

NYT supports Snowden, why not Manning, Assange and Hammond?

by quinn *Thursday, Jan 2 2014, 9:55am*

international / prose / post

Haven't you worked it out yet, morons? Snowden reeked operative from the start; (failed) 'China bait' as I like to call operative Ed Snowden, is now supported by the most obsequious media rag for the ruling plutocracy, status quo and CFR elite that exists. The New York Times editorial supporting Snowden is astonishing to say the least, especially considering its stance on Assange, Manning and numerous other hacktivists currently serving time. Criticisms of rogue Wall St bankers responsible for massive frauds and causing the GLOBAL economic collapse are strangely missing from the pages of the NYT. These known overt criminals have not served a day in jail nor have they faced any serious criminal charges; so what about it NYT editors? Assange, Manning and other hacktivists serving disproportionate jail sentences for their 'crimes' also require support!



It's called CREDIBILITY you brazen servants of the criminal ruling elite -- but where's the outrage from the nose-ringed, brain dead American population that has no memory beyond 24 hours or that can't put 2 + 2 together?

Snowden's real mission, to infiltrate China's IT network, failed, his revelations to date are updated rehashes of [old news](#) on pan surveillance practices. However, in the hope that other nations would bite Snowden advertised that he had "devastating" information that could ruin America but has so far failed to release it, for reasons known only to him and his handlers.

But now it seems the operative is getting lonely and wants to come in from the cold, so the NYT begins a 'perception management' campaign to assist. As we say down under, 'fair fuckin' go,' or more appropriately, "don't come the raw prawn with me!" As for the US population they're still wondering what day it is.

Report from CommonDreams follows:

NYT Goes to Bat for Snowden

by Jon Queally

'Considering the enormous value of the information he has revealed, and the abuses he has exposed, Mr. Snowden deserves better than a life of permanent exile, fear and flight.'

Taking a break from being a sometimes mouthpiece for the National Security Agency or acting in a too referential manner towards government claims, the New York Times [Editorial Board](#) on Tuesday took a strikingly clear position on the case of former

intelligence contractor Edward Snowden by declaring his leaks of internal NSA documents that act of a "whistle-blower" and calling for the United States to offer him "a plea bargain or some form of clemency that would allow him to return home" without the threat of decades or life in prison.

"Considering the enormous value of the information he has revealed, and the abuses he has exposed, Mr. Snowden deserves better than a life of permanent exile, fear and flight," the editorial states. "He may have committed a crime to do so, but he has done his country a great service."

Though progressive supporters have considered Snowden a whistleblower from the outset—an argument his defenders see bolstered by each successive revelation—the weight of the New York Times Editorial Board makes the development significant in terms of wider public opinion and in the halls of more elite power where the paper holds sway.

To defend its call for clemency or a plea agreement, the Times argues that "Mr. Snowden was clearly justified in believing that the only way to blow the whistle on this kind of intelligence-gathering was to expose it to the public" and cataloged "just a few" of the violations by the NSA his revelations brought to light and some of the legal challenges they've already provoked:

- The N.S.A. broke federal privacy laws, or exceeded its authority, thousands of times per year, according to the agency's own internal auditor.

- The agency broke into the communications links of major data centers around the world, allowing it to spy on hundreds of millions of user accounts and infuriating the Internet companies that own the centers. Many of those companies are now scrambling to install systems that the N.S.A. cannot yet penetrate.

- The N.S.A. systematically undermined the basic encryption systems of the Internet, making it impossible to know if sensitive banking or medical data is truly private, damaging businesses that depended on this trust.

- His leaks revealed that James Clapper Jr., the director of national intelligence, lied to Congress when testifying in March that the N.S.A. was not collecting data on millions of Americans. (There has been no discussion of punishment for that lie.)

- The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court rebuked the N.S.A. for repeatedly providing misleading information about its surveillance practices, according to a ruling made public because of the Snowden documents. One of the practices violated the Constitution, according to the chief judge of the court.

- A federal district judge ruled earlier this month that the phone-records-collection program probably violates the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. He called the program "almost Orwellian" and said there was no evidence that it stopped any imminent act of terror.

Additionally, the Times editorial recognizes those critics who charge Snowden with woefully damaging U.S. interests by revealing some of these tactics, but points out that none of these critics—either inside of outside of government—have "presented the

slightest proof that his disclosures really hurt the nation's security."

Glenn Greenwald, one of the journalists who has worked most closely with Snowden and publicly defended the whistleblower's actions since his name entered the public domain, called the Times editorial "remarkable."

The Nation's Greg Mitchell, who has followed the Snowden case closely, including the way its been handled by U.S. media, began his review of the Times editorial by [admitting](#): "Well, I didn't see this coming."

Creative Commons applies to external text.



<http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2014/01/02>

Jungle Drum Prose/Poetry. <http://jungledrum.lingama.net/news/story-939.html>