

## Afghanistan papers & The Report w/ Ryan Keen Ep 54

00:00:50 - 00:05:03

Allright, we've got Another episode we're back okay This is We took a pretty long hiatus. I think we had a pretty solid show last time when we covered. Well Gee we covered a lot. We covered a lot of territory Tori and it was long episode and But I think it was a valuable and So today keeping up with the the news cycle there which is incredibly incredibly difficult to do. We are GonNa talk about the Afghanistan papers report The movie the Amazon original the report. Okay the movie about CIA torture which is incredible. And and if you watched it you must watch it and think after hearing US talk about it if you haven't seen it you're still going to want to because you know there's not a lot of there's not a lot of surprises as you know there were. We can't give spoilers because this is a true story I just think most listeners probably or some listeners. Probably don't have the the the scope and the depth of the CIA torture report because it quickly faded from the news like everything does and then we're going to finally finally get to impeachment okay. Donald trump the third president to be impeached Fourth if you count Nixon although he was only impeached by the Judicial Committee and then wants the Republicans turned on him his own party He decided to resign. But so you can say. Basically four presidents have been impeached Andrew Johnson Lincoln successor and White Supremacist Bill Clinton because blow jobs are terrible and Nixon because he was a monster and now trump because he said something on the phone I guess so. This is where we're at. We're GONNA talk about each and I think it's important that we do because this is the story and we're not GonNa let this happen but this is the story that's GonNa Bury our first story. which is the Afghanistan papers? Okay If the Afghanistan papers are buried and I think they're already starting to be if this phase from the new cycle we can and will blame it on the impeachment. Show uh-huh because that's what it is show in Washington and you know we'll probably argue about it and see what we all think because it is polarizing topic that being said we we have You know the three of us right standard three but we also have Ryan keen back Ryan has been on the show in the past and and I think we even talked offers a little bit about impeachment sort of On that last show. Even though it hadn't happened yet we were talking about. You know the whole concept of Russia Gate and some of these things and talk about a lot of other issues as well. Ryan is veteran he He served us a tanker but he served in the army Doing doing some significant detainee operations I'll let him sort of introduce himself in a second and then I'll jump into the Afghanistan papers but he is a prominent prominent antiwar activists He's seen a lot he's been through a lot Physical and emotional struggles all of us. he's got a lot to say he's got a really interesting boys You know and a platform that I think is really important. And he's a prominent member of about-face veterans against the war. Which of course used to be known as Iraq veterans against the war and So we we became buddies through that organization and Just want to say a few words about yourself before. Jump right into the papers. I this is Ryan Keen This is my second time on the PODCAST and from Ohio. I was in the Ohio Army National National Guard from two thousand and two until two thousand eight on my originally was a nineteenth kilo and one a one Abrams tanker. And then I read class to eleven Charlie Infantry mortar men however

we were combat arms unit full of tankers infantry and we deploys in detainee operations with task force.

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One three four. I was stationed at Camp Cropper. which was a great site in Baghdad? Right outside side of Bayat. One of the three detainee facilities in Iraq on the only high value detainee facility in Iraq. And I was there from January two thousand two thousand five till December two thousand two thousand five immediately following the Abu Ghraib scandal and I am an anti imperialist and also I write poetry and try to bring some awareness to moral injury and suicide awareness and other mental health issues on I. I am disabled veteran with post traumatic moral injury. So thank you. Yeah you know what I really like is identify yourself offers An anti-imperialist right. So you know I use the phrase antiwar but I think in a sense yours is a more holistic description. That more of us should begin using. Because because you know when you put yourself in anti-war box The implication I think though this shouldn't be the case but the implication the prominent public implication is is that your against a singular war right so Vietnam for example who if someone said antiwar nineteen sixty seven. Everyone knew what they met with. If you say you're anti war in two thousand nineteen which war are you anti Iraq Afghanistan. What about the secret wars? What about the drone wars? What about the seven other other countries we bomb and the fifteen others? Sometimes I'm like so. Where where are we? So I think you know because American wars today or so profuse okay in scope and in in in geographic space. It is really valuable to say. I'm an anti imperialist. Because the structural system system of militarism and part of the way you hide an empire is to treat individual conflicts as discrete and disconnected from one. Another when the reality I think And I think this is what you mean by the term. The reality is part of an imperial system I I call it a late. Stage Hyper capitalist imperial system that we're in so thank you know thanks. I think it's really cool. So when we talk about empire we like to keep everything connected. The United States doesn't like to do that. But anytime you talk about empire there's there's usually some sort of canary in the coal mine moment and there's also usually some sort of conflict that stands out among all of them as the most representative right of the Empire's failings and I call this a late stage empire. Meaning I think we are in decline and and as I always say in interviews Failing empires crumbling empires behave badly. Okay all empires behaved badly but empires that are on the ropes like cornered. Animals tend to behave most badly. Which is why when you look at the late stage? British Empire Nineteen fifties and sixties. He's they fought more guerrilla wars more. What they used to call dirty wars back in the day during that two decade period then probably all the other imperial wars? They fall before not to say they didn't fight lots of imperial wars over the course of hundreds of years in the nineteen fifties and sixties. I mean I couldn't even name all the places where Britain was doing some sort of coin. Some sort of counter guerrilla some sort of you know M M I six CIA type operation And I think that that's the stage in the United States is and so so for me. I think that the Afghanistan war is the empire in a nutshell. Okay the Empire in microcosm partly because it's the longest or in American history and partly because it is based in some ways on the greatest number of lies antitheses and delusions. Now many of us have

known this for a long time. I've been banging my head against the wall writing about Afghanistan. Since almost the day. I came back in January of two thousand and twelve but those of us who were in the know what we did was we surmise. That the war was based on lies. We surmised that the generals the senior. You were lying. How how did we need my surmise? We took our experiential you know Or experiences variances and we melted those into current affairs reading. What's going on questioning being skeptical and then the third pillar at least for me and I think? Think for many of us who've been fighting the Vietnam I mean the Afghan war for quite some time. Danny Davis Andy Base of each CETERA. the third pillar we brought into it. It was history.

00:10:00 - 00:15:02

Okay placing Afghanistan's war In the broader history of America's experience in Afghanistan and in the history of Afghanistan's troubled relationship with empires throughout route history. So that's that's a long setup to say. We were pretty sure that all this was based on lies and opposition and and delusion quite quite frankly well what we were handed a couple of weeks back was something called the Afghan papers and the the Afghan papers. I called in a couple of articles I wrote on it. Three articles that our topic so far The Pentagon papers of our generation. Okay the Pentagon papers of my generation of our generation as posts on the show as veterans but really also our generation in a more general sense. Meaning you know. MILLENNIALS and generation xers. This is our Pentagon papers now. Of course the Pentagon papers were released in nineteen seventy one Famous is probably perhaps the most famous American whistleblower of the Twentieth Century Daniel Ellsberg who was a veteran himself then he went to work for for the Rand Corporation which is still around still riding lots of reports for the US government And what's he stumbled upon it. Well what he worked on at one point and what he then stumbled upon in its totality and decided had to be released was a very simple but very long document even longer than Afganistan papers That that the press labeled the Pentagon papers now the back story on this and I think it's a little gordon is that Robert McNamara who is one of the great architects of the Vietnam War One of the villains of the early Vietnam War by the end of his tenure just before he left the Johnson administration somewhat in disgrace He he had already started having doubts about this war Not Quite publicly yet. But he cents that the war was not being one that many of his assumptions and the other best and the brightest as they've been called in the Kennedy team who most of them stayed on to be part of the Johnson team after the Kennedy assassination in November nineteen sixty three many of their assumptions. He realized were wrong. started to be skeptical that the war could be won and and he ordered an internal study on the history. It was just it was basically a history the story of history document the history of American involvement. Okay how did America get involved after World War Two and how did it slowly get more and more sucked into the Vietnam War. It sounds like rather simple story. That wouldn't necessarily need to be classified and wouldn't necessarily be so controversial except that. What was unearth in this study? Ah to the MAT. To McNamara's credit. He wanted the full story. I mean he asked for the true But then sometimes you gotta be careful what you ask for all right. So what we. He found out the

Pentagon papers. Is All my God. This entire war was based on lies poor suppositions You know just it was awful full I mean it it. It literally implicated every president from Truman. You know straight up to Johnson because because the document actually stops at the end of the Johnson administration and it was it was suppressed. Of course right there was buried away somewhere. Well that was good worked on the document Ellsberg Turned against the war. Partly as a result of working document. I think and He decides in the Early Nineteen Seventies. This this has to see the light of of course leaks it famously The Washington Post The New York Times and goes everywhere. There's a big court case you know. The Nixon Administration tries to suppress it. which is kind of weird? Because it doesn't totally even implicate Nixon. 'CAUSE IT stops before him but of course he wants to maintain this war his secret bombing in Laos and Cambodia. He has this madman theory. That if we could just you know convince the North Vietnamese. We're fucking crazy. Then maybe they'll quit right. which was itself a madman theory right? Inverted and Anyway so this is the the story and it comes out. And it's fucking bombshell okay. And there's of course the movie The post Covered that few years back cover the story of the Washington Post involving Alban with Ellsberg. We were just handed a couple of weeks ago. The Pentagon papers of our generation and it's The Washington Post again in conjunction with the intercept. That'd be my say okay and I think that's important. I'm not sure that quite the flavor it does if this was not done in conjunction with an alternative media source more trustworthy alternative source like the intercept. Okay but the Washington Post gets the big scoop again. It's kind of interesting right The comparisons almost Almost staggering there. Anyway what these.

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How many documents you know six hundred something how many how many mammals are documents have user and at the same one no the number approximately I think it it was right around seven hundred so yeah? This is a big treasure trove of Memos and And Lots of interviews interviews okay interviews done somewhat secret not publicly not on FUCKING MSNBC right Between Gene An Inspector General There's something called the See Gar the special investigative general for Afghanistan reconstruction or something like that right. It's it's this is an organization that's supposed to have some sort of top cover and have some sort of You know oversight function and I and we can get into that later. They hold all these interviews with Mostly generals a colonel signals and also some US officials civilian officials who who were who were deeply involved in the Afghan war from two thousand one until really the present which is one of the interesting things about the Afghan documents they come. I think even further into the president of the Pentagon papers I did and these papers just like the Pentagon papers to a lot of things I they he to implicate three administrations mostly Bush Obama but a little bit of trump to and lies and in false data provided to them by the generals and then from them to the media and from the media us. Right this is how the channel works. Miss. You know misrepresentations of success. That's the key to the Afghanistan. Papers is what they did and what they do is show us that from the level of the colonel which is basically the lowest people that they mostly interviewed. Although I would argue this goes all the way down to the captain because I I played this game to talk about later. Everyone was implicated up and down the

chain from White House to brigade commands in false data. Okay which is a crime providing false data joking the stats right Glowing reports that they didn't really believe False representations success And we found out through the interviews part which was a little different from the past papers and I think even more interesting yes. We found out that a lot of these folks who when they were on duty because many of them are retired. Although not all Mark Mealy we all get into that right current chairman Joint Staff and well known liar and it competent Especially after these papers that Don't care attention mark okay. It's all it's all in good fun. Okay I'm a big. I'm a nostalgia for free speech. Okay and I I really need my pension to really needed okay. I've got two kids anyway. no liar and incompetent mark milley. WHO's definitely coming from my? Va Benefits at some point after the show we found out from all these generals that while they were serving. Okay because many of these interviews occurred years ago okay. So they're telling the public one thing when they go on. TV when they when the when the Kinda gone does their press briefings and CETERA. When they're talking to the media they were saying one thing? We're making progress light at the end of the go. Turn a corner right so if you if you turn enough quarters though what happens if you turn a corner three times and make a fucking square and you start going in a circle right and that's what we really did because we kept saying. Well we're turning a corner. No one ever said that it was like you know going in a circle but the bottom line is what we know. Is that what they said was happening to the public did not even jive with what they really believed. Because many of these interviews interviews say that actually we knew the war was off the rails. I mean some of the quotes are incredible. Like you know this guy's Doug loot saying we didn't have the faintest idea view what we were doing doug loot you were. The Afghan wars are czar like fucking Russian monarch of the Afghan Dan War. That's what they called you in America. We just talk about that for A. Second I digress. But I'm sorry. In America. Obama secular likes to appoint people to be czars of Shit. There's like well Clinton did a two member. General McAfee was the drug czar. You know and then Douglas for both Bush and Afghanistan. The White House called them. He was a retired general tire. three-star and the smart guy by the way they called him the Afghan war czar. I don't like that term doesn't have the same relevance. I think we need to substitute like new words for like here's a good one like chow about the Afghan war fuhrer her. You know what I mean to me that would be more powerful like anyway If you're listening trump change the term if you're would be appropriate especially relief for you okay.

00:20:01 - 00:25:12

So Doug Loot who's the wars are. Okay the guy who's overseeing the war he's the point man for the White House which by the way I heard is the top of our government for two different administrations which is rare. He was saying while he was serving. And then especially after serving thing that we didn't have the faintest idea what our strategy wasn't Afghanistan or what we were doing and he's of course one of only dozens of people say this. What does this all tell us? Before I turnover for discussion tells us that what we had all surmised remember. What I was talking about earlier has now been backed up by cold hard facts and for a moment we all love our guilty pleasures? Mine are mostly romantic comedies. With here nightly in them we all

have our guilty pleasures assured but my guilty pleasure for about thirteen seconds. Right was like a Baker's dozen where the second what's to say I'm indicated. I am so vindicated. See I was right all along. I was right to write all those articles about Afghanistan. I've been vindicated lasted about about thirteen. Fourteen seconds you know I was allowing myself some some indication space and then I was just had deeply morose because like I said earlier you gotta be careful what you ask for McNamara was you know he was Care he shouldn't care what he asked for. Those Pentagon gone papers and so should the special and you know the cigar. And so was I because being indicated also meant that all my worst cheers all my worst suppositions about our government and the lies that has long long now Award that's in. His nineteen year turned out to have been not only true but perhaps worse than we thought. So that's what the Afghans Ghanistan sandpapers are. That's a long introduction. But I like to think it's a better introduction than most papers probably gave you Because if you don't know the key terms like like Pentagon papers like see guard and if you don't define the terms which a lot of Media doesn't do because they only have like eight hundred words right to give you the story so much better for a Prince or or the fuhrer of bossidy Danny shorts and to give it to you and and with that. Let's let's just jump in. What what what's most shocked you guys? What what do you WanNa talk about like you read the and what? What did you guys think I think one of the biggest things that really it was like you said it's nothing that those impacted pension had asked by? It's nice to actually see it on paper and see people who were part of it Sadie. Eighty six Nicholas Burns. He's a U. S. diplomat who served as industry tomato under Bush. He said after Oath Reno Four once Foley engaged in both words. I can't remember US ever saying. Should we be there are we being useful are receiving what the the question that you should ask about any kind of operation. Are we doing something that we said we you're going to do. And this is like two or three years after research. And they weren't even asking and and then festival Bala completely with because Bush's hoping on counter-terrorism is like finding terrorists yet Kill them or extraordinary. Rendition R. E. kidnapping a gecko mountaineer and then overall is like no. We need to switch to required service model you know and the whole quote Unquote Arts Bullshit. Actually number and they they never they never sopped ass continually those questions of our weeks successful. What are we doing here is is our cheese like the they just nicking set up and down the chain and the people who tried to ask those questions were are not taking seriously and the people at the higher upper like will committed to this? So we'll just keep doing a mike. I don't know what that seems so immature and not very well yet. I I really like what you're saying and Because I love the coin terms because I think I'm clever been having ego I like to label what you're describing as War Nurse Right War nurture at the gospels are describing but yeah that's really great point what what are the guys saying so I am not shocked. Act All by anything reported If anything I would say it's daylight and a dollar short renew CAPITALISTS NEO-LIBERAL ALL JEFF bezos in the Washington Post.

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You know about two decades too late on this report for hundreds of thousands of Afghans his Iraqis and you know thousands of Americans as well Afghanistan has been known in the

graveyard as the graveyard of empires hires they ask about the strategy for Afghanistan. or The you know. There never really was a strategy for Afghanistan. Dan Well I I disagree. I mean the strategy is clearly capitalism on exploiting resources on committing horrendous war crimes and atrocities atrocities on wire and Brown folks and this goes back to fourteen ninety two. I mean this is. This is nothing new. This is the military industrial complex and hyper capitalism and and empires on they. Just they do this all throughout history. I mean we've we've been warned by Smedley Butler and wars Iraq racquet Back in the Nineteen Twenties and thirties. Part of the Monroe doctrine than the last general ever elected president. which I don't know if this was Symbolic that he was the last general ever elected president with the way Eisenhower on his farewell speech on. I'm he warned us of the implications and the disastrous trajectory projector and we were taking with this military industrial complex and building an empire and then you have the Pentagon papers and now the Afghan papers. I I don't I don't see anything changing at all. All I see is the mainstream media. I'm trying to bury very anything that has to do with the military industrial complex and I believe there's no doubt it is do capitalism awesome and prophets and their corporate overlords in elitist. They I read an interesting article today. Changing directions here a little bit. It was on the hill by Rory Riley topping and it was called the impact of that game. UNISOM papers on veterans now. There was a post doctoral fellow at the Center for Family Research at George Washington University. His name was Jeffrey. Aj and a nineteen seventy eight. He wrote article or paper called after Vietnam in procedure scapegoats. What's and I'd just like to read a little quick quotation from that? He said my talks will veterans. Convince me that their problems are not so so cymbal nor so easily addressed. The veterans conflicts are not his or her alone bound the trauma in guilt of the entire nation in our failure to deal with our guilt renders. The veteran the symptom carrier for society increases his or her moral moral and emotional burden. This burden isolates the veteran and will freeze them in attitude of perpetual combat until the issues shoes of war are confronted in the national conscious. The also would add that isolation burdens of conflicted feelings and not being heard make people crazy not just in war you know the the suicide rates raids. for veterans are astronomical epidemic. The mental health injuries sustained which I believe breath. Jeffrey J. was pretty much hitting moral injury spot on You know it. TRICKLES DOWN TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE homelessness relationship nations ship issues employment issues and I believe and the three concepts for mental health self acceptance and self awareness and self control and you can do this with anything aspect of life or any crop. I believe that most veterans in this is why the suicide in mental health injuries rates is astronomical. Most veterans are either not self aware that you know that this war was a failure in that they were pawns in a capitalist imperialist game or I think more fall into this category they might be aware of that deep down but they are not self accepting thinking about blood sweat and tears of your fellow comrades in battle loss over some prophets for some elite corporatists.

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The mainstream media. I believe. It's like a singular Taylor cycle where the corporations the elitist bourgeoisie. They echo the message. The Propaganda Ganda to the propaganda wing

down to the politicians who also echo that to the MSN now also imperialism propaganda swing has to do with our education in our history books and the lack of context and the lack of of perspective. I mean this is a systemic problem. That has nothing to do with Republicans or Democrats. This is not on new for Afghanistan Iraq. This is the blueprint of the United States Empire and it's just absolutely tragic You know how many lives and limbs mostly of Brown and black folks have been lost due to this and it's just brushed over completely by the mainstream media and I believe intentionally I don't I don't believe they aren't aware but I believe they are intentionally not accepting the realities of this. I mean it's it's tragic I'll pass. Yeah but we'll Ryan. I like what you said about the effect of all this on veterans And how issues with Moral Injury Korea. PTSD they linger. After the fact and I think what you're saying is they can be a heightened amplify catalyzed By the sense of you know carrying the burden of fighting wars that are clearly illegal clearly immoral Clearly on winnable potentially never even back to be one from the start making some of these were never really meant to be one. They were just meant to be continued So far as Lockheed Martin is concerned or Honeywell Eric City Me and the lack of a bidder mason by society which starts usually through the MSN the mainstream media media. And there's just no accepting that we are a failed. We we have done these military operations that are complete failures. Incomplete travesties and absolutely horrendous. Yeah absolutely I mean even just for me you know like a you know one of my triggers. This the drink you know like it's not something I enjoy but it's something that can can easily go off the rails for me and has in the past You know in the wake of the Afghan papers. I was super busy for a few days. 'cause I got got solicitations from just about everybody right about our three articles like twenty four hours a lot and But after that you know like I said I allowed myself to be vindicated for a moment and then I'm GonNa fucking rails and I was on like fucking four day bender. You know to the extent that I just might hunt Lego cleanse after that you know because I was triggered by the whole thing you know Instead of feeling good about it I was like Oh my God only worst nightmares confirm like the world is a dark place. Fuck everybody you know what I mean and I think that there's a lot of veterans we all respond to it differently. But that's where I go and I think there are other veterans. who go there like may so? That's an important point but Cannery when you you know we chatted about it back and forth and I know you read you know my pieces on it when when you woke up that morning and read the first you know the first article article on it before you dug into the primary source though cross your mind I well. The first first thing that I saw about it was wasn't anything that directly reference the papers themselves it was from the daily beast and it was was David. BETRAYS IS EXPLANATION IF WE WANNA call it that of what His his his his is defense mechanism for dealing with the reality. That the that a lot of this information had come out And you you know. It's like a just press release bullshit but it is funny you know. He's never saw him quite so so easily. Triggered it was it was it was so raw and and it did so many of the band-aids that he was a part of that that was had to be Out there I I did find an article from fair The media watchdog fair and accuracy in reporting that they were talking about it.

00:35:12 - 00:40:03

It's very curious as to the Washington Post having spent almost the entirety of the war on terror entirely in support of that now they were actually forced in order to do this new coverage to have a little bit of self discovery and fared mentioned how that a survey they did For the three weeks following September eleventh attacks x found out that columns calling for or assuming military's response to the attacks were given a great deal space where opinions urging diplomatic international national approaches as an alternative military action. We're nearly non-existent. You then move to another study they did. This was from two thousand nine. And at that point this was November two thousand nine four columns outnumbered anti-war columns by more than ten to one of sixty seven post columns on on US military policy in Afghanistan. Six sixty one continued war. We'll just six expressed antiwar views and I I think that that really needs to be pointed out that the post along with the New York Times have walked hat in hand through the entirety the of the war on terror and its many different iterations and now they're trying to set themselves in a better place politically you to defend. Many of the lies that they told or at least Added a a megaphone to I was I was floored. By the number of memos among documents that talked purely about the cost of the war suspect about comparisons between the personal cost of an American soldier soldier an Iraqi soldier and an Afghan soldier and then of course the math of how many Afghan soldiers can get trained for the cost cost of training one American soldier American Marine And it it it really puts puts it in perspective. How Oh you know that they were they were without having any real planning? They were just expecting that. The snowball rolling down the hill would just continue getting bigger and bigger but go in the direction that they wanted wanted to and the snowball did indeed get bigger. But it didn't do anything like it was expected to another thing that stuck out to me was the the copy and paste mentality of how things were being analyzed and the one that stuck out the most was that they were comparing comparing standards of operations in the war on terror and specifically about nation building to post-war to Germany. And so you know there. There's I don't know how many millions of differences between that occupation following the World War Two. And what we were doing again Afghantistan but it Danny. I know you and I've talked about this before. The military mindset is is such a a a copy and paste one we. I think the old operation is going to tell us everything we need to know about the new operation and then that ignorance continues to build on itself until we arrive at this point. Point were standing around seeing. I don't know how we got here. It's perfectly obvious why we got here. Yeah I think the military mentality of Loyalty to the mission blind loyalty to the mission implying loyalty to the process S.. Trust the process right P.. Stay the course as George H W Bush used to say about policy. It's alive and it's well it's It's dangerous and and it. It lacks all historical context. And you know I know we have to transition to or other topics Pretty soon but you know I wrote a rather long five thousand word article comparing the Afghan war in the lives of the generals roles in the Afghan war to America's second longest war what had been its longest war before the Afghanistan war which is called the Moro War was a subset of America's counterinsurgency. Or you know imperial campaign in the Philippines right America's largest overseas colony in its history No one's ever heard of the moral war. There are seven books on Amazon. That deal with it in any Unique or totality sense There over ten thousand on the Vietnam War. Just give you a concept even scholars. Don't of this war I do. Because hyper fewer gates which everything I'm the fear or everything from now on so you know and I'm not scared I'm not scared.

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I get it and if you defame League I don't actually like Hitler it's funny some shit's just funny. Okay anyway sorry just before I get you know mommy my career's torpedoed already. I mean I. I defended Trump against impeachment just yesterday. So it's over for me at this point No but I I wrote about the war and Yeah we're through the looking glass. Alice right this Bernie Bro. Just defended Trump. It's up APAs down dogs or cats right so the point of the moral wars that it was America's second longest war it used to be the longest work goes on for fourteen years. Actually actually it kind of is still going on because we still like in. The last decade have had green berets like helping the Filipino government. Continue to try to suppress More which is the Muslim Filipinos in this Out there separatism and there's laws right they don't. They've never wanted to be part of the Philippines. They want their own thing. And then America and the Philippines were like Nah. No thanks. You gotta be under us because Ed so and even though you live on fucking unique islands that could clearly run themselves that that can't be allowed the whole archipelago has to be one even though that is not your accent percents but this is the war. Well here's the thing. The Pantheon of Important Early Twenty Twentieth Century Generals Okay from the generals who served from about nineteen hundred all the way up to George Marshall and I think forty five every single one of those chief of staff essentially served in the moral war one sensor another so they all kept getting promoted. You know in fact the the best job to have if you want to someday be chief of staff of the army was to command the division of the Philippines and the best. That's job to have in order to get command the entire Philippines militarily what's was to have commanded the Moros moral landon called the southern islands because that's where the most fighting or the most sustained fighting reading was So it was like if you commanded that the next logical step was the commander of the buildings and then usually the general that was dope. He's went went back to the United States and became the head of the chief of staff for I went back to DC. Five of them. Actually did this well. I'm just GONNA like rattle off real quick these guys and I promise. Keep it as short as I can. I I mean I mean I'm twice divorced I mean come on. I promised God and broke that. So but anyway I'M GONNA try to be out so proposed but we have this guy. Called Leonard would write a Leonard. Wood has a base in Missouri named after him where the chemical engineer and bills are police. Our headquarters is that right correct. Yeah Yeah So. He was A lunatic and He was the most brutal is he was the guy I who was like the. I don't know the ray already owner before he became a coin. Die The You know whoa yeah. He was one of these. We gotta be tough on. You know a lot of the generals early in the Afghan and Iraq wars where right before the enlightened patriots game right. So that's what he did and he said that he lapsed after he killed tens of thousands of more ozone largely women and children massacres by the way massacres battles. We call them out or masters Astor's He said he looked the boers. Just about over guys. That's reported in Washington and so the Washington gave that report to the press and the press wrote it. So this guy named Tasker. Bliss takes over over heard of him to write ask her bliss Fort Bliss El Paso Texas right home of America's only tank division or it's only armored division for its cast attention to but anyway he comes in and he's the portrayal of the group right. He's the first

betray us. He's like no no what we really have to do. Is Work with the locals. We don't need to do. Large operations need to small operations. Not The big punitive massacres would it and he has some success. I mean he never really suppresses moral nationalism awesome but he brings violence down a little bit. He kills a few of them or a lot less of them and less of his guys died and he looks really enlightened and so he's like yeah. Yeah we've got got it before it's too. DC Hey things are going well. The war's isn't GonNa be just about over quite though almost we're getting there and then of course the media can do that goes on and on I mean and we keep rotating back and forth between guys who are like would who wanna like just kill hill everybody and guys who are like bliss who WanNa like do this counterinsurgency thing just like we kept switching back before back and forth between killers and then the portrays McChrystal Oh hearts and minds irs even though there was a lot of killing under their commands. So you're not going to the altar reports of all of them but like let's just some of the names of the guys that took over one after the other all of whom except one became chief of staff of the army The highest position available in the military time and the other one the sixth guy. I'M GONNA mention. I mentioned to already. He became the assistant chief of staff so he got the second highest levels. We got five guys who rose to the highest level army six guy who came to the as close as you you could get To being chief of staff and all them lives because we had their internal memos right.

00:45:07 - 00:50:02

I've read the or the excerpts my research and it's the same damn thing and that's why I Ryan you're right. We're teaching the wrong history. Like I should be streamed into every TV fucking Orwell nineteen eighty-four or style to just fucking banter about this stuff. Because I could teach the American people the American children and people better than anybody because I actually fucking connect the dots right and there's other good historians like me out there. I mean not the only one snowing readership though you know. Washington Post isn't GONNA print my fucking article on the moral war. Five thousand words that basically elite devastates the Afghan war by showing that. You've seen this movie before and we should have learned but we never do so. Huge rum is another guy who commands in the Philippines. It says everything's going great and public. But then his private papers and memos he says it's actually not a few drum Fort Drum New York home the mountain division. You seeing a pattern guys You you know and We also have you Scott Okay. He doesn't have a base named after him but he becomes chief of staff of the army and who is our favorite John. J. A pershing right John. J. pershing who doesn't have a basement android him but does become chief of staff of the army but only after only after he commands all American Expeditionary Forces in World War One right the largest command Of American soldiers in in terms of numbers in the country's history right up to that point point and it's only been overtaken by World War Two right and then finally World War Two. George Marshall's chief-of-staff now. George Marshall didn't command the Philippines because he's too young but George Marshall's first combat assignment is asked lieutenant in the fucking Philippines so all these guys are complicit. Listen these lives just like all. The generals. Today are implicit in the Afghan. Where like I said? We've seen this movie before. But what's the

common denominator a common denominator and the reason. Nothing's GonNa change whether it's the moral war or the Afghan war is because there's no consequences. There's no consequences for being wrong being incompetent or for being a liar because every one of those generals in the moral war went on to fame fortune highest commands and just about every one of the generals who's quoted and shown Jones have been lying in the Afghan papers has already or is still going to reach the pinnacle of the army today. Of course course the Philippines to typographically environmentally looks different from Afghanistan and you can't draw tactical lessons necessarily But you can trust the teacher ones and so at the head of our army today at the head of our military is Mark Milley Mark Milley back. When he was in Afghanistan many years ago was giving glowing reports on the war? That means either. He's incompetent because he didn't understand. And what every other interviewees seems to privately understood which is that we were doing even in two thousand and two thanks from felt because even he said that or you're he's a liar so the chairman of the Joint Chiefs Right now is either incompetent or Aligarh probably both right probably a little bit of both. He's a little shaken bait like most generals or else with that I yield the floor Ryan thank you for bringing up history Henry. Thank you for bringing up the military culture of just positively Delusional positively I would argue and Yeah if anyone has any more comments on this throw them in and then I think we probably ought to transition. Because as always we're we're we're we're Kinda over on time and clearly. I had nothing to do with that. So I blame you guys in the guys that I love doing the podcasts. Being able to share our experiences in the military with allies and supporters means the world to us will. We can't do all the work we need you to share an episode of ours with somebody anyone whom you think might be affected by it. Maybe a young person looking to join the military or parents advocating for one a conscientious citizens who care about the violence the US wages in their name advocates tickets for women and people of Color who understand the harsh environment. The military can create for minorities and also inflicts on Minorities Across the Globe in anyone else. You think it might affect. Please take a minute and share this with. Our podcast is supported in a few different ways. I as patriarch where we're blessed to have an array of wonderful supporters. Helping guys I pay for some of the PODCASTS expenses. Those who contribute ten dollars a month author more. We mentioned here as an honor producer. Helping keep you our listeners stocked with new episodes but you don't have to contribute ten dollars a month to help us for as little as a dollar a month you can help us.

00:50:02 - 00:55:07

Keep going paying for hosting storage fees transcribing all the new episodes promoting and expanding the podcast cast and other crap. I can't think of right now. So let's bring out these honorary producers and they are will our INS age counts Fahim ensure ozzy. Henry's emoto James. Oh Bar Adam Bellows Eric Phillips. Paul Appel Joey Debris Thomas Benson and the status quo podcast. Your contributions are wonderfully helpful to us. Thank you very much however if Patriots your style you can contribute directly to us through paypal at paypal dot me forward slash force on a hill or please check out our store on The Great Bill Karpinski did an awesome job designing our first shirt which you can find at shop dot spread shirt dot com

forward slash fortress on a hill check for promo codes before you order and now let's get back to the podcast. Well where would be just to segue into our conversation about the report. Not Butcher is just you know the point that we make before I just sat. Institutionally we have no memory and we also all of our institutions. Like whenever there's a mistake they solely exists suit cover their asses. And that's what we saw with the military in the presentation of Afghanistan and just always time to paint a rosy the picture over something that wasn't rosy at all and the same thing with the CIA when it came to the torture in the x the sorry enhanced interrogation techniques and the short Inari rendition programme and saying how effective it was when it absolutely was not effective one day by and in all three of these topics today from the Afghanistan papers to the rapport war on documentary to the next topic of impeachment to me. They all are completely connected in Titan Nancy handsome Who is the figurehead for this elitist charade smoke and mirrors horse dog and pony show of impeachment? She was on the House Intelligence Committee in new of the tortures going on ADS. Far Back to two thousand four. And you know our stated on the last time out was on the PODCASTS. She said there was no chance. No reason for impeachment for President George W Bush right now we I believe that pins like the report in the Afghanistan papers are buried by emotion driven neo liberal politics on the mainstream media divisive politics to keep the proletarian class down on. We are in seven active military operations with seven countries Afghanistan Iraq Syria was recently the OTC. W report came out. They were suppressing the Duma in evidence in tampered with evidence about about their lives on chemical weapons in Corey which were completely unfounded Yemen Somalia Libya. Niger we just cut thirty billion dollars in the supplemental nutrition on the snap program to feed two point. Five million are affected in two thousand. Nineteen Nancy Pelosi in corporate imperialist areolas Democrats and the Imperial Republicans both approved trump. Who now they're saying is corrupt abusing power? Seven hundred sixteen in billion dollars for the defense budget will guess what it just a couple of days ago passed the house. Eighty six to around. Sorry in the Senate Eighty six eight four seven hundred and thirty eight billion dollars to include money for Space Force. The southern border wall just some earmarks out of that seven hundred thirty eight billion. They're six hundred thirty thirty. Five Billion Pentagon their seventy one point five billion going to war spending.

00:55:08 - 01:00:01

There's twenty three point. One billion going to nuclear weapons programs. There's five point three billion going to military bases You know but they cut thirty billion William from a food program for both the the most infected by imperialism and capitalism communities in America in none of this none of this weather abscam papers the report on torture or anything hundreds or thousands of the coverage of this impeachment impeachment charade I mean you have protests right now. Massive the protests in Iraq in Chile. We haven't Bolivia. US led coup against Evil Morales in the mosque party Operation Gratien condor part to you know Venezuela we have us recently in Lebanon pro US forces in pro-saudi floors of they're trying trying to disrupt anti corruption protests in France. You have a general strike now you might hear some on the me about Hong Kong. And why is that well because in Hong Kong now reports coming out the

US back Ukrainian neo. Nazis Fascists are showing up in Hong Con as disruptors agent provocateurs proxy to the United States imperialists. You know I've seen reports recently a Arash ship being aggressive off our east coast while this is something that Russia does of all time. And you know I. Russia does that all the term mm-hmm because we have Britain warships and warplanes in the Black Sea in completely surrounding Russia. So how are they acting aggressive. Where where's the opposite? You know context to this the US just recently another thing. I haven't heard we've seen reported. We Dug Doug Nicaragua a national security threat. As Willis trump designating the Mexican cartels terrorists making boat Nicaragua Aah Mexico. Mexico opened to non-legislative executive order military operations. The Saudi Air Force didn't attack on the US military base a domestic US military base in. It was swept under the rug. Quicker than anything I've ever seen in labeled as a mass shooting with no Investigation into the Saudi family or the Saudi military in what they had to do. But we don't investigate either they assassinate journalists and embassies so that's that's not sharking democratic debates no Democrats. Xm Talk Gabbard including Bernie are talking for policy or talking about these things It's it's just I I don't it's all propaganda it's capitalism run amok. I will pass. Well well you know you know in the background guy The context guy the report referring to and It's a movie called the report. Check it out really really check it out like it's it's one of those rare movies but listeners. That is a is capable of forever altering even an educated even an enlightened citizens view of their own nation as the effect it had on me right even though there. There's nothing really particularly new presented that I didn't know It was still. Shock is a shock to the system report they're referring to Barbara Boxer Senator Senator from California at the time no longer with us I mean in the Senate. She thinks she's still on her. Just hiking somewhere in California right now you know with like her like million dollar dogs or whatever she has. She's where it's just like all but to her credit. She leads an investigation into the enhanced interrogation techniques techniques e. It's it's take the life out of the word torture. It's the most American thing that we do is like we should. She called the United States of euphemistic them. Because we are like amazed at renaming something and taking the life out of it you know like even even like PTSD right. Like I'm glad we understand it more now but like don't you think that like as George Carlin said that like veterans might have done care like quicker if we still call the ship shock. You know like that that that's a tough word you know. PTSD right torture that resonate totally fuck were torture people. No no no no John.

01:00:01 - 01:05:06

You a relatively unqualified nobody. In the White House you know Legal Counsel Department for the Justice Department. He said in the memo's now it's not torture. No he played with the words he called it enhanced interrogation techniques. You can slap people you could put them in coffins with insects on their bellies. That's fine. That's not torture right. You can keep them awake until they go insane you could douse them with cold water until one of them actually freezes the death which happened Hypothermia Hypothermia or I you saw that. You'll see that in the report. Well boxer looks into this right and she appoints like staffer one of her senior staffers of super dedicated. Dude who basically goes insane gene himself from the agony of

working on this report investigating the CIA for years several years the question. Of course this was There's two key questions Three sorry three one was what the CIA was doing torture like. Was it illegal because torture is illegal in international law very illegals also Linda Bassett law. So it's legal. The second is did it work. You're right. Did it work. That was an important question even though it shouldn't matter because torture's illegal even if it does work it doesn't mean found out and three did the know whether bad it didn't work right so Bouma mobile so of course. The answer is E. T.'s. Were certainly torture right to It didn't work and three the CIA knew it didn't work. Had done their own investigation that they then classified. This guy found in his trolling through their documents and they lied about it. which is the fourth so so tortured did we did? We did torture. It didn't work the CIA knew it didn't work. And then they lie to the American people and the government and the president about it. Okay I mean. Bush is a monster and should have been impeached and should be held Nuremburg trials but in this report movie and then let's see I report. Bush isn't even the worst guy because what it showed is that like. She wasn't even getting full information from his own government. We it doesn't turn for that. Isn't there you guys watch Fox News. There's a term for that when the government man operates independently unelected and can actually like stifle the president. WHAT THEY WANNA do? Cold starts with a D D state deep state right. That's what it's called. I mean this is what it's all about right and like the Afghanistan papers. There were two major conclusions and without. I don't WanNa turn it over okay. But inclusion one is that it is very hard to get. Such reports made made public okay the CIA. And even the Obama Administration. Because that's who was president while this was going on this while most of this investigation investigations going on try very hard press. It like really hard like really really are like you. Can't you can't name names of people who were involved. Well you know. We have to redacted redacted some pages of this report when it finally when they were trying to release it so much that there were like four words on a page that weren't redacted and they were like prepositions like end. You know it's like who and four two. I'm horrified right. You know so. I tried to do that but but boxer to her credit carefully very carefully very politically astute very politely but eventually boldly gets this report out or at least the summary of the report and it's fucking unscathed so the first thing is it's really hard year reports like this out 'cause one of the things we didn't mention about the up Denison here because it took the Washington Post like what two years to even get these like ow three two years. That's crazy right. There should have been public immediately. Like nothing in this is worthy of classification right. It's just it's just factual strategic data. We're not given the names of live like fucking CIA assets in Goddamn Kandahar right but they still thought it right. We don't like a bad news story. well the CIA fucking hates a bad news story the CIA directors and senior chiefs. They literally wake up and have nightmares. They make up a fucking cold sweats and they don't have nightmares nightmares about boogeyman or dying or heights or public speaking. They have nightmares about the church committee committing in the seventies when French actually in public public hearings investigated and showed that the CIA has failed at every major operation. That they had undertaken since the Cold War since their their creation in nineteen forty seven. They had done illegal things and had never ever succeeded right so instead of getting rid of the CIA. One forgot about the church committee. But the didn't forget the ghost of Frank Church haunts haunts CIO headquarters.

01:05:07 - 01:10:07

And that makes me happy okay. So they don't want this out the second thing that's similar cynical about the paper. I mean about the report and that I think is relevant to the gas papers because remember I told you that in the moral war and in in the Afghan war there was no consequences. Right these liars these incompetence these failures like they didn't win. They knew they weren't winning a lot about it right but the all kept getting promoted whether it was an immoral war where became chief of staff and basis they never them forever in perpetuity or they became you know or or today they became you know major major foresaw generals retired with pensions. And then go work for fucking Halliburton whatever they do you know. Whatever floats their boat as You know if you're always monsters but there was there was also no oh consequences in the CIA report so the torture report comes out and he was implicated in it everyone every senior our CIA officer. Who went on to be director? Who went on to be top levels in that bureaucracy? They're all implicated and my favorite. If Mark Milley is my favorite implicates tour. which is a word I just made up but should be added to webster's dictionary because it's fucking awesome the number one Implicates whore of for me for the Afghanistan papers is Mark Milley right because he's currently chief chief of staff chairman in the torture report. Who is the number one clock tower? I can't say it the same way ever scraps Password said about Webster's it's a horrible word. Is John Brennan John. Brennan is implicated in the report right. He's implicated now things. They redact that as much as possible in the report but we now know in the movie shows and then he deep dive into this topic in pro shows. Blue Brennan is totally implicated anyway. Because if you remember when he went in front of Congress to get You know What do they call it? A when Congress sanctions Gogo hearings and they get approved. What's called that doesn't matter what went when Congress approves him to be Director? Yeah right when he gets nominated and then he gets approved or whatever they call that work. confirmation hearings confirms confirmed. Sorry sorry just my head's everywhere man. You know what I mean impeachment America falling apart climate change. Grandkids GonNa live. It's my anyway. John Brennan the big question that was being asked in whatever year second term Obama's administration after Panetta leaves you. Did you have anything to do with the torture program. Because by then it was pretty infamous even by American standards and Brennan Live. He kept up saying no. No no I spoke out against it from the start. I was the good guy when I was a senior leader. But not quite at the top and all this e- torture is going on. I was against it and he said that over and over again publicly on MSNBC and Fox On the floor of the Senate now he said I spoke out against it but you that was never found and the report showed us this not a single piece of evidence not a single written document and the CIA even though they love burn documents also thrives on paper they fucking love paper. They write everything down because they're idiots right then and there like the fucking cat burglar that wants wants to get caught. You know like the the serial killer who was like fuck. This went off because I kind of really want to get caught you know that's the CIA. was they put. Everything was on paper right or or on computers too but they couldn't find one shred of evidence that Brennan had ever post this program interesting. Another report indicates him in the opposite way of actually having kind of supported and been involved. When the report comes out right

very late in the Obama Administration? I believe right it was pretty late in the administration is drenched was already headed. CIA Twenty fifteen. Is that what you said. Twenty fifteen. Yeah that's one of the summary Actually came up okay right so so what's interesting about. This is like okay my last action. The Afghan papers come out and one of the key. People implicated is the current chairman of the joint use Mark Milley. Four years ago Obama was still president. America was great pre trump. The Obama packs the packs Obama Comma or whatever it was right Dole almost four years ago when this report comes out summary of the report John Brennan a key person hip located in the torture program was head of the CIA and to me. That's the connection I mean there's a million connections and Ryan brought out a billion of All kinds of directions want but the key connection for me is that there is no responsibility.

01:10:08 - 01:15:05

There is no punishment nothing ever happens to these people. We write reports Ryan. Would you call it too. Little too late to year later dollar store dollar short daylight dollars Short Ortiz reports. Come out. Everyone's shocked shocked right torch. Oh so now. We're going to punish them. Like people are GonNa be held accountable. Accountable oh no no no no no we just got a story about it. Yeah Yeah Yeah. But they broke the law and some of them are still in charge. We're not gonNA let them still be in charge. Are we well well well. Of course they are because they're heroes because they've worked for the intelligence community and their heroes their gods they're saying we're going to canonize them in fact actually whenever promote them we promote them. And you're and you're like wait. Maybe so why do that'd be bothered doing the report. Well it sells newspapers. Yeah Yeah but don't we have a responsibility. Don't we have an obligation held people accountable. Because he's sports came out. We got guys in charge of the fucking show who broke the law who lied to us who were incompetence. We're going to let Mark Milley say at the head of the Joint Chiefs. We're going to let John Brennan Finish out his tours director of the when he's located in the worst scandal and CIA potentially history or at least twenty centuries three and the answer always in the United added states of responsibility is he s continue to promote them and there will be no no accountability. And that's the story to report and you must watch. It must watch even beyond the accountability part like say that we overlook the there's no career offer to change the underlying systems that created this. And that to me is the bigger tragedy. No yeah now. We can hold accountable. We say that we did like he'll an international criminal court all of these albums you know. The the underlying Causes Donald to this place would still be in place and then we would. We would still be tricky right because we would be like. Oh we held held accountable. What does it fucking change? What actually happened and the structures in place and the weird crazy legal loopholes? We'll see I used to do so. And just in my own learning experience and you know it's insane ain't the the way that they parse through words and they go through a lot and the report on WHO's there off of the the. CIA is sitting with new on. They're sitting there talking about like words taking us in how they're going to define them as so. Oh ask to say this is her and one of the things that I will say. That were unique on. He's like well. What are we saying in unique unique? We're GONNA say means any information that can be derived by that can't be derived by other like any other types

of like as they showed in the fucking movie like all the information that they said they were getting from enhanced interrogation was for other means Ivory Traditional Rapport building which is the proven for decades. Now to be the most in fact the way actually get information on prisoners and also you know collection. Emails Phones owns signal slashing anything that we do in the community to actually figure should have. That's how it was. That's how they got permission. It wasn't through new coaching people and he he mentions the CIA. Did in one thousand nine hundred seventy eight. This had said that they torture doesn't They didn't fucking listen and it just they have no institutional memory everybody just cares about getting the mission done. Don't care about the strategic impact or the effectiveness and that's just it just really bothers me. And then everybody comes to their rescue. When John Handshake he played who was It was he was high up in the Obama Administration. And they're sitting there when they're talking about coming out with their report and it was Diane. I'm fine San by way. Her office on she am better. You swing her and she does a phenomenal. So so they're sitting there. They're sitting there having the minority meeting. This is right after the plumbing fourteen Russians when when they were GONNA lose control of the Senate and they They're sitting there and they're like.

01:15:05 - 01:20:14

Oh we need to do all this unity. And she's like we still need to bring this report. Art Market also like stuck his neck out and ultimately lost his election of like he stuck his neck out news. I only have a couple more here we need to get a Saudi ear and Mike Dunn is like Oh the Republicans are gonNA sewer US review. This they're going to say it's like arson attacks and Dianne Feinstein. He said I don't know if she is pretty awesome. Line where she says I would rather be like I would rather throw away my my whole career for to tell richer signed prayer for something like that where she's basically saying she wants to come out with I do and damned the politics and that is so you and Barbara Kuhn when we actually hear that but it's nice that that there are people integrity A in this kind of situation they just unfortunately are you know. They're they're not. There's not enough people in that situation on. This is Howard continues. This is how the people continued and beyond the McAfee got held anybody accountable. We don't ever try to change the structures that create these kind of situations versus in August. And I would just like the jump on Real quick about my personal experience. Twelve months at Camp Cropper which was the high value detainees facility in Iraq. We were in Ohio Army National Garden Unit of infantry and tankers and we were not trained in detainee operations we were totally doing route. All security as a combat security company I believe looking back on it now as well. As after Reading Philip Zimbardo Ardoz Book called the psychology of Evil Philip Zimbardo. He did the Stanford prison experiment and he also was a key witness in mental health support for the Abu Ghraib correction officers that were charged. They you know they D- individualize. The soldier in the detainees. They dehumanize US They also they could so you. Don't you put the responsibility of your actions on a uniform instead of on yourself. You think of yourself as the uniform you don't think of yourself as an individual. We arrived January. Two thousand five shortly after the Abu Graib scandal was released and they removed all video in audio

surveillance camp cropper so I believe with intent they put untrained personnel personnel there with no oversight because they realized if we want the tortures to continue and not get pushback well it got leaked through some through some pictures so the next soldiers we send to a detainee operation. Iraq will just eliminate any photographic aere audio evidence. So I have only soldiers that I've come across Iraq Afghanistan and I'm like a ghost I basically I I I mean I have proust's but I don't have any pictures. I have pictures and pictures but it was like we were ghosts in Iraq and we were left there with no oversights. No training Nothing at all it. Just basically thrown their to the wolves and it was they knew was a recipe for torture when When you watch the report like cannonball hit on a bunch of different angles but I think what school is each of us see? See something else you know or or we did. We all agree on the content and and the implications. But I think what's interesting about having four guys on the pot or three guys on a typical pot is You know we all hone in something. Different highlight something different. Wh You know if you had one what was what was the big shock or the big takeaway or or or the lack doc of shock that you felt when you watch the report I think the thing that that and this was from the earlier earlier story not so much from the plot of the movie but the fact that the CIA was willing to spy on the the committee as it was working. And you know I Going back to what you were talking about. I don't I don't understand how the Obama administration ended without all of this especially the involvement of people like John Brennan becoming a much bigger scandal than it was And of course nobody in Washington wanted to make a big scandal out of it.

01:20:14 - 01:25:15

That dense didn't WanNA embarrass Obama people on Obama's team and the Republicans. Certainly they wouldn't want to push it back on Bush even though they might not be true or think that it is what what needs to happen. it's a pretty fucked up profound notion ocean to have your own government spy on you when you're doing your official business as a government employee the investigators on there and I it's it's a level of betrayal that you they don't often demonstrate much but certainly it has many many other historical points to it that you know we like what's his name. Jim Clapper coming out about about the the prison program. And the and the collecting. Everybody's Meta data on their on their phone calls that you know. Why didn't everybody's heads heads explode and part of it is just said you know? Nobody wanted to get anybody anybody on their side of the team In trouble and it just got used to things sweeping under the rug and Ryan going back to what you mentioned about the the cameras and stuff were taken away that you know. I'm sure when. The Champ de Impeaching Command. That was that Abu Ghraib. They thought of themselves that these cameras will protect our soldiers soldiers. You know not only will be able to see how the interact with the detainees We'll be able to go back and look at what happened in the past and so all this nasty stuff happens it gets laid on a bunch of privates as opposed to the people actually in command. I think there was a one star that ended up getting bumped down to a to a colonel because of it But but everybody else were. MPP Fans in you know e five and below and so instead of making it better instead of saying saying okay that that we we caught our guys doing this. We have pictures. We have

video the like. No we're just going to get rid of the cameras so that way that they're in a in a future time. Some of this happening. There is literally no evidence which means no one on no one on our on our Army uniform team can get in trouble at least and Philip Zimbardo and his book the psychology of evil. He goes into what you're saying Henry. As far says he makes amazing case testified in military court. This is a case of a few bad apples. This is a case of a bad barrel a system. It's not the individual. When I was reading about the the the punishments for everybody and I was astonished that that one star actually got in trouble that someone that high of rank and I think she was a I think she was a national guard officer. That makes much of a difference but you know because we don't we don't actually Ashley get people in trouble for things. Most of the time it you know unless there's witnesses and those witnesses are willing to put it on the line like you do with your writing. Danny there's other than that. No one wants to. No one wants to have the fight. That's going to bite the hand that feeds them or you'll end up like Chelsea manning reality winner young all the heroes of America or Ridge like me after this. NPR just you inject celebrity I was glad that I was watching this on myself because I was yelling at the TV. A lot and yeah could like my wife does not like when when I watched like military movies or like intelligence community the government is keeping them and I'm sure you guys they space but I yeah dislike. Oh Man. I'm glad that she wasn't here because I was yelling at the TV. Basically nonstop. When I was watching this talk to watch stuff in Chunks Watch the first third and scream for awhile and then put it away for a month and come back and try to finish it just so I can say I I saw the whole thing? Yeah same thing I have yet to personally watch the report I plan on watching it eventually but it's too close to home. I I lived it in your dream about it I think about it all the time. I don't need the report to tell me what I witnessed for twelve months. Yeah I mean the the American people need you know because like the Afghan papers we may have already surmised this new already experienced it and in the in the in the prison he worked worked in the works and then just like I experienced it in Afghanistan so it didn't surprise me and you know you guys experienced it in Iraq but Just a couple of quick things on this They really quick Ryan earlier.

01:25:15 - 01:30:01

You talked about opportunity costs about how much our military budget is and yet like the two point five million people who are like kicked off snap or food stamps The two Experts in quotes that the CIA. He I a higher. They were contractors. Okay Bruce Jensen and James Mitchell. Right yeah They used to work for the program like so they used to work for special forces. Horse's like teaching like pilots and Green Berets. Like how to fight against torture like torture They got higher by the to teach them how to torture right so they just like inverted it and like broke the law and of course there was no accountability for them. Actually there was accountability. They did receive something for their work and you know what they received money. Money Eighty one eighty one million like thinking the two guys who taught the how to break the law were paid paid. Eighty one million dollars contract was actually for a hundred and eighty million but they only got paid one million of which to me is wrong. You know you gotta data you gotTa live up to your contracts. You know what they were torturing people well every

where's the other ninety nine million you know. Let's be fair. This is the United States of America. Erica this is the land of contracts and capitalism anyway. I think it's wrong but no these guys got paid. That and the thing is they didn't even have any expertise in it. It was a joke. They they that's the movie shows this one of them. I don't remember. Do you remember what he did his. PhD and it wasn't even anything related to terrorism. or or like Gordon. Dietitian like family nutrition. That's I was GONNA say. I believe he was acting as if he. He had a background in psychology and he did not well. They were like psychologists but they all their HD is in psychology in nothing related needed to counterterrorism powdered urgency on any alike interrogation like none of them had ever done any interrogations in themselves themselves for the the the gave the gave the torture program cover by saying that these techniques were approved by such and such psychologist just to certified indebted ended up that it they were like the very bottom of the barrel when it comes to professionalism and actually caring thing about their craft because say columnists should have been completely against that ethically it breaks so many different boundaries of what they're supposed to remain in in terms of trying to help their clients and so Gave it gave cover to people like Chaney that you know these these like you said earlier at any our love for for For euphemisms that these enhanced interrogation techniques not torture were approved by these psychologists and then of course it also also gives them a scapegoat because now after the years of lawsuits that involved those two guys and the other information that's come out Should into really important point but also the American Psychological Association was founded and started because the military science. That's the whole reason. The American Psychological Association was started as part of the military industrial complex. which shouldn't surprise us? you know one of the things about these guys. There was a select committee in their report. Quote said that the two guys right. Jason Mitchell did quote did not have specialized is knowledge of Al Qaeda a background counterterrorism or any relevant cultural or linguistic experience. Wow and one of the ways you know something's torture there's all these little evidence that something's wrong you just Kinda like scrape away at the gilded cover you know No doctors there had to be a medical we. You know. We're we're Americans we're very humane has to be a doctor. There has to be a medical personnel overseas interrogations. Well they did have one but they couldn't have a doctor. Dan have have a physician's assistant. Wait why wouldn't they have a real doctor. Oh because it's a doctor would immediately lose his license if he was involved in anything that was you've been close to torture because it goes against the hippocratic oath of first. Do No harm. Oh that's the same reason that doctors aren't there when we lethally inject are criminals. Oh some of whom are innocent on death row. He'd be that's telling maybe that's instructive. Maybe we should stop doing it right. I mean this is the kind of evidence You know how many people could have been paid in.

01:30:01 - 01:34:22

Snap without eighty million dollars. I I don't even WanNa do the math. 'CAUSE fucking insane these guys but there's the elites deliver ever care about qualifications like dude. If you try to get a job at Goddamn McDonald's and you're just a dude like you might not get the job up 'cause

there's always the quandary that catch twenty two for any like low level job where they're like well. Do you have experience. And you're like WHOA. WHOA NO I mean I? I need to get a job in order to get experience and like like Paul. We can't give you a job without experience and you're like no but I just graduated college so I need like a first job and that'll have experienced now like nope sorry experience. You can't even get a fucking job at Walmart. Art Experience. Sometimes but in American League government positions be ambassadors Bidet these psychologists these FO- experts. You don't a- any qualifications to get like a high paying for high level government job and my favorite example and it's just one shy of example Brownie. Remember Brown remember Bush's said Heck of a job Brownie infamously after after the Hurricane Katrina debacle. When Brownie can't remember his real name was totally fucked it up? totally fucked up the FEMA response. He was the head of FEMA. The head of the Federal Emergency Response Agency right. What was disqualification exactly when Bush appointed him? Well you've given a lot of money to the Bush campaign but he must have had some qualifications. What did he do before that? You did some sort of job at a local local municipal level like this asset management. Is that what he did for the record your snaps. No no no. His last job was as has head of the Arabian Horse Committee. The American Arabian Horse Committee Story. True story nobody wants to jail. They were bodies floating down fucking Bourbon Street. Okay like I'm exaggerating a little but like curiously and Bush's like heck of a job brownie on TV. See Bush didn't get impeached for that right. Do you get each. You appointed an Arabian horse specialist to be in charge of the most important Emergency Management Agency and the United States and nothing happens. Look this is is just instructive it. It tells us that we're seeing the report and in these papers is business as usual and and we're GonNa have to beg from the mountaintops because we have what we call principles but but the hardest part about it is is that our mental health is suffering at least mine is because this is businesses usual. And that's the frustration for me. I I have to exit the podcast. Gentlemen and followed is a parenting duties. Call sorry to end on a couple a couple quick reminders For everyone that's very important seven countries. We have active military operations in five partisan overwhelmingly overwhelmingly seven hundred. Thirty eight billion dollar defense budget just approved and then I'll end with this quote from Jeffrey J.. That I said earlier on his paper neighbor. After Vietnam and pursuit of scapegoats this burden isolates. The veteran will freeze them. An issues in attitude of of perpetual combat until the issues of war are confronted in the national concerts you fighting imperialism keep fighting capitalism. And thanks for having me on. Thanks brother brother. We're on twitter at fortress Sauna and also at FACEBOOK DOT COM At fortress on a hill you can find our main log page and are full collection of episodes at. WWW DOT fortress on a hill dot com. ITUNES stitcher Google podcasts. Patriae on spotify you name it almost anywhere you listen. You're already waiting for you. And Hey we're always in the market for more Patriots supporters. Please consider becoming a patron a patriot dot com. If you're not into give it us a monthly payment think about giving so a couple of bucks on pay pal link is in the show. Skepticism is one's best armor. Never Forget it. We'll see you next time zome. Oh the John Will.