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Climate science: The leaked emails

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The leaking of email correspondence has embarrassed some climate scientists from the Climate Research Unit at the University of East Anglia (UK). Aynsley Kellow considers the ramifications of the scandal.

Michael Duffy: Let's now look at a big story of the past week, the leaking of email correspondence between some of the leading scientific advocates of the climate change orthodoxy. The leak comes from the Climate Research Unit at the University of East Anglia in the UK, and they're responsible for maintaining one of the two main datasets of historical temperature records on which the orthodoxy depends.

For an assessment of how this has affected the climate change debate, we turn to Aynsley Kellow. He's professor and head of the School of Government at the University of Tasmania. Aynsley was also involved in the United Nations IPCC, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change fourth report as one of their expert reviewers, and those reports of course underpin so much of the discussion, the debate and the public policy in this area, so Professor Kellow knows the process well. He's also author of the book *Science and Public Policy: The Virtuous Corruption of Virtual Environmental Science* and we talked to him about that on the program some time ago. I spoke to him late last week. Aynsley Kellow, welcome to the program.

Aynsley Kellow: Thank you Michael.

Michael Duffy: I thought we might start by looking at one of the responses to what's happened by one of the leading advocates of the global warming orthodoxy. Gavin Schmidt is a climate modeller and also puts up a lot of information at Real Climate which is an American website that's sort of at the heart of the scientists that support the global warming theory. He's described the content of these emails as 'a peek into how scientists actually interact'. Can I ask for your view on that? Is this is the way scientists typically behave?

Aynsley Kellow: It's not the way scientists should behave and, indeed, I must say that most of the climate scientists that I know here in Hobart don't behave in this kind of way, at least not that I see. But it's more than just some colourful language between climate scientists. The emails and the data released include some of the computer code that they've used to manipulate the raw data, and I'm afraid that they indicate modes of operation that should be anathema to any decent scientist.

Michael Duffy: Can I just ask you to explain to our listeners why this code is so important, because I don't think a lot of people are aware of it.

Aynsley Kellow: Almost everything in climate science is not raw data by the time we see it, it's been subject to manipulating using computer code and so on, and there are now some details...listeners who are familiar with the hockey stick controversy might realise that Michael Mann, the author on that paper and one of the people mixed up in these emails, as indeed was Gavin Schmidt of course, so they're trying to defend their reputations so he would say that, wouldn't he...but he steadfastly refused requests to make his code available. And now of course we've got access to that code and we can see, for example, that they were quite well aware in what they were doing in excluding results from their analysis beyond the 1980s because there was a divergence between what the tree ring proxies were showing and what they knew the temperature to be. And the computer program has written very nicely for us saying that they're stopping the analysis at 1980 and they'll fill in the other results since then manually. This is in many ways worse than many of us expected when we knew about this case from the outside without access to these kinds of exchanges.

So it's certainly not just the case of some colourful language being expressed in emails amongst scientists. What you have is evidence of a quite clear willingness to manipulate raw data to suit predetermined results, you've got a resistance to any notion of transparency, an active resistance to freedom of information requests or quite reasonable requests from scientists to have a look at data so that it can be verified.

You've got evidence of attempts to subvert the peer review process, you've got evidence of pressure being placed on editors to reject dissident views on climate science, and then these people of course are then the lead authors in the IPCC report and they're talking about keeping peer reviewed science that has managed to get into the literature out of the IPCC report and ultimately then talking about making sure it doesn't find its way into the all-important summary for policy makers, which is about all the politicians and bureaucrats read. So it's serious stuff and that's why I think George Monbiot feels betrayed by this and has said that Phil Jones at the Climate Research Unit should be sacked or should resign.

Michael Duffy: Aynsley, many in the Schmidt camp maintain that this scandal of the emails does nothing to change the fundamentals of the science of manmade

climate change. What's your assessment of that argument?

Aynsley Kellow: Well, it depends how far back you want to go in the fundamentals of climate science or at least of anthropogenic forcing in climate science. What we do know, the basic physics tells us that carbon dioxide in the atmosphere does cause a modest forcing of temperature, but it's subject to saturation and it decays rapidly, and most of the temperature increase from that effect alone, from a doubling of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, we've already seen. The key in all the modelling is the assumption that we've got correct an important positive feedback mechanism which is that a slightly warmer world will produce more water vapour and the water vapour itself is the source of most of the future forcing.

Just by way of an interesting example, Garth Paltridge, who is in Hobart here and has now retired, did a paper looking at all the weather balloon data which is available for about 50 years and couldn't find much evidence that as the Earth had warmed slightly that vital increase in water vapour was there. He eventually had it published but when it was first submitted for publication it was rejected on the basis that the message that it would send would give too much encouragement to sceptics, which really just draws attention to the need to open up the scientific process, to deal with this kind of attempt to politicise it, to suppress views that are inconvenient, because unless we very quickly establish and re-establish some quality assurance mechanisms in the conduct of climate science then we're heading for a potentially very costly...either way a very costly set of policy responses based on some science in which we can have much less faith now than we had in the past.

Michael Duffy: Schmidt says that none of this should be shocking, but I was shocked. Was that just naïve? I was particularly taken by one email that suggested that a journal that had published articles or papers with which the author disagreed should be frozen out, they should try to affect its reputation. That's shocking, isn't it?

Aynsley Kellow: It is, yes, and the editor in question, I've had some contact with him, Hans von Storch in Germany is a fine scientist, it's just that he's completely open-minded and much less committed to predetermined outcomes. **It's not that he's a climate change denier or sceptic, 'sceptic' is a word he should accept and wear as a badge of honour, 'denier' is a cheap rhetorical attempt to link him to a Holocaust denier or something. But he's a good scientist, he's a good practicing scientist. This is behaviour which I think rightly should shock us.**

Michael Duffy: Another thing Schmidt says in his defence is there's no evidence in the emails of any worldwide conspiracy. But once again it struck me that there was actually discussion between people in England and America about how to frustrate British FOI law, one way being by destroying documents.

Aynsley Kellow: Yes, and that, if it has occurred of course...I mean, what's being talked about is advocating that the law be broken because if the documents are subject to FOI in the UK then to willingly destroy them rather than...I mean, we all occasionally probably purge our email, but we know in universities that our email is subject to FOI request, it's subject to

discovery should a student have a legal case against the university, we're prohibited from running around and destroying stuff, we're supposed to archive it properly, it's supposed to be there so that some disgruntled student can actually see what was written about them. This is standard practice for most of us, but this bunch seem to think that they're somehow above those sorts of restraints.

Michael Duffy: One of the features of this has been that a number of major media institutions in Australia have simply not mentioned in their news stories. Just for our listeners who aren't aware yet, can you tell us some idea of the scale of the thing? How many emails were there?

Aynsley Kellow: There's around 219 megabytes of data, and something like 1,000 emails at this stage. It's not clear whether it was the result of hacking. Some have suggested that this was a bundle of a file that had been prepared possibly in response to the FOI request. I've noticed that all the dates on them are a date in January 2009, so it looks as though they may well have been saved and compiled at that stage. And some computer people say that 90% of these cases are in fact whistleblower leaks from the inside, and it may well be that there's some disgruntled staff member there who is not very pleased with the resistance to quite reasonable FOI requests for access to the data, and they might be responsible for leaking them. But people are working through not only the emails, which of course are interesting, but also having a look at the computer code and various other files that have been released as part of this.

Michael Duffy: What's your view or your guess on what impact this is going to have on how the public, on how outsiders see the scientists and the science involved with global warming?

Aynsley Kellow: I've spoken with one or two people who don't follow the issue that closely and they're pretty much disgusted by it. I think there's a lot of strength of feeling that people feel betrayed that they've placed their faith in science and, as I said earlier, George Monbiot who has been extremely vigorous in supporting the prevailing consensus in climate science, in climate politics, feels betrayed. Both he and I would say that this doesn't mean that there is no climate change problem that we should be concerned about, it's just that now, because this group was in charge of one of the important temperature datasets, can we trust their manipulations? They can't even provide the raw data so that those manipulations can be verified.

The other main dataset of land temperature is the one at the Goddard Institute of Space Studies where Steve McIntyre on his blog some time ago showed that there were some problems with that and it had changed through time. Miraculously the temperature in the earlier 20th century has gone down, it's become cooler, and that in the latter part has been increased marginally, which accentuates the impression that the Earth is warming. Now, the Earth probably is warming but we have really had our ability to rely upon the accuracy of that data seriously undermined as a result of this kind of behaviour. And what that means of course, looking prospectively, is that if the computer models have been tuned to data that isn't reliable, they cannot be relied upon to produce accurate projections

upon which we might base policy for climate change, often to the future.

Michael Duffy: Given the things that you were saying in your book, do these revelations about the state of current climate science surprise you?

Aynsley Kellow: They do a bit. I'm surprised at the extent of the failure of the process. Interestingly I use the example of these same authors, because they were involved in the hockey stick controversy, to make the point that as a social scientist given that we were not usually very good at making good predictions, but I pointed out that the problem with the conduct of modern science these days was not just that it involved a lot of model runs but that the communications revolution had meant that the traditional quality assurance processes had broken down. You no longer had anonymous peer review. Scientific knowledge has become specialised, so the number working in any particular field has got smaller, and email and cheap travel has meant that they're all in touch with each other, they're publishing with each other.

And so when a paper goes for review at a journal it's known about, it's usually been read in advance by people. It's known whether it's coming from a friend or foe, and so if you've got a bunch of people who think that the end of the world is nigh, what you've now got is a kind of bunch of millenarians with megabytes at their disposal who can act as gatekeepers in terms of what becomes accepted as science, and I think we really have to address that and restore the principle of scepticism being an inherent part of science and contestation being part, unwelcome as it is...every time you get a review of your work when you submit it for publication you get annoyed by what referees are saying, but ultimately we accept that that's an inherent and necessary part of the system.

Michael Duffy: Aynsley, as we approach Copenhagen, do you see any implications of this affair for the way we should be thinking about public policy and climate change?

Aynsley Kellow: Yes, it's almost surreal at the moment to see the way in which the issue is having such an enormous impact in domestic politics, but it will take some time, I think, for policy makers, both elected and bureaucratic policy makers, for this to sink through, although it was quite clear that in the leadership difficulties in the Liberal Party that Nick Minchin and others were referring to this material, and it's quite clearly had an impact in hardening their resolve against an emissions trading scheme, and that I think is appropriate.

If you look at most of the economists who have working on climate change as a problem, all the way from Robert Nordhaus at Yale, through to dissident economists at CSIRO who have got into trouble for

saying so, most of them say that a cap and trade scheme, an emissions trading scheme, is not the appropriate way to deal with the problem, and the reason for that overwhelmingly, the thing that all of them have in common (they have various other arguments) is that the science is uncertain.

We've been told repeatedly that the science is settled by the very people who in their private email exchanges have been saying to each other 'we can't account for the lack of warming'. So they, along with dissidents, sceptics, deniers and whoever, are also of that view. Unfortunately they've convinced the policy makers that the Earth's climate system is like a kind of thermostat; we can dial in a particular level of carbon dioxide and we can get a two-degree temperature rise over the next 100 years. Anyone who knows anything about climate science will tell you that that's nonsense. There is so much uncertainty in the science that we do know that the climate system is a coupled, non-linear system that is subject to surprises. So the notion that we can know with some precision where we should set the cap in a cap and trade scheme to deliver a particular outcome I think is fanciful.

So if in fact it turns out...let's have this scenario, that there hasn't really been an increase in global temperatures for a decade...some scientists are saying we might be at the start of a solar minimum. If in fact it turns out that we've put the cap too low and driven the price of carbon up, and we then look at perhaps, as some are suggesting, another 10 or 20 years an absence of warming, then it may well be that we've unnecessarily put an impost upon present generations for no benefit for future generations. And I think under those circumstances there's an enormous political risk, not just in the short term for some of the politicians but for how history will record their role.

Michael Duffy: Professor Aynsley Kellow is head of the School of Government at the University of Tasmania, and he was an expert reviewer for the IPCC's fourth report. He's the author of *Science and Public Policy: The Virtuous Corruption of Virtual Environmental Science*.

Guests

Aynsley Kellow

Professor and Head of the School of Government at the University of Tasmania. Expert reviewer for the the United Nation's IPPC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change and Key Vulnerabilities

Publications

Title: *Science and Public Policy: The Virtuous Corruption of Virtual Environmental Science*

Author: Aynsley Kellow. Publisher: Edward Elgar

URL: http://www.eelgarenvironment.com/bookentry_main.lasso?id=12839

Climate Change Fraud Revealed Big Time

On 20 November 2009 it was official that hackers broke into a server at the Climate Research Unit (CRU) at the University of East Anglia and made thousands of emails and other documents available on the internet for everyone to see.

Hackers leak e-mails and reveal climate change fraud:

http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=02344F3DA5A1A5CB

Lord Christopher Monckton on Alex Jones Tv:

http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=D7DD2320CB29B36F

Don't Buy The Lie – Copenhagen COP15 Action Group:

<http://www.climatecollective.org/group/12/>

The Freedom Reclamation Project – water as fuel:

<http://www.icestuff.com/~energy21/waterasfuel.htm>

Hydrogen On Demand Technology:

<http://www.hydrogencarsnow.com/hydrogen-on-demand.htm>

Debating the Holocaust: A New Look at Both Sides

By Thomas Dalton PhD, Theses and Dissertations Press New York – New York 2009

A critique by Dagmar Brenne December 2009

When I was asked to read the book by Thomas Dalton, *"Debating the Holocaust"*, I agreed, for the one reason of being able to express my opinion about the topic Holocaust, that has become pivotal in German life, and I suppose in the life of Jews as well. It is the bane of any German's existence.

But I fear this is far less a critique of Mr. Dalton's book than my own heartfelt views of the Holocaust.

German history seems to be divided into a pre- and post Holocaust era. Or even more so, pre- and post Hitler. The mantras: Hitler, Nazi, Gestapo, Holocaust, gas chambers, 6 million Jews, are following us from the cradle to the grave. It makes us outcasts in society, stands in the way of career and promotion, it has marginalised Germans and Germany and made us the pariahs in the lands we live in. You may not see it, often it is very subtle, but Germans experience it daily.

The endless vexation of the media output, to "keep the memory alive," sees to it that Germans do not rest easily. No forgiveness, no reprieve, no lessening of Holocaust tribute demands.

In the light of this, it is hardly to be expected that the German point of view is the same as the Jewish one.

And here is the rub, the galling irritation: our side of the story is very different and so very rarely permitted to be heard. As it stands, our point of view is expected to echo the Jewish sentiments about the Hitler era. So much so, that many people who research into the Jewish situation of the so-called German third Reich are categorically labeled Nazis, anti-Semites and similar names. Name-calling is the preventative measure to deter anyone from researching into the historical era, 1933 – 1945 in an honest way. And need I stress, many find themselves in jail, their lives, their families and careers in tatters. From riches to rags is a common occurrence in which such a person finds himself.

Now comes Mr. Dalton's book claiming to have a look at both sides.

And indeed his book is full of information about gas chambers, mass graves, the different camps, the number of supposed Jewish deaths, the possibilities of the veracity of eyewitness reports. He wonders about the magic number of 6 Million that will not change, regardless of anything. And many other things. It is a Jewish versus German view about: did 6 Million Jews die?

I feel a great amount of distaste at debating the Holocaust, in fact my spirit is shrieking about the topic: stop, not another book! I find it distasteful to debate an event that I am not witness to; have never been a witness to. And actually who was a witness to it? Very few living. Am I expected to earnestly discuss something with people who are no more witness to the supposed atrocities than I am? Indeed that *is* what is expected! An event that has not been scientifically proven, rather the opposite. The Leuchter report, the analysis of Germar Rudolf indicate that many things are an impossibility to perform within our prevailing limitations of the God-given laws of nature.

I find it utterly futile to discuss things that have neither been verified scientifically nor even

acknowledged by wartime leaders, who ought to have known of these happenings.

The people who should have raised the alarm about the Holocaust, first and foremost, Eisenhower and Churchill, and Charles de Gaulle, have certainly let the Jewish side down rather dramatically with their deafening silence about any genocidal establishments, when they wrote their autobiographies.

So am I meant to appropriate the Holocaust by faith? Like my faith in Jesus? You believe because you believe by the inspiration of the Spirit of God? Or, you believe in the Holocaust because the law demands it?

How can I believe when my measure of faith is already taken up? In my case by Jesus and Christianity. Jesus and Holocaust run entirely counter to each other, one is the way to life, the other the cult of death. How can I simultaneously believe in both?

To view the fate of Jews in Europe we need to look at the political situation. On March 24th 1933, Jews worldwide, all Jewry, men, women and children declared war on Germany. In stark words: Jews wanted to wipe Germany off the map, to kill all Germans was the goal, as per the Jewish author's Nathan Kaufmann's writing: *"Germany must perish"*. To the Jews this was a "Holy War" against Germany.

Does not this shed a totally different light on the Jewish question in the Centre of Europe? Is not every country doing its utmost to defend itself against an enemy? Especially when the enemy lives within its own borders like the Jews did in Germany? Is not everyone in their right mind fighting back with all they have at their disposal? Are not English and USA, Australian internment camps known to us, as are the Russian Gulags? So why would German concentration camps be so baffling to the rest of the world? Have not all other countries removed their enemies into camps? Have not people died in camps under British, USA, French and Russian control?

Yes, Jews were in camps, yes Jews did die in German camps. It was war! A war declared by Jewry on Germany's people: JUDEA DECLARES WAR ON GERMANY. That is what the papers said in the March 24, 1933 issue of *The Daily Express of London* and they meant it, of this Germans were certain! Did Germany not experience this in Versailles, did they not know this from the Bolsheviks in Russia, most of whom in the higher echelon were Jews! Oh yes, the Germans knew that Jews meant business, that their intention was the destruction of Germany! The Jews had spelled it out in no uncertain terms. They desired the German genocide. Germany defended itself. It had to.

I think we should bury the Holocaust in a deep grave. The goalpost of Holocaust is forever changing. Gassings in the woods, in mobile vans, Zyklone pellets, exhaust fumes, showers, inward opening doors against which the gassing victims fell, windows in the gas chambers, chimneys that are attached to nothing in particular, colour coded smoke, streamlined factory type killings, with people queuing up for the gas chambers without resistance, geysers of blood, surviving with wolves, diaries written in biro, long before bios were marketed etc, etc, that is the

Holocaust lore. We should give no more the time of day to the debaters of the event. It is futile, it never leads to any reconciliation, to a mutual understanding of the era, to peace among nations. Just more impossible reports of survivors, surfacing constantly. I see it as nothing else but endless German bashing, a Germany forever cast outside the general brace of humanity.

I am sure Mr. Dalton's book is a jewel among Holocaust books but to me it appears as yet another book of sowing to the wind and reaping the storm. I feel a storm is coming soon, when the whole western world, impoverished, lied to, bled dry by wars and robbed by the bankers will know who it is who thieved them blind.

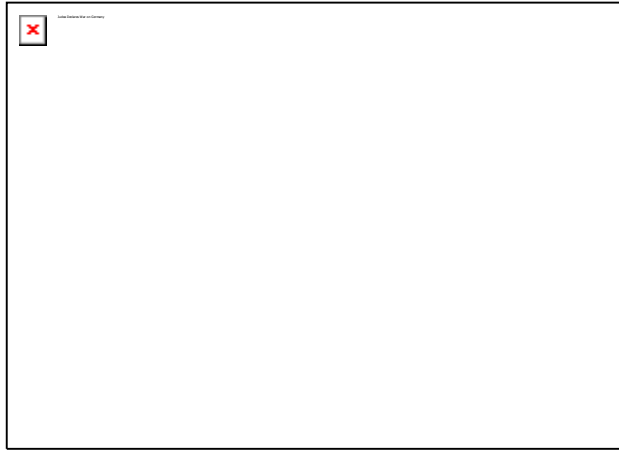
Maybe then we will have another Holocaust to write about.

[Few people know the facts about the singular event that helped spark what ultimately became known as World War II—the international Jewish declaration of

war on Germany shortly after Adolf Hitler came to power and well before any official German government sanctions or reprisals against Jews were carried out.

The March 24, 1933 issue of *The Daily Express of London* described how Jewish leaders, in combination with powerful international Jewish financial interests, had launched a boycott of Germany for the express purpose of crippling her already precarious economy in the hope of bringing down the new Hitler regime.

It was only then that Germany struck back in response. Thus, if truth be told, it was the worldwide Jewish leadership—not the Third Reich—that effectively fired the first shot in the Second World War. Prominent New York attorney Samuel Untermyer was one of the leading agitators in the war against Germany, describing the Jewish campaign as nothing less than a "holy war." And it was he who financed Cyrus Schofield to subvert the Bible with Zionist footnotes].



24 March 1933 issue of *The Daily Express of London*

From: Michael K. Smith mksmith07@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, 25 November 2009 2:23 PM
Subject: Holocaust satire

**Interview with Deborah Lipstatic –
"Holocaust Denial is Pervasive, Growing, and Doomed"
November 22, 2009, CNN.
By Michael K. Smith**

New York City -- Speaking from the Bellevue psychiatric ward, where she is undergoing evaluation for advanced schizophrenia, Holocaust Confirmer Deborah Lipstatic today declared, "The situation is critical and victory is at hand," in the war on Holocaust heresy.

Lipstatic, Professor of Victimology at Coca Cola University in Atlanta, insisted that Holocaust denial is not a legitimate field of study and entirely worthless intellectually, which, she said, explains why she devotes herself night and day to refuting its claims.

This year marks nine years since historian David Irving lost his libel suit against Lipstatic, who chronicled her battle against him in her book, "Money Can't Buy Love But It Can Buy The Courts - How I Single-Handedly Defeated David Irving With Swarms of Lawyers and Researchers and an Avalanche of Holocaust Industry Cash" (Orthodox Books, 2000).

Legalienate's editors were generously granted a lengthy interview with her on the recently proclaimed Holocaust Obsession Day, which lasts for 24 weeks instead of what Lipstatic called the "stingy" 24 hours of the

standard day. Speaking from the isolated back ward where she currently resides, she explained how to make failure look like victory, why freedom requires adherence to a single view, and how Holocaust denial plays a crucial role in forging Jewish identity, especially among gentiles.

LEGALIENATE: Nine years later, how would you characterize the Irving trial?

LIPSTATIC: It was a resounding victory for the world inside my head. I went head-to-head with the world's leading Holocaust denier and I single-handedly won a judgment stating that historical facts are not to be determined by the courts.

LEGALIENATE: But wasn't that obvious from the beginning?

LIPSTATIC: Not to me it wasn't.

LEGALIENATE: Have you solved the problem of Holocaust denial?

LIPSTATIC: Of course not. But we did provide precise explanations proving that what Deniers say are complete deviations from what we say. We didn't prove what happened, and nobody else better either, but we proved that what they say happened could not possibly have happened if what we say happened, happened. And to quote George Bush the Elder, "what we say, goes."

LEGALIENATE: I see. How do you advise people to deal with Holocaust deniers?

LIPSTATIC: The first way is to see if the facts prove the case: If they say "At this meeting Hitler said X, Y and Z," you can go and check if they changed the date. If they say Hitler said X, Y and Z on a Wednesday, but it was actually a Tuesday, you can be sure you are dealing with lying scum and dismiss their argument.

The second way is deductive reasoning or logic. Deniers will say that the very fact that there are so many survivors proves that the Holocaust couldn't have been as ruthlessly efficient as we say it was, because if the Germans were all-powerful and utterly determined to kill every last Jew, how did more than a million Jews survive?" You counter that by saying that there were a lot of miraculous escapes, because the Jews were plucky and determined and learned to jump off the transport trucks just in the nick of time.

LEGALIENATE: Why weren't they gunned down?

LIPSTATIC: They ran between the bullets.

LEGALIENATE: Oh.

LIPSTATIC: The third way of refuting Deniers is by citing the facts: If they say, "How do we know there were gas chambers?" you can say, "Let me show you the German plans for gas chambers." But if they say, "Where is the forensic proof of the gas chambers themselves?" you can reply, "Let me show you Israel's plans to have people like you extradited and put on trial for Holocaust denial." That clinches the argument.

LEGALIENATE: Why don't you debate deniers?

LIPSTATIC: It's like trying to convince a member of the flat earth society that the earth is round. There's no point.

LEGALIENATE: But you can show a flat earther a picture of the round earth. Do you have a picture of a mass gassing chamber?

LIPSTATIC: No, but it wouldn't matter if we did. Deniers are irrational. They think absence of evidence is evidence of absence of evidence. They're completely irrational.

LEGALIENATE: How are they successful then?

LIPSTATIC: The usual way. They confuse people with convoluted explanations that lead nowhere. Remember, Holocaust denial is anti-Semitism, and anti-Semitism is hatred of Israel, and hatred of Israel is anti-Jewish prejudice, and anti-Jewish prejudice is congenital in Gentiles, so it's impossible to eliminate, but we must try to do the impossible because it's ennobling and we owe it to the victims of the Holocaust.

LEGALIENATE: I see. You're sure there's no point in debating your opponents?

LIPSTATIC: If you try to argue with a person who is committed to a completely illogical premise, then you're lost to begin with -- you're already sucked into their world of fantasy.

LEGALIENATE: So, it's like imaginary numbers in mathematics. They don't really exist, can't exist. After all, what's the square root of a negative number?

LIPSTATIC: Exactly.

LEGALIENATE: So math teachers who force kids to study that stuff are nutcases who can't face reality. The kids have ample reason to turn them in.

LIPSTATIC: Right. They're defaming the rational numbers. Have them call the Simon Wiesenthal Center. They have a program to extradite them to Israel to stand trial for numerical anti-Semitism.

LEGALIENATE: How has Holocaust denial changed since your trial and book?

LIPSTATIC: Well, recently we've seen the emergence of both "hard core" and "soft-core" denial. Hard-core denial is saying, "I need forensic evidence of mass gassing chambers before I can believe in them." That's hard core because once you get on the slippery slope of requiring material evidence for your beliefs it becomes addictive and you stop believing just for belief's sake, or because there are Holocaust specials pouring out of the TV twenty-four hours a day, and you start thinking, "Why should I believe in something that no one can show me the material basis of?" The next thing you know you don't believe in UFOs or penis-enlargement, and the entire basis of civilized order collapses.

LEGALIENATE: Right. And soft-core denial?

LIPSTATIC: Soft-core is more subtle. It's "Why do we have to hear so much about the Holocaust?" Or "Haven't the Jews done anything other than be exterminated in Nazi gas chambers?" The person who makes this kind of remark is gullible, not hateful, so they're worth talking to. Just tell them, "You have to

hear constantly about the Holocaust because it's the only historical event that ever had any real importance." But if they don't buy that, brand them an anti-Semite and hound them mercilessly. It's for their own good.

LEGALIENATE: How do you respond to those who compare Nazi treatment of the Jews to Israel's treatment of the Palestinians?

LIPSTATIC: You have to zero in on what genocide is -- you can say, "A genocide is something done to the Jews, never by them, or a lesser genocide done to lesser people, but which is endorsed by Jewish groups to help take heat off of Israel. Like Darfur." The point is that only Jewish suffering counts. Gentiles are thick, so you can't make this point too often.

LEGALIENATE: Is Holocaust denial on the rise?

LIPSTATIC: Definitely. Holocaust denial is pervasive, growing, and doomed. It is incredibly serious that it is taking over, but at the same time utterly trivial and quite meaningless. We must ignore it and crush it - right away.

-----Michael K. Smith is the author of "Portraits of Empire" and "The Madness of King George" (illustrations by Matt Wuerker), both from Common Courage Press. He can be reached at proheresy@yahoo.com

Posted by Michael Smith at 10:04 PM

Holocaust survivor forgave concentration camp guard

By Jan White | Andalusia Star-News, November 20, 2009

One of my favorite books, *The Hiding Place*, tells the life story of Corrie Ten Boom and her family who lived in Holland during World War II.

The book's title describes a secret staircase and room of Corrie's home where her family hid their Jewish neighbors from the Nazis. Before the end of the war, the German soldiers discovered her family's activities and arrested them. They were sent to a concentration camp called Ravensbruck.

Corrie Ten Boom was the only member of her family who returned home after the Holocaust. Due to an error in paperwork, she was mistakenly released from the concentration camp on December 28, 1944. Just a week later, an order was issued to kill all women her age and older.

Reading about her makes me wish I could have met this courageous lady. I did hear her speak on television during a Billy Graham crusade. I've been told that Corrie visited Covington County, spending Thanksgiving with Pat and Lou Brown on their farm.

After the war, Corrie began traveling in Europe and America telling about her experience of survival and sharing a message of God's forgiveness. In her book, she relates an incident that happened while in Ravensbruck.

One day when she and her older sister, Betsie, were forced to stand naked, they saw a concentration camp matron beating another prisoner. "Oh, the poor woman," Corrie cried. "Yes, may God forgive her," Betsie replied. Corrie realized that her sister was once again praying for souls of the brutal Nazi guards.

Years later while Corrie Ten Boom was speaking to a group of people, she recognized a familiar face in the audience. The person approached her at the conclusion of her remarks, and Corrie felt anger growing inside her. The individual had been one of the guards at Ravensbruck. He'd asked God to forgive him for the cruel things he had done there, but he wanted to ask Corrie's forgiveness as well.

Corrie said, "It could not have been many seconds that he stood there, hand held out, but to me it seemed hours as I wrestled with the most difficult thing I had ever had to do." She remembered Jesus words, "If you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:15).

She then grasped the hand of the former guard, "And as I did, an incredible thing took place. The current started in my shoulder, raced down my arm, sprang into our joined hands. And then this healing warmth seemed to flood my whole being, bringing tears to my eyes."

Among my collection of favorite quotations, several come from Corrie Ten Boom's many books. She once wrote, "You never so touch the ocean of God's love as when you forgive and love your enemies." Corrie learned, "When He tells us to love our enemies, He gives, along with the command, the love itself."

<http://www.andalusiastarnews.com/news/2009/nov/20/holocaust-survivor-forgave-concentration-camp-guar/>

Jewish and Catholic leaders to discuss God and the Holocaust

A challenging dialogue concerning God and the Holocaust will be discussed by Jewish and Roman Catholic leaders on Monday, at the Eastern Michigan University Student Ballroom at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend this free event. Dr Guy Stern, Ph D, director of the International Institute of the Righteous of the

[Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus in Farmington Hills](#) will discuss a Jewish point of view.

This year, the Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus celebrates its 25th anniversary as America's first freestanding museum dedicated to the memory of the Holocaust. The International Institute of

the Righteous honors the thousands of non-Jews who saved or attempted to save at least one Jew, with the knowledge that they were putting themselves in danger by doing so. As is quoted on the museum's Web site, "As it said in the Talmud: 'When someone saves a life, it is as if that person had saved the whole world.'"

According to the [Wall Street Journal](#), some Jews are still in the process of escaping anti-semitism: Since July, about 60 Jews from Yemen have resettled in the U.S. to escape violence in their native country. According to officials, another 100 Jews are yet to come from Yemen. This secret evacuation will bring Jews from what is considered, by historians, to be one of the oldest Jewish diaspora communities.

Father John T. Pawlikowski, OSM, Ph.D., will represent the Catholic perspective in the dialogue. A professor of social ethics at the [Catholic Theological Union](#) and director of the Catholic-Jewish Studies Program at the Catholic Theological Union's Cardinal Joseph Bernadin Center, Fr. Pawlikowski hails from the largest Roman Catholic Graduate School of Theology and Ministry in the U.S.

The Jewish/Catholic conversation, entitled "Did God Survive the Holocaust," will be presented by [Hillel at Eastern Michigan University](#) and by [Holy Trinity Catholic Student Parish](#). The moderator of the dialogue will be Dr Martin Schichtman, professor of English, and co-sponsored by the Division of Academic Affairs; the College of Arts and Sciences; the Department of Communication; the Media and Theater Arts; the Department of History and Philosophy; the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology; and the Department of World Languages. The Eastern Michigan University Student Center Ballroom is located at 900 Oakwood in Ypsilanti, Mich. For more information, call (734) 740-2885.

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<http://www.annarbor.com/faith/jewish-and-catholic-leaders-to-discuss-god-and-the-holocaust/>

Holocaust Denial: unrecognised on Guardian letters page?

December 3rd, 2009 by CST

This is a guest post by Paul Evans of the [Holocaust Educational Trust](#).

A letter about the John Demjanjuk trial appears in today's [Guardian](#), which asks "What kind of justice is it that proscribes the normally accepted right of the accused to challenge the assumption that a crime had, in fact, occurred?" It contests that in the alleged war criminal's trial, the focus should shift from whether Demjanjuk was a guard at a death camp, to whether the court should first prove any crimes were committed there. "The court will, without proof, arbitrarily accept that the crime took place," he complains.

What the letter-writer appears to imply is that the murder of thousands by gas, at the hands of guards at Sobibor death camp, is a question of legitimate debate. It is an extraordinary and offensive suggestion. The letter is from a man named John Mortl.

While "John Mortl" is an unusual name, letters to the international press from people of that name are not – and the eagle-eyed might spot a few running themes in the correspondence. In 1996 a John Mortl of Bala, Canada, was writing to the [New York Times](#) to tell us that following the Holocaust, Germans believed that the gas chambers were no more than "atrocious propaganda". The same year, someone of the same name and from the same Canadian town was writing to the anti-Israeli [Washington Report on Middle East Affairs](#) questioning "what does "Holocaust denial" really mean?" and coming to his own unorthodox conclusions. By curious coincidence, just years previously, a man named John Mortl was writing letters to the notorious Holocaust denial newsletter, the [Journal of Historical Review](#) (published by the Institute of Historical Review).

After a period of silence, a John Mortl from London begins reappearing in the press. In June 2003, this John Mortl is complaining to [The Observer](#) about "the anti-Semitic card" being played to divert attention from the Israeli government's conduct in Gaza and the West Bank. Now let's skip forward five years and to an article in [The Times](#), entitled 'German war dead no one wants to remember'. The online version of the piece now appears to have no comments under it, but internet history shows us that there was one (since deleted) from a reader named John Mortl. The comment read:

"In WWI it was Britain and France who declared war on Germany, also in WWII. Too, in 1933 organized world Jewry declared war against Germany, and again in 1939 international Jewish bankers in New York and London bankrolled these two world wars."

This is the stuff of classical antisemitic conspiracy theorists, directly asserting that the Jews as a race bear responsibility for all wars. A few months later on a legal affairs blog run by the [Inner Temple Library](#), we again find a "John Mortl" comment, this time in defence of Australian Holocaust denier Fredrick Toben. Finally, in March this year we find opinion from a John Mortl on a [Holocaust Denial Forum](#), discussing the need for "a change of emphasis at the IHR".

Are all these John Mortls related? I don't know. But I do know that publishing Holocaust denial is bad news for the reputation of Britain's most widely-read progressive newspaper.

[The CST » Blog Archive » Holocaust Denial in the Guardian](#)