

Senator McCain, who is the low-life scum?

by Antonio Chávez Cabral

On Thursday, January 29, 2015, Republican Senator John McCain of Arizona demonstrated once again why he needs psychological therapy for anger management. As chair of the U.S. Senate's Armed Services Committee, he holds tremendous power on issues of war and militarism that makes his anger a threat to world peace.

On that day, a group of protesters from the women-led grassroots organization, Code Pink, interrupted McCain's hearings on Capitol Hill demanding that his star guest, Henry Kissinger, be arrested for war crimes. McCain angrily yelled at the female protester calling her "low-life scum."

A brief look at Henry Kissinger's history shows that McCain was screaming his insults at the wrong person...

Kissinger has been charged in international courts of masterminding, financing and training terrorist forces in many parts of the world from 1970 thru the late 1980s.

Historians have documented that during the 1968 U.S. presidential elections, President Nixon and Kissinger were concerned that if the Vietnam War ended before the elections, the Democratic Party candidate Hubert Humphrey would win. To prevent that, Nixon and Kissinger plotted to continue that bloody war. Kissinger promised South Vietnamese President Thieu better deals after the election if he would refuse to accept a peace proposal made by North Vietnam. As a result, over 20,000 U.S. soldiers and thousands of Vietnamese, Cambodians and Laotians died.

Another example of Kissinger's deeds: declassified U.S. government documents expose how Kissinger, President Nixon's National Security Adviser and then Secretary of State, was the mastermind behind conducting a secret and illegal indiscriminate bombing of Cambodia between 1969 and 1973. Using B-52 bombers they

dropped the equivalent of five Hiroshima bombs on a peasant society killing over one million innocent Cambodians.

While Kissinger continued his wars in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, Chile held its 1970 presidential elections and Salvador Allende was elected president, democratically—his election confirmed by the Chilean Congress on October 22, 1970.

Immediately afterwards, U.S. corporations including IBM, ITT, Coca Cola and others demanded that Nixon and Kissinger intervene to remove Allende from office. Both the Nixon Administration and U.S. corporations sent millions of dollars into Chile to form an opposition and to sabotage the economy through CIA operatives. Kissinger, as Nixon's Director of the National Security Council, was the coordinator of that terrorist plan that he called "Operation Condor". He was quoted as saying, "I don't see why we need to stand by and watch a country go communist due to the irresponsibility of its people—the issues are too important for the Chilean voters to be left to decide for themselves."

After months of trying to sabotage Allende's government, Kissinger decided to unleash a bloody coup on September 11, 1973 that resulted in the deaths of thousands of Chilean activists and innocent people. Kissinger also gave his approval to have General Augusto Pinochet installed as president, immediately, and publicly referred to Pinochet as "the savior of the Chilean people."

The military dictatorship that followed under Kissinger's idol was one of the bloodiest in the history of Latin America.

In 2001, while Kissinger was living in Paris, a French judge tried to serve him with a summons to appear in court concerning concrete evidence linking him to the assassination of Chilean General René Schneider two days after President Allende's election was confirmed by the Chilean congress. General Schneider was the Commander-in-Chief of the Chilean army and opposed the planned military coup against President Allende. The CIA had been promoting the coup as part of "Operation Condor" and, with Kissinger's approval, paid thousands of dollars to a group of assassins who on October 25, 1970 ambushed and murdered Schneider.

The U.S. embassy in Paris hurriedly helped sneak Kissinger out of France and





Kissinger Reading List

to the U.S. Since then, the Schneider family has been seeking justice in U.S. federal courts but the U.S. State Department has been shielding Kissinger from prosecution.

Kissinger's bloody legacy continued after the Chile coup. In 1975, he used his power as Secretary of State during the Gerald Ford Administration to convince the Indonesian dictator, General Suharto, to invade East Timor. Indonesia had come under U.S. control in 1965 when the CIA financed, armed and organized the overthrow of President Sukarno and replaced him with Suharto after a bloody coup that, according to historians, left over one million dead.

After East Timor won its independence from Portugal, Kissinger wanted to prevent the Timorese people from controlling their own country and their destiny. One of Kissinger's goals was to take over Timor's vast oil fields in its territorial waters. So, he unleashed another bloody coup. In his memoir, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, then U.S. ambassador to the UN, wrote that in the first couple of months of that coup, Suharto's terrorist forces massacred "over 60,000 persons."

I could go on and describe many more

atrocities perpetrated by Kissinger. From Bangladesh in 1971, to Uruguay in 1973, to Argentina in 1976, to Nicaragua, to Panama, etc.—all resulting in millions of innocent people killed.

Surprisingly, and shamefully, Kissinger and his cohorts from those bloody actions continue to be interviewed in U.S. national TV networks and welcomed to speak in universities. At the same time, the brave and dedicated women in Code Pink keep encouraging us to believe that a peaceful and just world is possible.

So, given Kissinger's torrid history and the angry tantrum exhibited by John McCain who keeps defending him, a logical question to ask that hostile senator from Arizona is: Senator McCain, who was the real low-life scum you had in front of you on January 29th? ➡

Bio: Antonio is a community and labor activist who began his activism against the Vietnam War after completing a tour in the Marines. Since then, he's been an organizer with various independent groups. Publisher, editor & writer for progressive newspapers, he's currently writing a book on San Antonio's progressive movements from 1968 - 2004.

-  **State of Denial**
by Bob Woodward
-  **The Shock Doctrine**
by Naomi Klein
-  **Understanding Power**
by Noam Chomsky
-  **Kissinger & Cyprus: A Study in Lawlessness**
by Gene Rossides
-  **Pol Pot and Kissinger on War Criminality and Impunity**
by Edward S. Herman
-  **The National Security Archive**, George Washington University
-  **"Chile and the United States: Declassified Documents Relating to the Military Coup**
September 11, 1973.
National Security Archive
Electronic Briefing Book No. 8.



Blanca S. Ayala,

beloved mother, grandmother and aunt, died Jan. 23, 2015 at 86 years of age. Born March 29, 1928, on the city's West Side, she was the last of 15 children born to Pablo Serna, a man of the borderlands, and Catarina Rios Serna, an orphan who immigrated to Texas from Mexico in 1900. "Blanquita" attended Public School No. 40 ("La 40") that later became Lorenzo de Zavala Elementary School and Lanier High School. After the death of her husband, Ricardo, she she raised

two of their four children alone continuing to be involved in their schools and providing a loving home. She worked as an Avon lady, a salesperson at Joske's Las Palmas and as a cafeteria lady at Cooper Junior High, among other jobs. On the last day of her life, family members from ages 2 to 68 circled her bed, placed their hands on her, prayed and gave thanks that she was now at peace. The Esperanza extends our sympathy to the Ayala family.

Que en paz descanse.



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