



Tavistock's new terrorism: more deadly than ISIS

Special to the AAS

On 27 March, just 12 days after the Christchurch massacre in New Zealand, Australian ABC television's Four Corners aired a documentary on that mass killing of worshippers at two mosques, committed by shooter Brenton Tarrant. Among those interviewed was Robert Evans, who monitors right-wing extremism on the internet. His analysis of Tarrant was insightful.

Evans demolished the idea that Tarrant was a "lone terrorist", a formulation widely circulated by the English-language media in Australia, Europe and North America. "He was the exact opposite of a lone wolf", Evans emphasised. "He was part of an international terrorist organisation who was carrying out his attack to inspire others to do the same thing, and I suspect before long that he will be successful in that goal. He was very much not a lone wolf. The Christchurch shooter should absolutely not have fallen under the radar. The fact that he did, is evidence of a massive failure in global antiterrorism strategies. There have been other attacks directly connected to 8Chan's /pol board, there have been other attacks that have been announced there. If global law enforcement had been monitoring that board and watching when this person began his attack and posted his video, he was driving to the site of the attack for something like six minutes before he began shooting. You could clearly hear over the audio of his video, the GPS directions clearly telling anyone listening where he was going."

Evans described the forum Tarrant frequented on 8chan, an "imageboard" website launched in October 2013 and now operating out of the Philippines, as a "24-hour a day Nazi-KKK rally". Such Internet sites provide a high degree of anonymity for their posters, and the ability to take posts down after only a few minutes. The "/pol board" within 8chan denotes "political" posts. Tarrant "was not a lone shooter, but part of a transnational fascist movement all over the world", said Evans.

Indeed, Tarrant was a member of an international terrorist organisation. But the organisation has no single head or single funding stream. It is more difficult to fight than the Islamic State (ISIS) or al-Qaeda. While ISIS and al-Qaeda have thousands of members and followers, 8chan had 35,000 unique visitors a day, and 400,000 posts per week, as of 2014. A significant segment of the posts espouse mass violence on behalf of a racist/fascist agenda.

Is it conceivable that Western intelligence services have systematically failed to take note of this online terrorist phenomenon? The answer is clearly "no".

Failure, or a Tavistock dream come true?

Evans described the failure to pre-empt the Christchurch attack as a "massive failing in global counterterrorism strategies". But an alternative, more credible and more devastating explanation must be probed. That alternative account deeply implicates Western intelligence services, elements of the Western psychiatric establishment, and the oligarchical financial institutions that fund and control them.

There is a well-documented, but buried history of such activity, which must be brought into the sunlight if future Christchurch massacres and manipulated violent civilisational clashes are to be prevented. The AAS has begun to

do this with our article "The Christchurch massacre: British imperial 'population control'" (AAS, 24 April and 1 May 2019, available in a package at <https://cecaust.com.au/christchurch-feature.pdf>)

The Tarrant case, like most other recent so-called "lone wolf" terrorist massacres, is a product of a decades-long mass brainwashing project, launched and still directed by the London-based Tavistock Institute and its global offshoots. Volumes could and should be written about Tavistock's work on mass "brainwashing"—its own term—and social engineering, over now close to a century. This is necessarily a very brief overview of one of the longest ongoing crimes against humanity.

As the AAS documented in the above-cited article, the Tavistock Clinic was launched in the early 1920s as a centre for psychiatric experimentation and its application to mass psychological manipulation. Tavistock's founder, Brig. Gen. Dr John Rawlings Rees, famously called for the training and deployment of vast armies of "psychiatric shock troops", to be deployed around the globe to manipulate the minds of millions.

Tavistock was absorbed into the British Army during World War II as the Psychiatric Division. Based on that experience, Rees delivered a series of lectures in New York City after the war, promoting the "shaping of psychiatry by war". Those lectures were published as a book by the same title. Rees emphasised that the shock-trauma experiences of wartime combat could be reproduced on a mass scale during peacetime to achieve the same consequences: mass psychiatric disorders and manipulable violence. This was the "Tavistock method".

Tavistock personnel played a pivotal role in the US Central Intelligence Agency's MK-Ultra project, which oversaw first the experimentation with, and then spreading of psychedelics. This joint MI6-CIA-Tavistock project was instrumental in launching the 1960s drug-rock-sex counterculture. Tavistock associate Aldous Huxley, a pivotal player in MK-Ultra, in a lecture at the University of California Medical School in San Francisco in 1967, described the mass distribution of LSD-25 and other psychotropic drugs as a "concentration camp of the mind", which could induce millions of people to love their servitude "without tears". He called it the "ultimate revolution" through pharmacology.

Other Tavistock doctors, led by Dr William Sargant, concentrated on methods for creating mass psychosis without the use of drugs. In his landmark 1957 book *Battle for the Mind*, Sargant argued that whole populations could be brainwashed during periods of collective shock trauma to adopt ideas they would never have embraced during periods of sanity.

Digital mass media

Like Tavistock in the UK, the Frankfurt School for Social Research in Germany was founded by a group of Freudian psychiatrists in the aftermath of World War I. While Tavistock continued to specialise in hard-core brainwashing techniques, the Frankfurt School specialised in broader cultural and epistemological warfare. In the 1930s the Frankfurt School relocated some of its leading cadre from Hitler's

Germany to the United States. Frankfurt School founders, including Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer, participated in the World War II Radio Research Project, exploring the potential of the new mass media—radio, television, and motion pictures—to alter society through subtle but deadly propaganda, including techniques of subliminal manipulation.

The World War II and post-war Cybernetics Group, dominated by Tavistock- and Frankfurt School-trained social engineers, honed the methods of mass manipulation, through both drug-induced psychosis and other non-psychedelic means of inducing insanity. The fusion of the emerging mass culture industry with Tavistock's brainwashing techniques evolved dramatically over the post-war decades, as new forms of entertainment media came online, offering new techniques for mind manipulation.

With the advent of high-speed personal computers and the internet, video games became a major new venue of mass manipulation and dehumanisation. Col. David Grossman, a US Army veteran and expert on the military's use of video games to train soldiers, has written the definitive study of how video games grew into a multi-billion dollar a year Hollywood industry, turning children and adolescents into mass killers. *On Killing: The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War and Society*, Grossman's book on the subject, showed that addiction to point-and-shoot video games by youngsters was the common feature of every major incident of school shootings, beginning with the Columbine High-school massacre in Littleton, Colorado on 20 April 1999.

Point-and-shoot video games, mass-marketed to children of all ages, are based on the weapons-training simulators developed by the US Army to teach soldiers how to fire weapons under stress. In the armed forces, simulator weapons training was accompanied by clear education on the difference between the legitimate use of force in combat, and criminal violence. At the same time, Grossman stressed that a major reason for developing these video techniques was the military's need to overcome the natural hesitance of a soldier to shoot and kill another human being.

Hollywood-produced video games eliminated even the semblance of moral guidelines. They added pornography and ever more realistic targets to their video game products, blurring the lines between fantasy and reality for the growing army of young gaming-addicts. Adolescent minds are not yet mature enough to draw complex moral distinctions.

Tavistock terrorism in the internet age

With faster and more powerful computers, a virtual global criminal underworld has emerged through the internet. Sophisticated computer programmers have devised complex security protocols to hide segments of internet activity. There are imageboards like 8chan, which provide a high degree of anonymity, and a deeper "dark web", hidden behind layers of encryption and generally inaccessible to search engines. Populated by computer hackers, black marketeers and hate groups, these sections of the internet have spawned a marketplace for criminal activities on a global scale.

As emphasised in the CEC Media Release of 28 May, "'Christchurch Call' establishes dangerous pretext for state censorship" (p. 15), government efforts ostensibly directed against such internet activity have taken the form of sweeping measures to suppress legitimate free speech—the minute any statement is declared to be "disinformation"—while state intelligence agencies already have the capability of monitoring at least a large portion of the hidden dark web and shadowy boards like 8chan, where attacks have been prepared beforehand.

Among the terrorist attacks promoted through the internet are those recently seen in Charlottesville, Virginia; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Christchurch, New Zealand; and Poway, California.

In August 2017, hundreds of neo-Fascists, alt-Right activists, skinheads and other racists gathered in Charlottesville, Virginia to protest the tearing down of statues of Confederate Civil War figures. Counter-demonstrators clashed with the Nazi and Confederate flag-carrying participants. James Alex Fields Jr, part of the Unite the Right protests, rammed his car into a crowded street, killing Heather Heyer and injuring 40 others. The Unite the Right rally had drawn people from around the United States, largely through advertising on 8chan, Gab and other websites of the alt-Right.

On 27 October 2018 Robert Gregory Bowers entered the Tree of Life Congregation synagogue in Pittsburgh during the Jewish sabbath and killed 11 worshippers and wounded six others. Prior to launching his assault, Bowers had announced his plans on Gab, where he had posted hate commentaries for months before the attacks. After the shooting a hashtag #HeroRobertBowers appeared on Gab, encouraging further attacks.

On 15 March 2019 came the Christchurch attacks on mosques by Brenton Tarrant, advertised via 8chan.

On 27 April 2019, John T. Earnest carried out an armed attack on another synagogue, Chabad of Poway, California. One woman was killed and three other people injured. In a replay of the Christchurch massacre, Earnest attempted to live-stream his attack on Facebook. In a posting on 8chan prior to the attack, he praised Tarrant and Bowers as heroes.

While bearing out Robert Evans's forecast of post-Christchurch terrorist attacks coming from the same internet-based international terrorist apparatus, it raised the question even more sharply: How did intelligence services "miss" the threat? The Five Eyes (United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand) spy agencies have the ability to penetrate the darker corners of the internet and monitor activities, track correlations and ultimately, act pre-emptively on a short-notice warning of a pending attack.

The attacks on Jewish and Muslim religious assemblies are done on behalf of the network as a whole. The goal, stated by Tarrant and the other killers, is to inspire further attacks, ultimately provoking uncontrollable race and religious warfare.

The title of Tarrant's manifesto, posted on 8chan just before his rampage, was "The Great Replacement", taken from a 2012 book by French neo-fascist Renaud Camus, which called for a war to prevent the white majority in France and Europe from being replaced by Arabs, Jews and other immigrants. In the month before the Christchurch massacre, there were 24,000 internet citations of the obscure Camus book. Before the Tarrant live-stream video of his rampage could be removed from the web, it was downloaded 1.5 million times.

While mainstream media and politicians decry this new violence as aberrant social behaviour, the reality is that Tavistock and its spin-off agencies are carrying out their mandate from Brig. Gen. John Rawlings Rees. Tavistock doctors Eric Cunningham Dax and Fred Emery came to Australia in the 1950s, and Dax would go on to "treat" Martin Bryant, perpetrator of the 1996 Port Arthur, Tasmania massacre documented in the above-cited AAS feature as the clearest precedent for the recent crimes in Christchurch and elsewhere. Rees's "psychiatric shock troops" have moved out around the globe, first in small numbers in person, and subsequently in the mass brainwashing done through video-games and the internet.

'Christchurch Call' establishes pretext for state censorship



28 May—Unbeknownst to most Australians, our country in recent years has been leading the world in the adoption of Stasi-like [communist East Germany's secret police] surveillance and spying laws which threaten basic human freedoms. Now, an entirely new level of social control is being planned in response to the 15 March Christchurch terrorist attack, which New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and French President Emmanuel Macron launched on 15 May in their "Christchurch Call" for internet censorship. Behind the ostensible goal of suppressing "terrorist and violent extremist content" online, the pair have recruited the world's biggest social media and internet platforms to an agenda, which predates Christchurch, to give intelligence agencies broad powers to censor what they define as "disinformation".

Most of the social media platforms had been reluctant to cooperate prior to the Christchurch shock, but have now fallen into line. While the USA expressed support for the Christchurch Call, it declined to sign on out of concern that it conflicts with the guarantee of freedom of speech enshrined in the First Amendment to the US Constitution.

Just in the last year, Australia has already implemented:

- Foreign interference laws, passed in June 2018, which limit freedom of speech, association and political communication. In the name of intervening to stop "hostile state actors" broader powers than ever are being accepted across the globe, and can be used at the discretion of authorities under the cover of secrecy with very little oversight or chance of redress, as is the case with all the laws listed here.

- The *Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Act 2018*, or the encryption laws, passed the Australian Parliament in December 2018, providing unprecedented spying and hacking powers to Australia's intelligence agencies, and the power to compel Australian citizens to assist them. This law is a copy of Britain's November 2016 *Investigatory Powers Act*, a.k.a. the "Snoopers' Charter".

- Twenty days after the March 2019 Christchurch attack, parliament passed new internet censorship legislation in complete secrecy. The legislation, which experts warn could suppress whistleblowers and censor media content, made Australia the first country in the world where companies can be fined millions of dollars and their executives jailed for not complying with the *Criminal Code Amendment (Sharing of Abhorrent Violent Material) Act 2019*, rushed through parliament on 4 April.

- Also proposed is a powerful federal anti-corruption agency which would target the broadly-worded "misleading, deceptive and damaging breaches of editorial control by media organisations, especially open-source or social media", among other forms of "corruption", according to its proponents at Griffith University and Transparency International, which has a record of using corruption as a Trojan horse to impose international financial diktats on nations.

Two of these laws—the encryption and internet censorship bills—only passed due to the support of the Labor Party, which waved them through despite acknowledging serious concerns about their implications. In a typical Labor compromise, they justified not fighting the government on these concerns by promising to amend the worst aspects of the laws *when* they won government at the impending election—which didn't happen!

Whose 'disinformation'?

The global agenda for what former MI5 officer and whistleblower Annie Machon has described as "techno-Stasi" police state laws, has been set by the Five Eyes spying alliance which comprises the intelligence agencies of the UK, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The August 2018 Five Eyes Ministerial gathering on Queensland's Gold Coast took aim at "faster identification and removal of illicit content", and limiting "coercive acts of interference and disinformation". Identifying and removing illicit content featuring acts of terrorism, child sexual abuse and extremist violence is one thing, but who decides what constitutes "disinformation"?

Notably, the final statement issued at that summit had expressed regret that "senior digital industry leaders did not accept our invitation to engage on critical issues regarding the illicit use of online spaces". Now, with Facebook, Google, Twitter, Microsoft, Amazon, Dailymotion, Qwant and YouTube all signing onto the Christchurch call, that roadblock has been overcome. As Ardern expressed it: "Never before have countries and tech companies come together in the wake of a horrific attack to commit to an action plan that will deliver collaboratively work in new technology built to make our communities ultimately safer."

As the CEC has repeatedly questioned: Why did the Five Eyes, which have unparalleled spying powers, not pick up on Christchurch killer Brenton Tarrant's well-advertised plans? In all of the terrorist attacks in Australia and the UK in recent years, the attackers were well known to intelligence agencies; in some cases, such as the June 2017 London Bridge attack, they were closely associated with actual agents of the intelligence agencies and were under heavy surveillance. Was this the case with the Christchurch attacker? Given that the major New Zealand media have signed an agreement to censor coverage of Tarrant's trial—also supposedly to deny the killer "a platform"—will the public ever know the answer to this question? New Zealand's chief censor has already banned possession or distribution of the killer's manifesto, examination of which provides crucial clues about his motivation and broader agenda.

The Five Eyes advocates a "transnational model of security", effectively a global police state, which objective was reinforced at the CYBERUK 2019 summit in Glasgow, Scotland on 24-25 April. Director of Britain's Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) Jeremy Fleming said the UK will "pioneer a new form of security", and project its power globally as "part of a wide Cyber Power framework". A growing public-private partnership, he declared, is "taking a bold, interventionist approach to involve a wider set of stakeholders", with the "Five Eyes partners" at its "core".

It is impossible to separate this censorship agenda from the state of the domestic and global economy, which is sinking further into crisis. As the financial establishment resorts to more extreme measures to prop up the financial system, such as austerity and "bail-in" laws that will seize the savings of ordinary people, there is a growing danger that the population will revolt against ruling institutions, as the French Yellow Vest protests and anti-European Union voting patterns in Europe demonstrate. Terrorism and foreign interference provide a pretext to implement police-state controls that will be used to protect establishment interests.