

2013, April 25

Thursday Night Call

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- CLICK ON "STARGATE ROUND TABLE" & THE INFORMATION PAGE WILL COME UP.
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Host: MariettaRobert

Opening Meditation: Cathy Lauren

Mayan Calendar: Rainbird

New Wavespell of **CIMI** started on Saturday- an opportunity to move into a state of grace

Ap 25th Thurs: 6 Cheun

Ap 26th Fri: 7 EB

27th Sat: 8 BEN 8 = harmonic tone; Ben is skywalker

28th Sun: 9 IX - magician; 9 completion, mastery

29th Mon: 10 MEN manifestation of the Eagle; seeing the big picture

30th Tues: 11 CIB - the yellow warrior; 11 destruction of what no longer serves

May 1st Wed: 12 CABAN portal day; crystal clear connection with the earth

May 2nd Thurs: 13 ETZNAMB - the mirror, the transcendent quality

Annie Rose -Astrology

- Today a very active day: 7:58 in Central time when the eclipse arrived: for any major project either personal or on a world wide level, we will find that today represents the knowledge and we will hear great news in areas we are waiting for; it's the finale, the final step until breakthrough
- as many minutes as the eclipse lasts is how long the effect is: it is in Scorpio and opposes Taurus = creates an extreme amount of action in everyone's life eg, if feeling depressed, suddenly the light will pop out and we will see forward motion in various aspects
- Because the moon is in Scorpio, it affects the signs as follows:
Aries - 8th house affected; bladder, muscles - aching, neck & nose; professionally, every day life affects in the area of accumulated assets, \$, Savings; money coming to them
Taurus - 7th house; partnership, the public; something that publicly that has been exposed or they are waiting to hear and they will; also about balance & justice; probably having a bit of trouble with chest area in a muscular sense
Gemini - breathing, lung area - will find out they have to take care of; will see things that they have been concerned about - lower back, skin problems - will come to an end; health, diet - will understand a

problem they have been having - coming to a culmination

Cancer - 5th house - will find that Venus will be kinder to them now in personal life and in work; thinks will settle down so they can move forward

Leo - issues around home: eg, electrical and water problems - will come to an end, no more worries; some changes they want to do they can now

Virgo - 3rd house of communication - they will have an easier time communicating with others, will have the best words; will get the apology that is coming to you -

Libra - 2nd house - money. They will see the budget ease up - not so much need for expenditures - a little bump in early July but not that big; they will play catch-up [with money] for 6 weeks

Scorpio - the eclipse is in the 1st house - any old habits that you need to break - smoking, drinking - now is the time to stop! You will be successful in attaining your goals!

Sagittarius - 1st & 12th house - Annie Rose tells a story about herself: now she meditates and ask her body what is wrong - know your own body.[same for all of us - meditate and ask] 12th house is hidden factors - culmination of medical or legal problems - they will go on and gain financially

Capricorn - friends - perhaps cut off one relationship and 2 more will replace them! Old people from the past will return

Aquarius - will get more responsibility; you are up to it - the energy between now and Aug 20th will be growing and you will have massive changes to your own personal self and your home - bettering relationships, as well; socially very active

Pisces - changes around the home; pets will also be important - closer emotional ties to them; also wanting to do different hobbies

- Every sign is going to go through a period and secrets will now come out that perhaps have been bothering the keeper of same emotionally or whatever - we will see the exposure of secrets on the personal level and in terms of government; communications will open up
- The nation will be OK - groups of people more and more are gathering for peaceful purposes; spirituality is going to grow - people may not understand why they are feeling the empathy - it is just the universe pushing us - we will see the universe in a new light.

MR: sounds like lots of things have been waiting for revelation - this does seem to open the window to compassion, forgiveness

AR: she sees the beginning of compassion and so on - we are starting slowly, but it will develop quite quickly - those who are undeserving will soon find they have to work for what they get.

MR: this times seems like a turning point

T: Tells AR that she AR has set the stage: T has been getting calls since last Friday and everyone is furious with Laurence O'Donnell, Chris Hayes, Rachel Maddow who are usually truth tellers & they are now telling "Lies". EG, RM pooh poohed UFOs but actually laid out all the main points; this week it was playing Alex Jones' tape in which he told the truth and ended with saying Barack Obama was head of Al Queda; today, the 4 presidents lying through their teeth about what a great guy Bush Jr is!

AR: it will be a consciousness that unites us - and as for the presidents, there is so much we do not know about them and the potential threat to their families.

AR: Scorpio is such a powerful energy - this will be a popping time! May not all be good but it needs exposure and air to dissipate in power - we don't want the negative to have the power.

MR: Can't contain things any longer

AR: Thinking about a punishment makes it worse than the actuality of the punishment; negativity is

something which can make us grow

T, R: never had a vote on the gun ban - just on discussing whether to have vote!

MR: what Annie has brought in is so germane to the discussion of what is happening in the news

Caller: an Aries - what was the information?

AR: Affecting the 8th house: normally, Aries is about new beginnings; this time, health wise, the lower back area to be watched; bladder, muscles; could also be finding something to solve the problem. Also will find out the secrets; will find out about spending habits of people close to us; barriers of any kind are going to be removed!

Guest: Michael King

- What's happening is both interesting and scary: the end result is that the Light will win and we will have some of the best years of our lives - yet how we get there is up to us.
- There is a growing audience waking up to the mission about making this a better planet for us all - there are courageous souls in the public
- There are many of us on the calls who are quiet, maybe feel that we don't have the power to make changes - yet he reminds us that spending 5 minutes a day focussing on the best for all concerned does benefit us and the planet and helps us all get there faster: we are all complicit in being on the dark side; having been there, we can be compassionate - aloofness and judgement are not what we need: we who have seen our own dark sides can get past judgement of self and others and blend both our dark and light sides and reach balance.
- Playing the victim is just as diabolical as being the perpetrator - if we believe we have no power, we are playing into the hands of the dark ones - by blending the dark and the light, we reach the centre which is where the power position is. When we see what the gov't is doing and hold them in a non-judgemental place and image blessings of enlightenment and transformation, it helps others because it is helping the dark side of ourselves. We the populace of humanity have to make a choice and honour the dark side and give it goodness from our own hearts so the darkness within us can finally find its peace. Our judgement of our non-spiritual selves is what keeps us fragmented; we need to bring this together with our best instincts
- To promote a more positive agenda on the earth - it is important that we create positive images on a continuous basis: an image that is backed up with powerful emotions will materialize something - it is the emotion which gives something positive power - this is a Law of Nature that the dark side knows about and has been utilizing while we slept. We denied the darkness inside ourselves - we dismissed it; we shoved it down - what we see in the darkness of others is some small reflection of ourselves - the reflection we see, we have to own.

PLEASE LISTEN TO THE FULL PRESENTATION - IT IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL

www.VitalityHerbsandClay.com

go to the article section "Vital Health Archives" & find the following articles which discuss more of what he just said to us all.

- **Emotion Packed Imagery** - explains in more detail the process he spoke at length about life is about transformation, and we must pay attention and transform every layer
- **The Blessing Transformation** - gives an affirmation to focus on while we are thinking about it

Caller: how much she appreciated his presentation - thanks so much!

- • • • The depth of Michael's sharing tonight was spectacular - everyone felt very blessed to hear what he had to say. • • • •

Hard News:

T: They have not received any blessings for this show: this is a listener- supported event and we need blessings - 3000x is the magnification of the benefits, thanks to the magnetization of the star ship that is circling the earth at the moment.

- We are in the 6th dimension and the Age of the 6th Sun and the ability to go deeper was shown by Michael tonight - every single minute now 16 linear years are being transposed into multi dimensions
- the moon in Scorpio brings up our deepest fears: as we share with each other, those fears are released.
- We are not really sick: it is a symptom of what we need to remember - **WE ARE NOT SICK: IT IS JUST THE ILLUSION OF FALSE EVIDENCE APPEARING REAL.**

R: talked to **Mr X who said** - there are coups within coups within coups going on!

R: as we have been observing the scenarios since the motion to even have a debate about a background check has led to distraction to distraction to distraction which have been going on since 9/11 which was a huge false flag event.

- There is more to this than just the 2 guys and the one with a hole in his throat having trouble talking - he has been read his Miranda rights.
- There is a convoluted story about Checyna and Islam - it is all Al Quada and CIA and the labs where life forms are created and our brave young men and women are being turned into the same thing
 - the seriousness of what is going on is about Black Ops - **KOS said they are in death throes** - in rigour mortis: divine love and compassion is the way to talk about it
- The fiasco about the library in Texas - the re-writing of history does not take away from the fact that 2 million people have died [Joe Wilson]
- Bill Clinton said that each president has his chance at re-writing history

R: Syria - what is going on is directly related with Israel - the Cyran gas:

- Rachel said this gas is NOT FOUND in nature; has to be man-made and one drop can kill on contact. **Al Assaud did not do this** -
- our 13 families represented by Miss Hillary would like to see Al Assaud get blamed for it; yet she as covert CIA/Moussad making sure it happens - she got \$200,000 fee for chatting in TX yesterday

Mr X: stories about how Obama is cracking down on whistleblowers and putting them away - yet there are other things behind the scenes all over the planet where banksters are being arrested! There is no more money for war! Our beloved Ascended Master St. Germain is in charge, and Buddha has been seen in the Wesak Valley today. He is very concerned about the energies going on on the planet - yet he is happy [**R got this info in a text from Rana Mu**]

- Lady Di, Dodi and the children are in the Wesak Valley too
- **Citizens Conference on Disclosure** starts on Monday: go to CitizensConferenceonDisclosure.org - \$3.80 buys live access for 5 days; \$3.80 buys access to the archives after May 5th
- **Sirius the movie** came out on Ap 22, Earth Day
- The Phoenix rising energy is rising fast!

Alex Wagner: Her question was did what happened in Texas an accident or was it manslaughter?

- The chemical plant has never been checked since 1968 - 45 years! A fertilizer place which stored ammonium nitrate, a known explosive - 1500 times more than by law they are allowed to keep! **This was blown up intentionally** to create yet another distraction

- We are in the process of what appears to be losing our whistleblowers on MSNBC & other places, **all is being coordinated**

R: CISPA was tried to be passed during the Boston affair - to get into our privacy completely; what is happening in Boston gives more opportunities for the boys in black to be out there

T: the 13 families gave a pass to AT&T and others to invade the privacy of we the people

- they are trying to pin it all on Barack Obama for a short minute in time: we are seeing how far they will go
- Thom Hartmann's response: he honors the way in which Obama got up and gave his speech this morning; he was honoring the Office of the Presidency and did some things to remain positive
 - Thom's take on Bush Jr is that he is a war criminal & a murderer and needs to be held accountable for his crimes; we need to honor that position and elevate it to its high position as leading the free world

T: she looked at the auras of all there - no Dick Cheney in sight!

- John Fugelsein noted that all the living presidents were there except for Dick Cheney
- On Thom Hartmann this morning: writer of an article from website **Crooks & Liars**

Reading: "Pete Peterson's fingerprints all over that bogus study"

[SEE BELOW]

- Pete Peterson in bed with the Koch Bros, and a multi, multi, multi millionaire

Reading: **Faux Corporate Directors Stand in for Fraudsters, Despots and Spies**

[SEE BELOW]

MR: asks about e-mails she was getting about Wells Fargo and the Bush crime family had been found to be behind this, and using the bank funds to do the off shore trading - did T get any of that today?

T: would like others to keep their eyes open too!

Rachel Maddow went back to March 26, 1999 and another Black Ops - Heavens Gate - she said they killed themselves but that was a Black Ops that killed them all! Halle Bopp went through and Mother's ship was behind it - Applewhite was the head of the cult; they lived in a house in San Diego - Rancho Santa Fe - it was like the James Earl Jones and the Kool Aid thing where hundreds were killed. These stories are being called up so we can connect the dots.

The screws have been tightened on all the media people; Rachel figured out a way to do it

T reads about the Alex Jones reporter asking questions of those in charge of the Boston media event and being ignored - this is what Rachel played on her show

- The reporter said they had videos on Info Wars. Com - of what happened,
 - why are you denying there were bomb drills on Monday morning before they blew up the bombs? [this is a perfect score of what happened on 9/11]
 - Why did you tell the people to stay calm in the morning?
- the pictures show 2 out of 4 enhanced Navy Seals Team # 3 with the clothing they were wearing - black hats, black jackets, Tan pants, boots and gloves; the symbol on cap & Jkt was Navy Seals #3

[R: the boys just put the bombs down; the enhanced navy Seals did the remote detonation]

- this is the gov't blowing us up to enslave us?
- Black Ops, huh? US gov't bombs Boston
- then she went on to say all other allegations that Alex Jones has made:
 - Fast and Furious was staged - Eric Holder guilty
 - Aurora was staged black Op
 - Sandy Hook was staged Black Op

- Virginal Tech staged Black Op
- Fort Hood staged Black Op
- Oklahoma City bombing staged Black Op - Hillary
- Space Shuttle Columbia was a Black Op - and it was!
- after Rachel told all the things that Alex said, at the very end she said that Alex Jones said Barack Obama is the global head of Al Queda **Tara:** change the name to Hillary and it's 100%

MR: videos that some of the victims were actors with fake blood etc etc - did they get it?

R: yes, they got that video: it was a way to divert the attention away from what really happened:

with the Black Ops, the navy Seal Teams, the FBI, NSA are all involved in the Boston bombings - it was the anniversary of Patriot Day and 36 people died in Iraq that day

- It was also the day when SOPA/PIPPA were supposed to be discussed in Congress
- they all had to do with covering up various scenarios happening all across the country
- at the same time, they used a depleted uranium rod encased in ceramic [Rod of God] was sent from the space station and blew up the fertilizer plant in West, TX
 - to cover up the fact that new folks were looking into the Oklahoma City bombing was being talked about again: Timothy McVey never did the Oklahoma City bombing,
 - it was a Bill and Hillary event: Sherman Skolman reported this that the plane carrying 40 admirals and 40 generals etc were on the way to arrest Bill Clinton and it just fell out of the sky

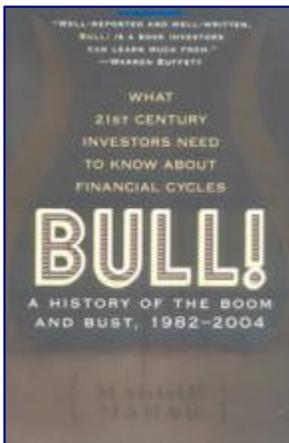
Closing: Cathy

FOLLOWING - PRINTED RESOURCES RELATED TO THE NOTES

2013, April 20, 2013

[Pete Peterson's Fingerprints All Over That Bogus Economic Study](#)

By karoli <http://crooksandliars.com/karoli/pete-petersons-fingerprints-all-over-bogus->



There's definitely a lot of bull around global austerity, but it isn't coming from our side of the fence. You know who really, really loves [Reinhart and Rogoff and the BS study they did](#) where they "forgot" certain key pieces of data? You'll never guess!

That's right, our old friend Pete Peterson. PRWatch, with all the [gory details](#):

As the Center for Media and Democracy detailed in the online report, "[The Peterson Pyramid](#)," the Blackstone billionaire turned philanthropist has spent half a billion dollars to promote this chorus of calamity. Through the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, Peterson has funded practically every think tank and non-profit that works on deficit- and debt-related issues, including his latest astroturf supergroup, "Fix the Debt," [which has set a July 4, 2013 deadline for securing an austerity budget](#).

Reinhart, described glowingly by the *New York Times* as "the most influential female economist in the world," was a Senior Fellow at the [Peterson Institute for International Economics](#) founded, chaired, and funded by Peterson. Reinhart is listed as participating in many Peterson Institute events, such as their [2012 fiscal summit](#) along with Paul Ryan, Alan Simpson, and Tim Geithner, and numerous other Peterson lectures and events available on [YouTube](#). **She is married to economist and author Vincent Reinhart, who does similar work for the American Enterprise Institute, also funded by the Peterson Foundation.**

Who else funds AEI? Oh, I know! David and Charles Koch! They give millions to AEI each year, as does the DeVos family, and the rest of the billionaire cadre.

Kenneth Rogoff is listed on the [Advisory Board](#) of the Peterson Institute. **The Peterson Institute bankrolled and published a 2011 Rogoff-Reinhart book-length collaboration, "A Decade of Debt," where the authors apparently used the same flawed data to reach many of the same conclusions** and warn ominously of a "debt burden" stretching into 2017 that "will weigh heavily on the public policy agenda of numerous advanced economies and global financial markets for some time to come." (Note that not everyone associated with the Institute touts the Peterson party line.)

While all eyes have been fixed on Boston and West, Texas this week, [Simpson and Bowles have been skulking around Congress](#) trying to revive their austerity agenda with revised numbers for a 'deal'. Flushed with the realization that their primary foundation has washed away in a tidal wave of flawed scholarship, they're now resorting to saying it's just 'common sense' dictating the need to reduce spending. No deal, boys. Give it up.

Meanwhile, over on the Obamacare aisle, the Club for Growth has [parted ways with Eric Cantor](#) about including funding for pre-existing condition insurance pools in the budget because we just can't afford it, they say. Cantor is pimping it because he thinks it's an 'alternative' that could justify getting a repeal of Obamacare before the effective date in favor of these high-risk pools. Cantor and the Club for Growth can suck their shoes for all I care. Just leave Obamacare alone, boys.

The austerians are beginning to realize they've lost their footing in this debate. Time to step up and keep reinforcing the truth -- austerity *harms* the economy. It is no help at all to anyone other than possibly billionaires who want to have it all as the serfs grovel for their crumbs.

2013, Ap 7 **Faux Corporate Directors Stand in for Fraudsters, Despots and Spies**

What links the Rwandan genocide, a C.I.A. secret prison, and Saddam Hussein? All used anonymous fronts offshore.

By Gerard Ryle and Stefan Candea, ICIJ – April 7, 2013

<http://www.icij.org/offshore/faux-corporate-directors-stand-fraudsters-despots-and-spies>

Worldwide network of ‘nominee directors’ helps hide real people, and organizations, behind offshore companies.

On November 14, 2006, a man going by the name Paul William Hampel was arrested at a Canadian airport on charges of being a Russian spy. Hampel’s carefully constructed identity portrayed him as a successful businessman, yet for a decade his company did no business.

Only months before his capture, the same apparatus used to create his alias was also employed by a very different spy agency – the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency —to build a secret prison in Lithuania, where U.S. agents interrogated suspected al-Qaeda terrorists.

Earlier again, it was used by the regime of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein to cheat the Oil for Food program.

All three deceptions employed a common subterfuge: far-flung corporate entities used as anonymous fronts, with “executives” who lacked knowledge of what the firms were up to.

The activities of these so-called nominee directors are a little noticed part of the world of secretive offshore finance that’s grown so vast that it touches more than 170 of the globe’s 206 countries, but it’s one that’s often drenched in intrigue.

For a fee as low as \$90, men and women who often appear to have little or no formal business qualifications lend their names as directors to enterprises they later can claim to know nothing about – even after those enterprises are linked to everything from stock fraud to money laundering.

As one Panama-based offshore financial services firm tells clients, “It doesn’t matter who the front man for your corporation is, as long as it’s not you.” The firm promises that the nominee directors it supplies will be “completely ignorant to the happenings of your corporation.”

The service the nominee directors provide is, in itself, not illegal. They generally say they are helping owners of companies preserve legitimate privacy.

But the scale and the organization of their networks became vivid as the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) scoured millions of secret files from the offshore world.

The documents are client records and internal emails largely associated with two firms — Commonwealth Trust and Portcullis TrustNet — that form offshore entities for a range of other middlemen and have offices in many offshore havens.

The documents lay bare complex interrelationships the two financial service providers — and there are many more like them, found largely on tropical islands — have with the nominee directors and hundreds of tax agents, banks and law firms scattered around the world.

It’s a secrecy system on a gigantic scale that obscures ownership of billions of often-untraceable dollars that flow through those entities every year, adding to a global flood that exceeds \$1 trillion and has grown so large that it can distort and even destabilize the global economy.

What emerges is that drug cartels, arms dealers and rogue nations take advantage of the same system as the covert arms of the Russian and U.S. governments.

Uncovering the secrets

Most offshore companies and nominee directors are up to “pretty boring things,” says Jason Sharman, a scholar at Australia’s Griffith University who studies offshore secrecy, but “you’re certainly going to be using a nominee director if you’re doing anything bad.”

A 2011 World Bank and United Nations study co-authored by Sharman found that nominee directors regularly emerge in what it calls “grand corruption” scandals around the globe.

The study says the complexity of the relationships in the offshore world often produces a maze that can sometimes discourage investigators, regulators, lawyers and others who are trying to track corruption, money laundering and other misconduct.

“Offshore jurisdictions take a relaxed view of the duties of nominee directors, particularly if the director is in another jurisdiction,” Sharman explains. “Onshore authorities are very unlikely to go through all the effort of an extradition to get some foreign nominee director.” Law enforcement work across borders, he says, “is a major pain.”

Few nominee directors personify this better than Stan Gorin and Erik Vanagels. From a base in Latvia, a tiny nation in the Baltics, their names have been attached to hundreds of corporations around the world, some of which can be linked to “grand corruptions.”

Gorin and Vanagels have proved so good at acting as straw men that questions have arisen about whether or not they even exist.

A Ukrainian journalist working for television station TVi sought to track down the pair in 2011, and discovered the real live Gorin was an insurance broker in the Latvian capital, Riga, who denied all knowledge of his alleged work around the globe. Gorin also denied knowledge for this story.

In a follow-up report, the same journalist failed to find Vanagels, who was described by a woman who said she knew him as a half-blind vagrant, living on the city’s streets.

The ICIJ could not locate him either.

What is undeniable, according to the documents obtained by ICIJ, public records searches and the findings of other journalists, is the litany of intrigue that can be tied to the two identities.

The ICIJ documents show the names Gorin and Vanagels were used to set up a series of offshore entities linked to Mukhtar Ablyazov, the former head of Kazakhstan bank BTA.

Some of the entities were incorporated through Commonwealth Trust by Ablyazov’s business associate Paul Kythreotis and Ablyazov’s brother-in-law, Syrym Shalabeyev.

Ablyazov stands accused in his home country of embezzling up to \$5 billion from BTA in what British media describe as one of the biggest frauds in history. He fled Britain last year, where he had been living, shortly before being sentenced there to 22 months in jail for failing to disclose full details about his wealth, leaving behind a string of luxury homes financed allegedly using fake loans, backdated documents and offshore accounts.

Then there was the case of the MV Faina, a merchant vessel captured by pirates en route from Ukraine to Kenya in September 2008.

International concern at the time focused both on the plight of the crew and on the cargo: 33 Soviet-made

T-72 tanks, plus grenade launchers and small arms ammunition, destined for the rebel government of South Sudan, then under a United Nations arms embargo.

An anonymous Panamanian company, Waterlux AG, officially owned the ship. But behind Waterlux AG were two other Panamanian companies, Systemo AG and Cascado AG — both of which were fronted by Gorin and Vanagels.

A very different but equally eye-popping event dates to July 9, 2003, when a Panamanian entity linked to Gorin, Star Group Finance and Holdings, was used to register an entity in Washington, D.C., called Elite LLC.

The CIA later used Elite LLC to buy a former horse-riding academy outside Vilnius, Lithuania, in March 2004. The U.S. agency flew in prefabricated elements to build a secret prison there. It opened in September 2004 and was later the subject of a European Parliament inquiry after ABC News reported that it was used to covertly and harshly interrogate suspected al-Qaeda terrorists.

ABC quoted a human rights researcher who claimed that prisoners suffered “various forms of torture, including sleep deprivation, forced standing, painful stress positions.”

No persuasive reasons

A report released in January by the nongovernmental European Network on Debt and Development, “Secret Structures, Hidden Crimes,” finds that opaque legal structures are one of the key ways to hide the real ownership of entities that can sometimes facilitate tax evasion, corruption and related crimes.

“Using nominees is a key way of hiding the real owners,” says the report’s author, Alex Marriage. Investigators, he says, have “found no persuasive reasons for nominee shareholders.”

“There may be very special circumstance where a nominee director is needed,” he adds, citing the example of two international corporations needing neutral territory to conduct business, “but small changes in the law would make this unnecessary.”

A June 2012 report from the U.K.-based advocacy group Global Witness points out that one of the problems is that legal authorities in the United States, United Kingdom and many other countries don’t hold nominee directors responsible for the conduct of the companies they front.

In addition, documents setting up offshore companies often include clauses that shield nominees from financial liability if the companies get sued.

“It is perfectly legal in many countries to avoid having your name appear as the director or owner of a company by employing the services of a nominee, whose name appears instead,” the Global Witness report states.

“Nominees are, in essence, renting out their name, and in doing so, providing the anonymity that corrupt officials, tax evaders and other criminals require to move dirty money around the world.”

Gorin and Vanagels are far from lone players in this regulatory wilderness.

The group of 28

The ICIJ, working with The Guardian newspaper in England and the BBC’s Panorama program, identified a group of 28 other nominee directors who have represented more than 21,000 companies between them, with individual nominees representing as many as 4,000 companies.

For example, Jesse Grant Hester — a nominee director based on the English Channel island of Sark and later the Indian Ocean tax haven of Mauritius — was the director for an Irish entity Candonly Limited, which an official inquiry later found was used by the regime of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein to cheat the

United Nations' Oil for Food Program.

Hester, who did not respond to a request for comment, has been listed as a director for at least 1,500 other companies in the British Virgin Islands, Britain, Ireland and New Zealand, according to the ICIJ analysis.

Until the practice was stamped out in the late 1990s, it was common for Sark residents like Hester to lend their names as directors to businesses around the world wanting anonymity.

At the height of what became known as the "Sark Lark" the BBC reported, the 600 inhabitants of the island held 15,000 directorships between them, some of which later led to controversy.

One extreme example was a resident John Donnelly who lent his name as director to an Isle of Man company, Mil-Tec Corporation Ltd., which shipped rifles, rockets, mortar bombs and ammunition to Rwanda that were used in the 1994 genocide.

After a crackdown by the British government, many nominee directors from Sark relocated to other jurisdictions like Cyprus, the United Arab Emirates, Mauritius and Ireland and, as the secret documents obtained by ICIJ show, they simply resumed operations.

Russian spy

The ICIJ documents identify three other former Sark islanders who formed parts of the mysterious backstory of Hampel, the alleged spy for Russia arrested in Canada.

According to the National Post, Hampel had established a corporate presence in Ireland from July 1997, two years after he received his first Canadian passport using a fraudulent Ontario birth certificate.

Corporate documents described the Irish entity, Emerging Markets Research & Consulting Ltd., as a tourism venture — and Hampel as a travel consultant. But the National Post reported that the company's annual accounts showed it didn't do any business and that it appeared to be merely a cover for his spying activities.

Though he denied the allegation made in court that he was a member of the Sluzhba Vneshney Razvedki, the successor to the infamous KGB, Hampel was eventually deported to Russia after admitting to being in Canada illegally.

Appearing as nominee directors in Hampel's Irish entity at various times were Sean Lee Hogan, Simon Ashley Couldridge and Michael Andrew Gray, who each show up over and over in the documents obtained by ICIJ. Each declined emailed requests for comment.

Among Hogan's many other directorships — including nearly 100 in the British Virgin Islands, 743 U.K. companies and dozens in the U.S., Panama, Austria, Ireland and New Zealand — are companies linked to a Norwegian professor, the Russian gas and oil giant Gazprom and a music publishing company, Plaza Mayor, whose website claims that they represent the work of Julio Iglesias, Ricky Martin and Placido Domingo.

Couldridge, who recently put up his Sark home for sale for nearly £5 million, is publicly listed as a director of more than 1,000 companies in Ireland.

Gray runs the Alterego Group, a Cyprus company that boasts in one email obtained by ICIJ: "We at Alterego Management are the visible other self. ... The desire to obtain complete privacy, often bordering on total anonymity, is a major reason why so many professional firms do use our services."

In an example of how much the players in the offshore world overlap, the data obtained by ICIJ reveals that one of Gray's other clients was Roger Alberto Santamaria del Cid.

In October 2010, Santamaria was named in press reports as the Panamanian contact for an Internet investment scam, Imperia Invest IBC, which defrauded 14,000 investors worldwide of about \$7 million. They included about 6,000 deaf people from the U.S. states of Utah, Maine, Wisconsin and Texas.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the Monetary Authority of Singapore, the Swedish Financial Supervisory Authority and the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority all issued alerts regarding Imperia.

There is no suggestion that Gray was in any way involved in Imperia, and the data obtained by ICIJ and searches of public company registers indicate that Santamaria was a nominee director himself. Santamaria could not be contacted for comment.

His fellow officials in one Panamanian entity? Gorin and Vanagels.

Contributors to this story: Arta Giga and Hamish Boland-Rudder

Key findings of this exposé to date:

- Government officials and their families and associates in Azerbaijan, Russia, Canada, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, Mongolia and other countries have embraced the use of covert companies and bank accounts.
- The mega-rich use complex offshore structures to own mansions, yachts, art masterpieces and other assets, gaining tax advantages and anonymity not available to average people.
- Many of the world's top's banks – including UBS, Clariden and Deutsche Bank – have aggressively worked to provide their customers with secrecy-cloaked companies in the British Virgin Islands and other offshore hideaways.
- A well-paid industry of accountants, middlemen and other operatives has helped offshore patrons shroud their identities and business interests, providing shelter in many cases to money laundering or other misconduct.
- Ponzi schemers and other large-scale fraudsters routinely use offshore havens to pull off their shell games and move their ill-gotten gains.

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