the question, “Do the orders still stand?” And here’s a young man with a conscience, concerned that nothing is happening, you see, and that this plane is not being intercepted, and he says, “Do the orders still stand?” And Cheney, our vice president, whips his head around and says, “Of course the orders still stand. Have you heard anything to the contrary?” And then, at that point, it’s just minutes that the collision, explosion killing hundreds, occurs at the Pentagon. So, yes, we need to have this young man there. What where these orders? He knew what they were. And he was concerned that they were still standing.

GF: Do we know who this young man is?  
SJ: We don’t know who the young man is. Cheney knows. Mineta may know. Certainly he could be identified from the records, right?
But when you get a serious investigation, with subpoena power, you ask this young man, you ask Dick Cheney, you ask the others that were there, “What are these orders? Why were there no interceptions of this plane which was off-course for over 50 … five zero … minutes before the Pentagon was hit?” … And, so, notice I’m carefully wording this, because we don’t have any direct visual or photographic evidence of exactly what hit the Pentagon. But that’s another point we could explore.

...it’s out in the open, it’s legal, it’s constitutional, and we’re trying to do it, to get up the facts and to find out just exactly who was behind pulling the trigger.

GF: Oh, yeah … there are so many angles. …

SJ: The point I’m trying to get at, Gary, is we need this subpoena power. We need to jump right to the investigation now. We’ve got plenty of evidence to motivate it, to support it, to say, “Look, here’s a smoking gun in these iron/aluminum-rich particles.” Now we need to question people. And Mineta’s testimony …

GF: Could we hold some type of a state trial? Cheney is he from? Wyoming, Wyoming …

GF: He’s from Wyoming. Could we hold him accountable in Wyoming? As under some Wyoming laws.

SJ: It might be. That’s an interesting idea. But you know, you’ve got to get this young man to come and testify.

GF: Perhaps getting these criminals back to their home state, and having an investigation or trial, getting them … there’s got to be something on the books we can get these guys for, obviously … federal level.

SJ: That’s an idea you have there, Gary, that I hadn’t heard of before, actually. Going through the state, starting at the state level. There are two papers in the journal just in the last 10 days by Dr. Kate Jenkins, and Kate is a Ph.D. chemist but she works for the EPA. And her approach is that the toxic dust was declared by the EPA to be non-toxic, and so, she says, that was illegal and a cover-up of the facts, and she has written this nice paper, which she allowed us to publish at the Journal of 9/11 Studies. … She’s actually with the EPA; she’s a whistle-blower. And she’s demanding a Senate investigation, and at the same time she wrote to the FBI, and that’s a great approach, where we could get involved in that type of investigation, you see.

GF: So we could open up the door with an EPA investigation, and then start to introduce the dust, and then the dust is going to lead to the spherical particles, and the spherical particles lead back to the thermate, the thermate leads back to the inside job and we’ve got the whole ball of wax.

SJ: That’s our thinking, so we’re, you know, we’re … really, and this is all above-board, it’s out in the open, it’s legal, it’s constitutional, and we’re trying to do it, to get up the facts and to find out just exactly who was behind pulling the trigger. That’s the issue. That will take a trial at some point. The Senate has the power if they will exercise their constitutional watchdog role, we can get this off the ground. They’re the ones that should. I know that a lot of people don’t have confidence that they have the, not just the guts, but the, should we say honesty and lack of other interests, to allow them to do that role, but that’s where, constitutionally, it should be the Congress that exercises this watchdog role, does the oversight committees and so on. So, you know, she’s doing it right, and we’re with her in that … Dr. Jenkins, very courageous whistle-blower and sticking her neck out there quite a ways in my opinion to do this. But that’s what we have to do, because we love our country, we want to get back to the constitution and these constitutional rights that our founding fathers foresaw we would need to defend. You know, Franklin, “It’s a republic, if you can keep it.” And that’s the challenge for us today.

GF: And that’s exactly where we are. We are fighting to preserve this republic. And 9/11 truth is definitely one of the points that can help to heal this land. It was such a travesty and a tragedy and so many lives were affected, it broke everybody’s hearts, but it can also heal this, this land.

SJ: It can, as the truth comes out. You know, 9/11 changed everything, and now 9/11 truth can change things again. We can get some cleanup of problems, evidently within our own, within our own country.

GF: All this corruption that is taking place in our country really came to a head on that day, all the different parties involved with pulling it off, really just evil to the core, an arrogance that it took to do that; they thought they could get away with it. Well, you know, the people are not stupid, the people are awake, and we have the tools at our disposal to spread the information, the information you have provided that has been so helpful to the movement and really spearheading these things.

SJ: There’s a lot of us now, obviously, working on this. That’s what’s exciting to me is, it was difficult a year ago. Frankly, there was a growing number even then, but now we just have such a large number, and people with different ideas, as you mentioned that idea that you had about the states getting involved. That’s a great idea. And Kate Jenkins came out of the blue, with her idea. I mean, I hadn’t heard of her, others had, it turns out. I talked to them, they knew about this whistle-blower at the EPA. But I mean there’s all these good people, standing up, blowing the whistle, demanding an investigation, and, you know, we’re getting there.

I think that we have the data to support a court trial or a Senate investigation. What we need now is to get it going. And you know, we have an opportunity with the 2008 presidential election coming up, because we can ask candidates, and people are doing that as you know, Kucinich was asked just the other day would he support a 9/11 re-investigation, an in-depth investigation, and he asked the crowd there, “Would you support a 9/11 investigation?” and the crowd went wild. Well, that’s what we need, and so he turned around and said, “Yes, let’s do this,” you know? Or “We need to do that.” Words to that effect.
GF: Is there any specific candidate that you’ll stand behind this year or this cycle that you’d care to share?
SJ: I’m looking for people who will stand up for an investigation. Ron Paul is the other one I understand that would support a 9/11 investigation. I like a lot of his policies. I’m not telling anybody how to vote, it’s just you asked the question and he’s one that I’ve found that is just, right down the line, constitution, stopping the NAU and so on, you know.

GF: Yeah and we haven’t even gotten into the North American Union. That’s a whole ‘nother show.
SJ: Around here, people are very interested, we just had a meeting last week with a bunch of 9/11 truthers and others who are just finding out, and a group of about 60 people. And a lot of the discussion after 9/11 turned to the NAU question, which is the big issue is something that states, as you mention, Gary, states can stand up and do something to prevent …

GF: The states are already standing up against the Real I.D.
SJ: Yep, they are, right. And I understand Texas told the federal government that they couldn’t build the NAU highway, the NAFTA highway, through Texas until they studied it, and so they put that on hold. That’s the sort of thing we need the states to get wind of this, to stand up and block some of these actions, which haven’t gone through Congress even. The NAU highway.

GF: Well Steven, we only have a couple minutes left, and I’d like to give our listeners the opportunity to help support you in any way. I know you’re not teaching currently. Is there any way that people can support you?
SJ: Well I appreciate that, Gary. As far as financially, don’t worry about it, I’m just really concerned more about our whole country. And frankly I look at it, my wife and I have been blessed, we’re not wealthy by any means, but we have our needs met because we’ve got some real estate over the past several years. So we’re using that to live on, so that’s OK. As far as supporting, frankly, getting informed, journalof911studies.com, as I mentioned; Scholars for 9/11 Truth and Justice, which is just simply stj911.org, join us there, that would be great. I think we have about 400 people now, a lot of them professors and engineers, but not all. You don’t have to be a, you know … just everybody jumping in. We just list degrees and so on, but you don’t have to have a degree to join in and support that effort.

GF: Well I definitely support all you’re doing, Steven …
SJ: I appreciate that Gary. Good talking to you. Time really flies, you know, when you’re talking about …

GF: It really does, and I’d like to offer you an honorary membership to the Lone Lantern Society.
SJ: Well I appreciate it, I appreciate it very much. And I accept.
GF: We support what you do. You’re a hero and a patriot … to do the research you’ve done and spread the message.

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