

America: Super-Bully Nation

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

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Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

Count the ways. Obama's waging financial war on humanity. He's waging multiple direct and indirect hot ones. He bears full responsibility.

He represents the worst of rogue leadership. He heads America's coup d'etat government. It "lacks constitutional and legal legitimacy," said [Paul Craig Roberts](#).

Washington's ruled by "usurpers," he added. "An unconstitutional government is an illegal government." Regimes operating extrajudicially have no legitimacy. America's by far the worst.

State terror is official policy. So is rogue state lawlessness. It operates at home and abroad. Tyranny's the law of the land. Diktat power rules.

FBI, DEA, Homeland Security, other repressive government agencies, and militarized local police collude. They're America's Gestapo. They operate extrajudicially.

US special forces death squads infest over 120 countries. They operate openly and covertly. CIA agents operate everywhere. They do so destructively.

America's no fit place to live in. It's unsafe. Its long arm is repressive. Police state laws target nonbelievers. Rule of law principles don't matter.

Democracy's an illusion. It's a convenient fiction. Equity and justice are four-letter words. Freedom's on the chopping block for elimination. It's practically gone already.

Supporting right over wrong is criminalized. Espionage and other charges follow. Kangaroo court justice awaits. Bradley Manning's victimized. He's a world hero. He's a 2013 Nobel Peace Prize nominee. He faces possible life in prison.

Edward Snowden's a wanted man. He connected the dots for millions. He told them what they need to know. He's heroic for doing so. He's a 2014 Nobel Peace Prize nominee. He can't go home again.

He'll be imprisoned, tortured, and abused. He'll be denied all rights like Manning. America honors its worst. It persecutes its best. It bullies other countries. Obey or else.

On Thursday, Senate Appropriation Committee members unanimously approved sanctions on nations offering Snowden help. Doing so is lawless. It doesn't matter.

Russia's targeted. So are Bolivia, Nicaragua and Venezuela. More on Russia below. According to Venezuela Analysis, Washington has more than sanctions in mind.

VA [headlined](#) " 'Overwhelming' Evidence of Plot to Assassinate Venezuela's Maduro," saying:

National Assembly head Diosdado Cabello has "hard evidence of assassination attempts." He and Maduro are targeted.

"We know who they are, what they are, what they want, and we will find them," said Cabello. Maduro calls them "fascist" groups. They have "crazy plans." Washington backs them.

"I have appointed Diosdado Cabello as (ruling PSUV political head) to find the truth of how they have prepared for attacks against me for months," said Maduro.

If either leader is killed, "the wrath of god and the people would be unstoppable," he added.

Lindsey Graham (R. SC) represents the worst of Washington. He's a right wing extremist. He's a neocon rogue. He sponsored the Senate measure. It's an appropriations bill amendment.

It's a work in progress. It requires imposition of sanctions. It targets countries helping Snowden.

It directs John Kerry "to consult with the appropriate congressional committees on sanction options against any country that provides asylum to Mr. Snowden, including revocation or suspension of trade privileges and preferences."

According to Graham:

"I don't know if he's going to stay in Russia forever. I don't know where he's going to go."

"But I know this: That the right thing to do is to send him back home so he can face charges for the crimes he allegedly committed."

Graham represents the worst of US ruthlessness. On July 19, his joint [press release](#) headlined "Graham, Schumer Resolution Encourages Russia to Turn Over Edward Snowden to American Authorities," saying:

Both senators "introduced a partisan resolution." It's typical American bullying. It demands Russia hand over Snowden. Obey or else.

It states:

"The Russian Federation's continued willingness to provide shelter to Edward Snowden is negatively impacting the US-Russia relationship."

"Russia should immediately turn Edward Snowden over to the appropriate United States authorities so he can stand trial in the United States."

"President Obama should consider other options, including recommending a different location for the September 2013 G20 summit in St. Petersburg, Russia, should Russia continue to allow shelter for Mr. Snowden."

According to Graham:

“On multiple fronts, Russia is becoming one of the bad actors in the world.”

“Russia continues to provide cover to the Iranian nuclear program and sell sophisticated weapons to the Assad regime in Syria to butcher tens of thousands of its own citizens.”

“For Russia to grant temporary asylum to Mr. Snowden on top of all this would do serious damage to our relationship.”

“It is past time we send a strong message to President Putin about Russia’s actions and this resolution will help accomplish that goal.”

Schumer is AIPAC’s man in Washington. He’s no democrat. He represents Israel. He supports its worst crimes. He backs Obama’s war on humanity. He’s a war criminal multiple times over.

“Time and time again,” he said, “President Putin is too eager to stick a finger in the eye of the United States – whether it is arming the murderous Assad regime in Syria, supporting Iran’s nuclear development or now providing shelter and Russian state protection to Edward Snowden.”

“Enough is enough. It’s time to send a crystal clear message to President Putin about Russia’s deplorable behavior, and this resolution will do just that.”

Washington targets independent countries. Sanctions have no legitimacy. America imposes them ruthlessly. They’re unjustly punitive.

They used to intimidate and bully nations into compliance. They don’t work. Russia’s strong enough to retaliate. It values good bilateral relations. It won’t sacrifice its sovereignty. It’s not for sale.

America’s a Big Brother society. It’s no longer fiction. It’s real. It’s institutionalized. It’s universal. It’s lawless. It doesn’t matter. It’s hard-wired.

Manufactured national security threats override fundamental freedoms. Anyone can be monitored for any reason or none at all.

Privacy rights are lost. Patriot Act legislation authorized unchecked government surveillance powers. Everyone’s potentially watched. There’s no place to hide.

Obama bears fully responsibility. He targets fundamental freedoms. He does so ruthlessly. He’s done it throughout his tenure.

Constitutional rights don’t matter. America’s High Court supports him. So do congressional leaders.

On Wednesday, House members defeated a Defense Department appropriations bill amendment. It prohibited NSA from collecting bulk telephone metadata.

It “requir(ed) the FISA court under (the Patriot Act’s) Sec. 215 to order the production of records that pertain only to a person under investigation.”

Voting was close. The measure nearly passed. It had bipartisan support. It was defeated 217 – 205. Obama strongly opposed it.

Heavy-handed administration tactics demanded congressional compliance. Ahead of the vote, NSA head General Keith Alexander met with congressional leaders.

He did so secretly. He was dispatched to bully and pressure. He got enough support to win. A White House [press release](#) was typical Obama.

Doublespeak duplicity headlined. Lies, damn lies, and ObamaSpeak said:

“In light of the recent unauthorized disclosures, the President has said that he welcomes a debate about how best to simultaneously safeguard both our national security and the privacy of our citizens.”

“The Administration has taken various proactive steps to advance this debate including the President’s meeting with the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, his public statements on the disclosed programs, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence’s release of its own public statements, ODNI General Counsel Bob Litt’s speech at Brookings, and ODNI’s decision to declassify and disclose publicly that the Administration filed an application with the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.”

“We look forward to continuing to discuss these critical issues with the American people and the Congress.”

“However, we oppose the current effort in the House to hastily dismantle one of our Intelligence Community’s counterterrorism tools.”

“This blunt approach is not the product of an informed, open, or deliberative process.”

“We urge the House to reject the Amash Amendment, and instead move forward with an approach that appropriately takes into account the need for a reasoned review of what tools can best secure the nation.”

In other words, Obama demands continued lawless NSA spying. House members approved. For sure Senate ones would. According to [Electronic Frontier Foundation](#) (EFF) attorney Kurt Opsahl:

“This amendment reflected the deep discomfort of Americans who don’t want the government collecting data on them indiscriminately.”

“This type of surveillance is unnecessary and unconstitutional, a needless return to the general warrants that our country’s founders fought against.”

EFF’s Rainey Reitman added:

“We were heartened by the many supporters from across the country who called their representative to support the amendment, laying the foundation for further Congressional action to investigate the NSA spying and enact greater privacy protections.”

The fight for justice continues. First Unitarian v. NSA pursues it. EFF represents plaintiffs. Nineteen organizations, Los Angeles Unitarian Church groups and others filed suit.

NSA's charged with violating First, Fourth and other constitutional rights. In early July, Northern District of California federal Judge Jeffrey White ruled for EFF.

He rejected Obama's secret privilege claims. Doing so permits EFF's *Jewel v. NSA* and *Shubert v. Obama* suits to proceed.

According to EFF's Cindy Cohn:

"The court rightly found that the traditional legal system can determine the legality of the mass, dragnet surveillance of innocent Americans and rejected the government's invocation of the state secrets privilege to have the case dismissed."

"Over the last month, we came face-to-face with new details of mass, untargeted collection of phone and Internet records, substantially confirmed by the Director of National Intelligence."

"Today's decision sets the stage for finally getting a ruling that can stop the dragnet surveillance and restore Americans' constitutional rights."

In his ruling, Judge White said the heart of EFF's suit isn't a state secret. Classified details can be litigated. FISA Act provisions apply.

"Congress intended for FISA to displace the common law rules such as the state secrets privilege with regard to matter within FISA's purview," he explained.

EFF suits target lawless NSA spying. Millions of ordinary Americans are affected. Government officials remain unaccountable. Hard evidence documents what's intolerable.

"We will continue to push Congress to rein in unconstitutional surveillance," said EFF. It's Stopwatching.us campaign continues.

It targets police state lawlessness. It persists. It's worse than ever. It threatens freedom everywhere. Occupy Wall Street is right. The only solution is world revolution.

Regime change begins at home. It's a national priority. It's essential. The stakes are too high. Challenging extrajudicial authority's essential.

Electoral politics doesn't work. It never did. It doesn't now. Monied interests rule. Politicians are bought like toothpaste. Duopoly power runs America. Vital change is necessary.

Popular struggles matter. Sustained commitment works. Collective activism has power. What better time to use it than now.

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