Introduction

"God offers to every mind its choice between truth and repose; take which you please; you can never have both."

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*
What is a conspiracy?

• conspiracy: an agreement to perform together an illegal, wrongful, or subversive act.

• conspiracy theory: A theory seeking to explain a disputed case or matter as a plot by a secret group or alliance rather than an individual or isolated act.
What is conspiracy? (cont'd)

- conspiracy theory: 2. a code phrase that means, "I don't want to consider the implications of what you're telling me."
Examples of historical conspiracies

1. Abraham Lincoln on Stephen, Franklin, Roger, and James
2. Pearl Harbor
3. The assassination of President Kennedy
4. Operation Northwoods
5. October Surprise
6. Iran-Contra
Abraham Lincoln

- Lincoln, speaking on the subject of the political maneuvering in the era of the Dred Scott decision, wrote in his famous speech, A House Divided:

  - "We cannot absolutely know that all these exact adaptations are the result of preconcert. But when we see a lot of framed timbers, different portions of which we know have been gotten out at different times and places and by different workmen... and when we see these timbers joined together, and see they exactly make the frame of a house or a mill, all the tenons and mortices exactly fitting, and all the lengths and proportions of the different pieces exactly adapted to their respective places, and not a piece too many or too few... in such a case, we find it impossible not to believe that [they] all understood one another from the beginning, and all worked upon a common plan or draft drawn up before the first blow was struck."
In other words, Lincoln was a conspiracy theorist.

Lincoln also makes an important point: conspiracies are often discernible only by examining a wide range of evidence, and observing how it all fits together.
2. Pearl Harbor

- The Japanese fleet attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7th, 1941. According to the official story, it was a surprise attack. However,

- Japanese cables were routinely decrypted before December 7th, 1941.

- The McCollum memo detailed eight steps necessary to force a Japanese attack on the U.S.; Roosevelt implemented all eight.

- Admiral Kimmel was ordered not to conduct a routine training exercise that likely would have led to detection of the impending attack.
8. A consideration of the foregoing leads to the conclusion that prompt aggressive naval action against Japan by the United States would render Japan incapable of affording any help to Germany and Italy in their attack on England and that Japan itself would be faced with a situation in which her navy could be forced to fight on most unfavorable terms or accept fairly early collapse of the country through the force of blockade. A prompt and early declaration of war after entering into suitable arrangements with England and Holland would be most effective in bringing about the early collapse of Japan and thus eliminating our enemy in the Pacific before Germany and Italy could strike us effectively. Furthermore, elimination of Japan must surely strengthen Britain's position against Germany and Italy and, in addition, such action would increase the confidence and support of all nations who tend to be friendly towards us.

9. It is not believed that in the present state of political opinion the United States government is capable of declaring war against Japan without more ado; and it is barely possible that vigorous action on our part might lead the Japanese to modify their attitude. Therefore, the following course of action is suggested:

A. Make an arrangement with Britain for the use of British bases in the Pacific, particularly Singapore.
B. Make an arrangement with Holland for the use of base facilities and acquisition of supplies in the Dutch East Indies.
C. Give all possible aid to the Chinese Government of Chiang-Kai-Shek.
D. Send a division of long range heavy cruisers to the Orient, Philippines, or Singapore.
E. Send the divisions of submarines to the Orient.
F. Keep the main strength of the U.S. fleet now in the Pacific in the vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands.
G. Insist that the Dutch refuse to grant Japanese demands for undue economic concessions, particularly oil.
H. Completely embargo all U.S. trade with Japan, in collaboration with a similar embargo imposed by the British Empire.

10. If by these means Japan could be led to commit an overt act of war, so much the better. At all events we must be fully prepared to accept the threat of war.
2. Pearl Harbor (cont'd)

- Robert Stinnett details these and many other facts that he painstakingly gathered over a period of 50 years through the Freedom of Information Act and published in a book called "Day of Deceit."
3. The Assassination of President Kennedy

• Forty years after the tragedy, an ABC News poll in November 2003 found that 70% of Americans believe that the government's version of the assassination is incomplete or untrue.

• The House Select Committee on Assassinations (1979) concluded that John F. Kennedy was the victim of a conspiracy based on the recording of the gunshots fired in Dealey Plaza, captured over a police radio. A total of 7 impulses were caught on the tape, but citing budgetary constraints, the HSCA only had 4 of them analysed. The analysis concluded that all 4 were gunshots, two of them occurring within 1/2 a second of each other, too close to be fired by one man.
3. The Assassination of President Kennedy (cont'd)

- One thing that has emerged from 40 years of Kennedy conspiracy theory: the *why* is just as important as the *how*.

- Another observation is that even when events happen right in front of everyone, there is seldom agreement on what really happened.
4. Operation Northwoods

- Plan proposed by General Lyman Lemnitzer in March 1962
- Called for the U.S. to stage a series of provocative incidents in order to provide a pretext for declaring war on Cuba
- Among the proposed actions were these:
  - a. Blow up a Navy ship in Guantanamo Bay, and blame it on Cuba
  - b. American pilots would impersonate the Cuban Air Force, and drop incendiary bombs on a third nation such as the Dominican Republic
  - c. Create an incident in which a civil airliner would appear to be shot down and blamed on the Cuban air force
UNCLASSIFIED

13 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Justification for US Military Intervention in Cuba (TS)

1. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have considered the attached Memorandum for the Chief of Operations, Cuba Project, which responds to a request of that office for brief but precise description of pretexts which would provide justification for US military intervention in Cuba.

2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend that the proposed memorandum be forwarded as a preliminary submission suitable for planning purposes. It is assumed that there will be similar submissions from other agencies and that these inputs will be used as a basis for developing a time-phased plan. Individual projects can then be considered on a case-by-case basis.

3. Further, it is assumed that a single agency will be given the primary responsibility for developing military and para-military aspects of the basic plan. It is recommended that this responsibility for both overt and covert military operations be assigned the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

[Signature]

L. R. Lemnitzer
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

1 Enclosure
Memo for Chief of Operations, Cuba Project EXCLUDED FROM CDS

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC FILING; MOD DIS 3200.10" DOES NOT APPLY

TOP SECRET SPECIAL HANDLING NOFORN
c. Commence large scale United States military operations.

3. A "Remember the Maine" incident could be arranged in several forms:
   a. We could blow up a US ship in Guantanamo Bay and blame Cuba.
   b. We could blow up a drone (unmanned) vessel anywhere.

crew. Casualty lists in US newspapers would cause a helpful wave of national indignation.

4. We could develop a Communist Cuban terror campaign in the Miami area, in other Florida cities and even in Washington.

6. Use of MIG type aircraft by US pilots could provide additional provocation. Harassment of civil air, attacks on surface shipping and destruction of US military drone aircraft by MIG type planes would be useful as complementary actions. An F-86 properly painted would convince air passengers that they saw a Cuban MIG, especially if the pilot of the transport were to announce such fact. The primary drawback to this suggestion appears to be the security risk inherent in obtaining or modifying an aircraft. However, reasonable copies of the MIG could be produced from US resources in about three months.
4. Operation Northwoods (cont'd)

- The plan was approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Thankfully, John F. Kennedy did not approve Operation Northwoods
5. October Surprise

- Hostages were seized by Iran in November 1979
- Reagan campaign was concerned that successful release of hostages would boost Carter’s 1980 re-election chances
- Iran needed arms materiel and spare parts for its war with Iraq
- William Casey, Reagan’s campaign manager, met with Iranian and Israeli government officials in Paris in early fall of 1980
- Arms were shipped from U.S. through Israeli contacts
- Hostages were released five minutes after Reagan was sworn in as President
5. October Surprise (cont'd)

- Private negotiations with a hostile foreign government are treason

- There are two convincing books on this incident, both titled "October Surprise." One was written by Barbara Honegger, who resigned from the Reagan White House staff, and the other by Gary Sick, who was the lead negotiator for the hostage release under Carter.
6. Iran-Contra

- Many of the same characters as October Surprise conspiracy
- So-called rogue team operating out of the basement of the White House sold arms materiel to Ayatollah Khomeini's Iranian government in violation of the Boland Amendment
- Cash was used to fund the anti-Sandinista contra rebels in Nicaragua
- Arms were initially intended to secure the release of hostages such as Benjamin Weir from Lebanon
6. Iran-Contra (cont’d)

- The 1988 Senate committee on Narcotics, Terrorism, and International Operations also concluded that various individuals in the Contra movement were also involved in drug trafficking.

- Oliver North and John Poindexter were convicted of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. in 1988. Poindexter was further convicted of several other felonies: lying to Congress, destruction of documents, and obstruction of justice.
9-11: a choice of conspiracy theories

• The Official Story:
  • Nineteen fanatical Muslims evade a $30 billion dollar intelligence/security apparatus
  • Attacks are successful because
    • We weren’t aware that we were at war with terrorism
    • Intelligence agencies were hindered by an inability to share information
    • Attacks were so ambitious in scope that our defenses never caught up to what was unfolding
  • This could be called The Coincidence Theory, since so many systems failed at once.
  • Or...
9-11: a choice of conspiracy theories (cont'd)

• ... perhaps something else happened.
• We cannot say precisely what really happened, or why, but we can point out obvious inconsistencies in the Official Story that suggest some level of complicity on the part of the U.S. government.
• To get fixated on "what really happened" is something of a trap: for years people have debated what happened in the Kennedy assassination, to the exclusion of why it happened and who benefited.
Another way to look at it - coincidence?

- Mindy Kleinberg was one of the first of the victim's families to testify before the commission.

- She said, "It has been said that intelligence agencies have to be right 100% of the time, and the terrorists have to be lucky only once. This explanation... simple on it's face, is wrong in its value. Because the 9/11 terrorists were not just lucky once; they were lucky over and over again."
Another way to look at it - coincidence? (cont'd)

• Mindy noted some of the many ways in which the terrorists were lucky:
  • Real-time monitoring software at the SEC did not catch the unusual trading in the airline stocks prior to the attacks
  • Under existing rules, 15 of the 19 hijackers should have been stopped from entering the country with invalid visa applications
  • Nine of the hijackers were singled out for additional security checks at the airports, yet were permitted to board anyway
  • Established protocols for dealing with errant planes and possible hijackings were not followed
  • High level officials were apparently not notified promptly, and took no decisive action as the hijackings unfolded
Another way to look at it - coincidence? (cont'd)

- Mindy summed up her testimony by saying, "To me, luck is something that happens once. When you have this repeated pattern of broken protocols, broken laws, and broken communications, one cannot still call it luck."

- Mindy did not use the word complicity, but it is clear that she has doubts about the Official Story.
What is complicity?

• One of David Ray Griffin's contributions to the 9-11 community is a catalog of different levels of complicity. It is important to keep these in mind as you review the evidence, so as to make up your own mind about what level of complicity is proven for you. The eight levels of complicity that he proposes are these:

  • 1. Construction of a false account
  • 2. Something expected by the intelligence agencies
  • 3. Specific events expected by the intelligence agencies
  • 4. Intelligence agencies involved in the planning
What is complicity? (cont'd)

- Levels of complicity (cont'd)
  - 5. Pentagon involved in the planning
  - 6. Something expected by the White House
  - 7. Specific advance knowledge by the White House
  - 8. White House involved in the planning
The Great Deception

- Narrated by Barry Zwicker, Canadian television journalist

- Barry is the host of Mediafiles on Vision TV, a mainstream public broadcasting program in Canada

- Barry is also a primary organizer of the Toronto 9-11 Inquiry in June 2004
The case for complicity: a preview of the weeks ahead

- The stand-down of NORAD during the attacks
- The argument for controlled demolition as the cause of the WTC collapse, especially WTC7
- The physical impossibility of a jetliner causing the observed damage of the Pentagon
- The likelihood that Flight 93 was shot down, and why
The case for complicity: a preview of the weeks ahead

- The political agenda of the Bush administration, and their need for a Pearl Harbor event
- The foreign intelligence warnings that were ignored, and the domestic investigations that were spiked
- The on-going coverup via the National Commission on the Terrorist Attacks on the U.S.
In short, there is no area of the 9-11 tragedy that does not bear some imprint of complicity and cover-up, provided you are willing to keep an open mind and think critically.

The nature of the evidence is cumulative and comprehensive. It does not depend on whether a single weak link may be disproven; rather, much of it is independent.

Based on the evidence to be presented, there is a strong prima facie case for a rigorous investigation by Congress or the press or an international "truth tribunal."
Summary (cont'd)

• A thorough discrediting of The Official 9-11 Story is enough to expose uncomfortable truths about our relationship with our government and the world, and could lead to reforms that would:
  
  • Restore civil liberties and put our country on a path back to true democracy
  
  • Promote faith in a system of international cooperation and the rule of law
  
  • Lead to a sustainable energy policy for the U.S. and the world
  
  • Bring media back to its role of being the essential watchdog of a free society