

The Toronto Hearings on 9/11: Academics Examine the Evidence

Global Research News Hour Summer Series Episode 4

By [Michael Welch](#), [Jonathan Cole](#), [Cynthia McKinney](#), [Prof.](#)

[Niels Harrit](#), and [Prof Peter Dale Scott](#)

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More from the Toronto 9/11 Hearings: This week's installment of the Global Research News Hour marks the fourth of a five part series highlighting research into the World Trade Center attacks and the need for a renewed investigation.

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From September 8 to September 11, 2011, a gathering of researchers, experts and activists converged on the campus of Ryerson University in Toronto to review what was then the most up to date information with regard to the ten-year-old tragedy.

Throughout the four day event, speakers challenged the views that the attacks were carried out by an outside enemy and that they were successful because of US intelligence failures. The visiting speakers from around the world would point to evidence that the Twin Towers were deliberately brought down using explosives. They would discuss the term 'conspiracy theory' and the consequent attempts to marginalize critics of the official story in mainstream media and culture. Crucially, they would make the case for a re-opening of an independent investigation into the attacks.

9/11 and Peer Review

The following remark is attributed to the renowned critic of US policy, Noam Chomsky, in correspondence with skeptics of the official 9/11 narrative:

"I am not persuaded by the assumption that much documentation and other evidence has been uncovered. To determine that, we'd have to investigate the alleged evidence. Take, say, the physical evidence. There are ways to assess that: submit it to specialists — of whom there are thousands — who have the requisite background in civil-mechanical engineering, materials science, building construction, etc., for review and analysis... Or, take the course pursued by anyone who thinks they have made a genuine discovery: submit it to a serious journal for peer review and publication. To my knowledge, there isn't a single submission."[1]

As of this writing, the group [Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth](#) lists close to 2000 accredited professionals with relevant credentials as not believing the official explanation of the collapse of the three World Trade Center towers. Moreover, according to the University of Waterloo 9/11 research Group, there are as many as 18 peer-reviewed papers addressing the 9/11 attacks in a way that is skeptical of the official story.[2] These include:

What Accounts for the Molten Metal Observed on 9/11/2001? (2006) by Dr. Steven Jones in the Journal of the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. Link:

<http://www.physics.byu.edu/research/energy/>

Active Thermite Material Discovered in Dust from the 9/11 World Trade Center Catastrophe (2009) by Dr. Niels Harrit et al. in The Open Journal of Chemical Physics Link:

<http://www.bentham.org/open/tocpj/articles/V002/7TOCPJ.pdf>

Collapse Time Analysis of Multi-Story Structural Steel Buildings (2011) by Dr. Robert Korol (McMaster University) et al published in The Open Civil Engineering Journal (Bentham Open)

Link: <http://www.benthamscience.com/open/tociej/articles/V005/25TOCIEJ.pdf>

Launching the U.S. Terror War: the CIA, 9/11, Afghanistan, and Central Asia (2012) by Dr. Peter Dale Scott in The Asia-Pacific Journal. Link:

http://japanfocus.org/-Peter_Dale-Scott/3723

Two of the authors of these peer-reviewed papers, Dr. Niels Harrit and Professor Peter Dale Scott, spoke at the Toronto Hearings, as did engineer Jonathan Cole, who through simple backyard experiments was able to easily discredit the talking points of supposed experts on the effects of thermite on steel.

The arguments countering the official story of the September 11 can no longer be fairly dismissed or marginalized as the ‘conspiratorial musings’ of undisciplined minds and paranoid souls. A new and independent investigation into the event that has triggered the deadly, destructive and expensive “War on Terrorism” is fully warranted.

Jonathan Cole is a professional engineer licensed in New Hampshire, Connecticut and Florida with 28 years of experience. For more than ten years he has been the head of a mid-size engineering firm with some 25 employees. And in addition to designing large scale engineering projects, he has performed services as an expert witness in his field. He serves as director of the board of Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth. Cole’s presentation focuses on the official 9/11 account, and the scientific method.

Cynthia McKinney served as a Democratic member of the US Congress from 1992 to 2002, and again from 2004 to 2006. She ran as a US Presidential candidate on the Green Party ticket in 2008. McKinney has been active with the civil rights and anti-war movements. As well, she has been the only US Elected representative to openly question the role of the US Government in deliberately perpetrating the September 11 attacks. In her talk, McKinney contextualizes 9/11 from a Washington insider’s perspective.

Niels Harrit is an Associate Professor of Chemistry from the University of Copenhagen and author of more than 60 of the most prominent scientific journals in his field. Professor Harrit spoke to the Toronto Hearings on the subject of thermite material in the world trade center dust, the subject of his 2009 peer-reviewed article.

Peter Dale Scott held varying positions in the Canadian diplomatic service before

establishing a career as an English professor at University of California – Berkeley until he retired from that position in 1994. He is a poet of high stature and a public intellectual known for his anti-war stances and his criticism of US foreign policy. He has authored numerous books which provide a conceptual framework for the deep structures underlying such activities as political assassinations, state-sponsored drug trafficking and state terrorism. The topic of Professor Scott's talk at the Toronto Hearings was the history of Deep State activities with special reference to 9/11.

Efforts are underway to bring greater awareness of the flaws in the official 9/11 story to a broader public audience this September through a grassroots advertising campaign. For more information, visit RETHINK911.org.

Also be sure to check out Global Research's complete [on-line dossier on 9/11](#).

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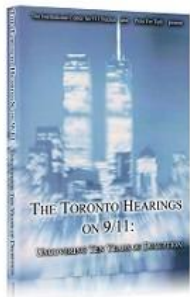
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References

- 1) <http://911blogger.com/news/2013-03-28/some-thoughts-noam-chomskys-911-stance>
- 2) University of Waterloo 9/11 Research group website:
<http://uwaterloo911.wordpress.com/academic-papers-on-911/>

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