2023-08-04

HARD NEWS ON FRIDAY

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, organized citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

https://leandroherrero.com/the-missing-word-in-the-famous-margaret-mead-quote/

DOCUMENT OVERVIEW

- I ACCESS to THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet
- II ACCESS to OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable
- III OPENING MEDITATION; HOUSEKEEPING; LINK TO PODCAST
- IV SATURDAY HISTORY CALL NOTES, REFERENCE MATERIALS

I B B S RADIO - ACCESS TO THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS https://bbsradio.com/

DAY	B B S Station	TIME	PROGRAM	CONFERENCE CALL	HOSTS
Thursday	#1	6 pm Pacific 9 pm Eastern	A Night at the Round Table	None	Panel Members Guests Callers welcome.
Friday	#1	6 pm Pacific 9 pm Eastern	Friday Night Hard News	720-716-7301 Pin Code: 353 863#	Rama, Tara Callers welcome.
Saturday	#2	1:30 pm PT/ 4:30 Eastern	History of our Galactic World & NESARA aka The True History	720-716-7301 Pin Code: 353 863#	Rama, Tara callers welcome.

NOTE: 2nd CONFERENCE CALL # for both Friday, Saturday 605-313-5166

• scroll down to heading TALK SHOW PROGRAM ARCHIVES FOR PODCASTING.

• Find the table listing the dates. Click on required date.

Pin Code: 353 863#

ADDITIONAL HELP FOR LISTENERS

B B S LISTENER TOOLS		B B S RADIO STATION 1 A Night at the Roundtable Friday Night Hard News	B B S RADIO STATION 2 Saturday History Call	
LISTEN ON LINE		CLICK ON AUDIO ICON	CLICK ON AUDIO ICON	
LISTEN BY PHONE		1-631-359-9353 [N0 code needed]	1-804-220-6484 [No code needed]	
CALL IN TO INTERACT	Only during live calls	1-866-627-6008 Direct: 323-744- 4831	1-888-429-5471 Direct: 323-744- 4841	
ACCESS CUSTOMER SERVICE		Toll Free: 1-888-710-8061	Direct Line: 1-323-744-4828	
FREE PHONE APPS		Free BBS Radio Android phone app Free BBS Radio iPhone and iPad app	2	
B B S ARCHIVES		go to <u>www.bbsradio.com</u> In Search box, enter the name of t	he required program;	

II ACCESS TO OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY Rainbow Roundtable

NAME OF CALL / HOST WEEKDAY / TIME ACCESS POINT TELEPHONE NUMBER

Aboriginal Moabite Nation Call Wednesday Telephone Only 1-605-472-5406 6:00 - 7:30 MST PIN 402-493#

Grand Goddess Lillie

Abundance Call Every 2nd Wednesday Telephone

Caroline Oceana Ryan 5:45 PM PT/ 8:45 PM ET ZOOM

To be notified: email https://www.ascensiontimes.com/the-abundance-group
Scroll down to the sign-up sheet and enter the requested info.

Ascension Call Every Sunday, Monday Telephone Only 1-425-436-6260
PIN 9467 441#

Cheryl Croci **9 – 10:30 EST** Call Cheryl for # in your area

Ashtar Legacy Calls Every 2nd, 4th Tuesday

5th Tuesday – no call **Telephone 1-717-908-1834**

Fran Pearre PIN 980 339#

9:00 - 10:00 pm EST Call is free; LD charges are

VOIP/ H D 1-717-908-1834

PIN #980 339#

https://www.freeconferencecallhd.com/hd-conferencing/

via Skype Click on VOIP button and enter info as requested

To access past ALC calls, go to Ashtar Legacy Teleconferences (ashtarontheroad.com)

III ARCHIVES: provided by BBSRADIO

RAINBOW ROUNDTABLE

ARCHIVES: BBS

- Go to www.bbsradio.com
- In **Search** box, enter the name of the desired program;
- scroll down to the heading

TALK SHOW PROGRAM ARCHIVES FOR PODCASTING

• Find the table listing the dates. Click on desired date.

ARCHIVES: Rainbow Roundtable

• Go to https://www.rainbowroundtable.net/

WRITTEN
 Go to "Archives" tab: See NOTES on RHS

• AUDIO

• Go to "Archives" tab: See AUDIO on LHS:
Included are both BBS podcast + Conference Call Links

2023-08-04 HARD NEWS ON FRIDAY 2 / 32

III OPENING MEDITATION; HOUSEKEEPING; ACCESS TO PODCAST; MAYAN CALENDAR

A. Opening Meditation: Rainbird

B. Mayan Calendar / Record of Days: Rainbird

- **Go to** https://www.spacestationplaza.com to locate specific days & lots more information: on the home page, you can find out what your Mayan signature is; while there, look and see where the wave the birth wave began
- to learn about the Mayan Calendar, Go to https://www.spacestationplaza.com which will link you further to www.lawoftime.org website for further information.

PLEASE LISTEN TO THE PODCAST TO HEAR THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION OF EACH DATE

Also note: This is not a 3rd dimensional calendar! It's a Record of Days. www.Spacestationplaza.co Click on the tzolkein – it's on page 2 of the link.

PORTAL DAYS = extra dimensionality

4th Friday 1 AKBAL Blue Magnetic Night Visionary

About belief in Abundance; gift of protection of the night; let go of self-judgment

5th Saturday 2 KAN Yellow Lunar Seed Healing Tara's birthday - openness to life, harmony-seeking; gift of possibilities; let go of stagnation, any hesitation, lack of trust ALSO A PORTAL DAY

6th Sunday 3 CHICCHAN Red Electric Serpent Warrior Remaining open to change; gift of instinct, motivation to change; let go of blockages by the ego

7th Monday 4 CIMIWhite Self-Existing World Bridger
Warrior
About forgiveness; moving into a state of grace. We bridge between past and future. Let go of controlling behaviour, the belief that life is a struggle

8th Tuesday 5 MANIK Blue Overtone Hand Healing 8-8 Lions Gate – about healing self and others; acceptance of divinity of ourselves. Gift of being healer of human kind; let go of procrastination

9th Wednesday 6 LAMAT Yellow Rhythmic Stargate Visionary
Work is illumination of human kind, opening the gate. Let go of self-doubt

10th Thursday 7 MULUC Red Resonant Moon Artist

PORTAL DAY - about attunement; this is ½ between start and end of each cycle of 13 days. Working with wise use of rational mind, taking guidance from Spirit. Embrace available telepathy. Let go of self-doubt

11th Friday 8 OC White Galactic Dog Artist
About unconditional love, healing the pain of the past. Embrace gift of connection with spirit. Let go of fears unwise use of

About unconditional love, healing the pain of the past. Embrace gift of connection with spirit. Let go of fears unwise use of anger.

C. Housekeeping:

- We are asking to **have more people contribute**, as some of the regular, long-term donors are stressed and stretched: **any and all small amounts are helpful and very welcome**.
- Re **T & R:** Their full-time, life-time commitment is to be tuned in to what is really going on behind the scenes of the artificial world we see around us. They don't ask for anything but they do require food, a home, gas for the car, and access to BBS Radio in order to compile and distribute this information to the world.
- Donations via Paypal button on the **homepage www.rainbowroundtable.net**

BBSRADIO:

- The radio programs are supported by us, the listeners.
- The THREE radio programs cost \$300 each week.
- The mailing address for those who do not like paying electronically:

B B S RADIO Please put "Attention Don" on the envelope

B B S RADIO 58 N Marshside Place Spring, TX 77389 And note inside: "for Thursday, Friday AND Saturday calls"

• All BBS archives can be accessed FOR FREE by everyone.

• NB: TO BE FOUND AT www.rainbowroundtable.net/archives

- AUDIO ARCHIVES (BBS Radio Podcasts plus Conference Calls) and
- PROGRAM NOTES (downloadable and printable PDFs)

OTHER FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

FOOD MONEY: VIA PAYPAL OR See the PAGE ON www.rainbowroundtable.net

Rama has a pride of Paschats + 2 inside kitties + 2 HUMANS = up to 13 in total

Financial Requirements

WEEKLY
B B S RADIO/week \$259.00 All past program costs are caught up –
THANKS TO ALL!!!

Three programs each week

PERSONAL
Gas, food, etc \$200

Gas, food, etc \$200.00 Bills \$200.00 bills

Miscellaneous/Other Also \$1,200 Personal loan for the car

Caroline set up a GoFundMe a/c
Need \$ for legal documents re: car
And \$ to repay loan borrowed to help pay for the car

See the link on rainbowroundtable.net

MONTHLY
Rent - \$1,150 / mo \$1,150
Total

CONTACT INFO

• Please notify Rama when sending something koran999@comcast.net

Mailing address for checks, money orders, etc
 Ram D Berkowitz
 PO Box 280
 Santa Cruz, NM 87567

EVERY \$5 HELPS - ALL GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

THANKS TO ALL FOR THEIR HELP . . .

- Remember you can book a session with Mother, as well!
 ** www.rainbowroundtable.net /page/donate
 - Your donation supports an account set up for Tara & Rama with
 Beneficial Farms Community Supported Agriculture in Santa Fe, NM
 They continue to appreciate each & every donation received for food.
- Please continue to go to www.rainbowroundtable.net and link to their Paypal account: choose family and friends option so Paypal takes off no fees.

FREEMART: NUGEN COIN: https://www.nugencoin.com/tarram

To help Marshall and support him by signing up under his name: https://www.nugencoin.com/marnor

TO GET HELP, Call Carolyn [Rainbird] or Micah

Carolyn's E-mail: lightenergync@gmail.com

Micah's E-mail: thegreenalchemist@gmail.com

CALL THEM FOR HELP WITH REGISTRATION/ISSUES RELATED TO NUGEN COINS

Access to this week's Podcast

https://bbsradio.com/podcast/hard-news-friday-august-4-2023

NOTE AGAIN: dial 1-631-359-9353 to listen to BBS Radio TV Station 1.

TO LISTEN TO CALLS ON THE PHONE: 1-631-359-9353

The name of the Go Fund Me a/c: HELPRAMAPAYFORCARREPA

They are under orders by Rama's boss (former President Obama's security chief, known as the King of Swords) to live entirely by donations from the Light community.

Your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated.
Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity! Namaste.

RAMA, TARA [R, T]

RB: describes the talking stick, decked out for Tara's birthday!!!

R: Two mass coronal ejections due to hit earth - and we're still filling past days ejections!

No message today: lots going on! As per Mr X yesterday: The Rule of Law is a paradox . . . now is the biggest test – need for kindness, and love – and Mr Drumpf

What he is seeing: folks waking up to the fact that violence is not the way; more people are waking up to this

T: a very important referendum in Ohio next week - why democracy and the reproductive rights question are intertwined . - August 8th - repubs are working to make ballot initiatives harder!!

AUDIO: Message from the Arcturian Collective, Elthor & Fairies - Claim Your Power 2023-08-01

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=cxcUlHtUZYg&ab_channel=THELIGHTWORKERS

14:09



CONFERENCE CALL

Checking on the weather with some of the callers

BM: will vote on Tuesday - to do with the State Constitution -

RB: want to make changes to the constitution – will ultimately affect women's rights to decide what to do with their own bodies – want to ban the abortion pill – in

it's on Lions Gate - and Mother's Day

T:

Listen to the podcast and figure out what OHIO is up to !!!!!

BBSRADIO

Ave Sache

AUDIO: ERA OF PEACE Patti Cota-Robles

https://rumble.com/v32yijw-vlog-333-the-miraculous-victory-of-the-lions-gate.html



2022-12-05 The I Am Pillar of Light Transmission: Clear, Seal and Protect Your Energetic Space.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uh-Ppi8kVPU&ab_channel=SteveNobel



Steve Nobel

The I AM Presence" is also known as Divine Presence, the Monad, the Oversoul, the Christ Self, the God or Goddess Self, the Buddha within, and Krishna-Consciousness to name just a few. It is the part of us that exists in the realms of Spirit, the part that is closest to the Divine. In terms of clearing and protection, the I Am Presence is level of consciousness that contains no interference from lower forces. The I Am Presence is beyond all illusion and deception. The I Am Presence is essentially the next level up beyond the Higher Self.



We could also perhaps think of the I Am Presence as the guiding force of our Higher Self. In this remastered transmission (originally uploaded October 2018), we call upon the angelic forces working in this dimension to help create a forcefield of light around us. Archangel Michael works on sealing our etheric field, repairing any rips and tears. Metatron seals the outer layers of our auric field with Golden-White light from the Christ Grid that emanates from the Central Sun.

Please note that the symbol of AA Raphael is now a crystal wand!

https://thesoulmatrix.com/2022/12/05/...

When this preparation work has been done, we can call upon our beloved I Am Presence to create a pillar of crystalline white light some 12 feet in diameter to seal and protect us. In this light, we ask the I Am Presence to close any portals/openings to any lower dimensions.

This is a good transmission to begin your day. It can also be used before you enter the dream-state. The Pillar of Light will stay with you for a certain period of time. The more you repeat this transmission, the more stable the pillar of light becomes in your reality.

MOTHER / ALCYONE [M/A]

Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant One! In the Office of the Christ, and only in the Office of the Christ, we invoke the loving energies of St Germain and the Violet Fire!

Greetings, Children of Ra!

Happy 8-8 Lion's Gate!

The state of affairs on this planet: it is auspicious, very auspicious, to be alive whether in a body or not

T: what do you mean?

M/A: What We mean is we are all here, immortal, eternal, taking this (our bodies) to the next level: called Crystalline Light just like this.

It is time these pillars of light that are pouring in from Hunab Ku all the way to our sun - we are in a new timeline.

T: We are, Mother!

M/A: Yes. And it is - let's say what is in this now moment, this very instant now, that's all there is - there's this illusion of past/present. As we stay in the NOW, it changes for everything.

What We can say about this state of affairs: it is a glorious time to be here; also very precarious with what's happening so swiftly, with the energies

T: there are so many people who don't know what's going on at higher levels

M/A: What is happening is this meld of existence is being raised up: Heaven on Earth
This old timeline of these life forms that - because they have the upper hand: they do not!
All that's occurring is this tremendous shift of being in this NOW- new timeline -

T: are the galactics – they are intervening - those using little links when they ask how can I best serve my community – they provide points of meeting of others when they find their way? This situation - the last time we had a skirmish in 1861 - talking about the US

M/A: Civil War

T: that issue's not quite cleared up!

M/A: 40 acres and mule and the mule didn't have any in the matter!

These old concepts that her wayward children brought into manifestation when they thought they could rule the planet with control rather than sharing wisdom, teaching, experiencing the upliftment.

We are in a period with the old dinosaurs, controllers of the fallen angels, have to go. We are in a period where all of the old energies are power and control, absolute iron fist slavery: what's unfolding here is – We'll put it as bluntly as we can – you shoot your mouth off, gonna do some time!

T: What do you mean? that one out there will not keep his mouth quiet

M/A: he's not even alive; it's a sick holodeck program that is coming to a conclusion, and the less attention that is given to it the better

T: leave the dark side alone!

M/A: leave it to us: we have been dealing with her wayward children and the affairs of what your sister Omena said: toddler souls, with the power to move things called nukes, and this is where **we** get to move and shake the energies

T: it's true that Drumpf never had access to the nuclear suitcase – ever!

M/A: No

T: we're not that insane are we?

M/A: She would certainly hope that we have a better inner standing of the matters at hand!

T: he took a very important person out, and that person was from Iran and went to Iraq and then he had someone take him out – Soleimani

(INSERT: On 3 January 2020, Qasem Soleimani, an Iranian major general, was targeted and killed by a U.S. drone strike near the Baghdad International Airport in Iraq while he was on his way to meet Iraqi Prime Minister Adil Abdul-Mahdi. Wikipedia)

M/A: Let's say as We have said many times: the window of opportunity of these ones: it is completed and the timelines have changed. The new timeline – this is why things are happening so quickly. Time in and of itself is a concept that is rapidly . . . how do we converse about events that are rapidly concluding and, at the same time, there is no time; it's all One.

Every moment is NOW. A completion of this cycle is at hand and her wayward children know it and they are desperate to shift the balance and they've lost

Our task is to work with loving kindness and compassion; as ridiculous as it sounds, it works! Love is the answer

When you have toddler souls that are playing with the powers of creation/uncreation, it's best to put them to bed, be done with it! There is - what is unfolding with the current state of affairs: we could say the Force, in and of itself, is co-creating the tasks of wrapping this story up, and it is because of the wisdom that is being brought forth here by all the different elements: earth, air, fire, water, ether - as we learn more about ether, aether - whatever it's called - the akash - this quantum field we're all experiencing - it in and of itself has had sentience and what's unfolding here is humanity is being lifted up As She keeps saying - whether or folks like or not - it just is. It's part of the evolutionary cycle with this planet and the system in which it's part of. Life forms that can't accept - it is what it is.

Send more love - that's what We gotta say!

We know you got a lot more

T: the issue on the table right now: what now - what are the people going to do - are they going to wake up?

M/A: yes and it is happening exponentially. It is about working with what were being given using the science of breath along with consciousness, light, colour, sound - this is how civilizations get shifted into higher realities

this present civilization is at its completion: not going to play out the old timeline of blowing up the planet like we did in Atlantis; all the stories talk about it just heard this story: in the beginning the dragons, the fairies, all the beings are sayaing are going to stay in the NOW and play with the cosmic energies that are playing in your face – they will turn you upside down and around – it's quite amazing to behold!

M/A: These lifeforms on the screen are celluloid images that are fading away. That . . .

T: something called peace -there such a moment where people are pretty tired of fighting **M/A:** Yes, that is the crux of the matter. Could say the Sasquatch in the room is the story that needs to be talked about – not these lifeforms that can barely walk: the walking dead is what we're watching!

T: it's the truth - how they get the clones all fixed up, programmed, and put them on the screen

M/A: the special effects of the borg, the horror show we're watching called The News

T: there's a lot of focus: people are watching Washington all over the world; they are not telling the truth that the US started the war over in Ukraine on both sides . . .

M/A: The war really began when Enki and Enlil took the prominent stage, and the people were under the sway of the mind control and here we are, full circle.

It's ending at this moment - that is why they are scared. . . We'll keep it clean - love and kindness is the answer- liquid light is what is being served; it's a lot tastier than that other stuff.

T: just send more love

M/A: Indeed

T: (She's) Feeling like this will come to a quick conclusion . . .what do you think?

M/A: We would concur; it s

T: we are going through Lion's Gate in a few days.

M/A: We are, and the energies pouring in; let's say keep your seat belt on for the ride.

T: OK.

M/A: the answers come from within. To put it simply: the story of the old timeline of masters of the universe is over: Skelator has been put to bed, along with his buddies and the people of Eternia are in bliss

Speaking about cosmic stories that intervene with this reality, many other parallel multi universes - all the concepts, the ideas of the various realms - we've all experienced so many different places that, rather than power without love, it's time for the power of love - it's the order of the day

We'd better be on our way

Greetings - and Happy Birthday - Spring Chicken!

T: 76 adds up to 13, your number, Mother!

M/A: Yes!

T: gotta hang out with knowing You at the deepest level

M/A: Indeed. Maybe We're going to take a little dance to that realm of what is 13.

T: What IS 13?

M/A: the energies of 12 +1.

Yes, the Admiral has this story in charge, along with the Captain, and how we can best help the people is to inner stand and know we are creating heaven on earth at this time, even though it looks like Mordor, and this is how we change our thoughts; It is a simple matter, yet moving energies, space/time, matter - gotta use The Force - it's in here (heart) in order to get to space, gotta go through the heart

Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant One . . .

Kodoish, Kodoish, Kodoish Adonai `Tsebayoth iliahu iliahu iliahu Yod Hey Vod Hey YHWH

Holy holy holy is the Lord God of Hosts Illumine Illumine Illumine Yod Hey Vod Hey of the Living Everlasting Light The Revealed Name to our Father universe of the Living God behind all Creator Gods

RAMA RETURNS: Just remember being in a cocoon-like body of water and the water was pink, and kind of yellowish. Remembers lilies and lotus flowers sitting on the water surface and dragon flies and the sound that the cicadas make on a hot day - - not sure where he was. The pink yellowish water was quite amazing with the lotus flowers and lilies

T: remembers when he took her up the mountain and she walked to the top of the mountain – followed the water to the top and saw lilies up there

DEMOCRACY NOW

Headlines 2023-08-04 Headlines August 04, 2023

https://www.democracynow.org/2023-08-04

2023-08-04 Trump & the KKK Act: Carol Anderson on Reconstruction-Era Voting Rights Law Cited in Trump Indictment

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/8/4/trump_not_guilty_indictments

2023-08-04 Blowback in Africa: U.S.-Trained Officer Overthrows Pro-U.S. Leader in Niger, Site of U.S. Drone Base

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/8/4/niger ajala turse

2023-08-02 Words Weave Magic • OMTV Ep. 25

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsBGmdyRTtA&ab_channel=Dr.TheresaBullard **25:44**

In Episode 25 of QMTV, titled "Words Weave Magick," we delve into the profound significance of sound and language in shaping our reality. Our words serve as reflections of the essence of sound itself, allowing us to explore their deeper meanings. Sound plays a fundamental role in creation, influencing matter, and our words leave lasting imprints on the fabric of existence.

Throughout this episode, we unravel the multi-dimensional nature of language, discovering its ability to activate our spiritual potential and assist in manifesting our desires. Join us as we explore the mysteries of language and sound, unlocking



the secrets to harnessing our creative power and living a life of purpose and fulfillment. Don't miss this transformative episode on Quantum Minds TV.

Reading:

SEE BELOW FOR THE ENTIRE ARTICLE

2023-08-04 The Quantum Leap: A New Earth Is Calling, and It Is Ready For You!

https://dna-awakening.org/the-quantum-leap-a-new-earth-is-calling-and-it-is-ready-for-you/#more-5564

by **DNA AWAKENING**



What if I told you that the Earth you know and love is about to change forever? That in a matter of years, maybe even months, the planet will undergo a radical transformation that will usher in a new era of existence for humanity and all life forms. That this is not a fantasy or a prophecy, but a scientific fact based on the laws of physics and the cycles of the cosmos. Would you believe me? Would you be ready for it?

Audio: Aurora Ray Unveiling the Mysteries of Ascension: A Guide to Spiritual Awakening 6:06

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUau8H5-53U&ab channel=AuroraRay



Closing: Rainbird

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NOTES

2023-08-04 Headlines

August 04, 2023 https://www.democracynow.org/2023-08-04

Trump Pleads Not Guilty to Charges He Plotted to Overturn 2020 Election

Aug 04, 2023



Image Credit: JANE ROSENBERG

Former President Donald Trump has pleaded not guilty to four felony charges over his efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential election. Trump entered the plea Thursday in the same federal district court in Washington, D.C., where more than a thousand of his supporters have faced criminal charges over the January 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol. Prosecutors led by special counsel Jack Smith requested a speedy trial, while Trump's legal team asked the magistrate judge for more time to review documents and evidence in the case. It's part of Trump's legal strategy to delay the criminal cases against him until after the 2024 election. Trump's first pretrial hearing is set for August 28.

Third Trump Ally Charged over Alleged Plot to Tamper with Michigan Voting Machines

Aug 04, 2023



In Michigan, prosecutors have charged a third ally of President Trump over an alleged plot to access and tamper with voting machines in a bid to help overturn Joe Biden's 2020 election victory. Attorney Stefanie Lambert pleaded not guilty Thursday to four criminal charges, including "undue possession of a voting machine" and conspiracy.

Amnesty Warns of "Rampant" War Crimes Against Civilians in Sudan



In Sudan, the United Nations warns violence between the army and the rival paramilitary Rapid Support Forces has displaced nearly 4 million people since fighting broke out in April. Nearly 1 million of those displaced have left Sudan to seek refuge in other countries. Of those who remain, more than 6 million — or around 13% of Sudan's population — are listed as one step away from famine. Doctors report 70% of Sudan's hospitals are not functioning. And on Thursday, Amnesty International warned extensive war crimes are being committed by all of Sudan's warring parties, with civilians killed in both deliberate and indiscriminate attacks, and women and girls subjected to sexual violence. This is Amnesty International's regional director for East Africa, Sarah Jackson.

Sarah Jackson: "The conflict in Sudan is not getting even nearly the kind of attention that the conflict in Ukraine has. The humanitarian response has not been to the same level, as well, and nor has been the willingness of countries to receive Sudanese who need to flee."

Ukraine Says Sea Drones Damaged Russian Warship in Black Sea

Aug 04, 2023



Ukraine's Navy says it has successfully used a pair of "sea drones" to strike a Russian warship in the Black Sea. Grainy video shared on social media by Ukrainian officials appears to show one of the uncrewed vessels rapidly approaching an amphibious Russian landing ship before the feed cuts out. Ukraine says about 100 Russian sailors were aboard the warship when it was struck by high explosives and that the ship was later seen listing to one side as it was towed back to port. Russia's Defense Ministry claims it thwarted the

overnight attack.

Blinken Accuses Russia of Assaulting Global Food System with Attacks on Ukraine's Granaries Aug 04, 2023



At the United Nations, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Thursday accused Russia of assaulting the global food system, saying hunger must not be "weaponized." Blinken's remarks came after Russia stepped up attacks on Ukraine's agriculture and port facilities in the Black Sea, and on an inland port across the Danube River from Romania, where a Russian attack Wednesday destroyed nearly 40,000 tons of grain.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken: "What has Russia's response been to the world's distress and outrage? Bombing Ukrainian granaries, mining port entrances, threatening to attack any vessel in the Black Sea, no matter its flag, no matter its cargo."

Greenpeace Activists Cover U.K. Prime Minister's Home with Anti-Oil Message

Aug 04, 2023



Image Credit: Greenpeace

In the United Kingdom, five Greenpeace activists were arrested Thursday after climbing on the roof of Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's mansion in northern England and draping his home in black fabric and displaying a banner reading "no new oil." The peaceful action comes in response to Sunak's approval of over 100 new licenses for oil and gas drilling in the North Sea to maximize domestic extraction of fossil fuels. This is Alex Wilson from Greenpeace speaking from Sunak's mansion's roof.

Alex Wilson: "We're all here because Rishi Sunak has opened the door for a new drilling frenzy in the North Sea while large parts of our world are literally on fire. This will be a disaster for the climate. It won't lower your energy bills. It's not going to boost our energy security. The only people that are going to profit anything from this at all are the big oil companies. So Rishi needs to pick a side: oil profits or our future on a habitable planet."

Tribunal Finds Mexico Guilty of Ecocide and Ethnocide over Mayan Rail Project



The International Rights of Nature Tribunal has found Mexico guilty of ecocide and ethnocide over the Mexican government's construction of a massive railway project running through the rainforest of the Yucatán Peninsula. The project, known as Tren Maya, has drawn grand opposition from local Indigenous Maya communities, environmentalists and archaeologists, who say the railway will cause irreparable harm to biodiversity, sacred Mayan sites and communities in the region. The rail project is spearheaded by the administration of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, who claims it will benefit tourism and expand access to transportation to local communities living in remote regions of southern Mexico.

Appeals Court Allows Biden Administration to Continue Blocking Asylum Claims at U.S. Border

Aug 04, 2023



In immigration news, a federal appeals court is temporarily allowing the Biden administration to continue enforcing a measure that blocks migrants from seeking asylum at the southern border without first applying for protection in a country they passed through on their journey to the United States. A 9th Circuit Court of Appeals panel ruled 2 to 1 in favor of Biden's asylum ban, saying the policy should remain in place while a lawsuit brought by immigration and human rights groups is resolved in court. Last month, the measure was deemed illegal by a separate federal court in California.

Minnesota Trooper Kills Black Father Ricky Cobb II During Traffic Stop



In Minnesota, family members of 33-year-old Ricky Cobb II are demanding justice after his killing by a state trooper during a traffic stop in Minneapolis Monday. Three troopers pulled over Cobb for allegedly having his taillights off. They refused to tell him why he should exit his vehicle, which he declined to do. As they tried to force him to exit, the car took off, and one officer fired a fatal shot into the vehicle. The troopers — Ryan Londregan, Brett Seide and Garrett Erickson — have been placed on administrative leave. Minnesota Governor Tim Walz said he assured Cobb's family a thorough investigation would be undertaken. Cobb was a father of five.

Mississippi Police Officers Plead Guilty to Civil Rights Violations in Torture of 2 Black Men

Aug 04, 2023



Image Credit: Black Lawyers For Justice

In Mississippi, six white former police officers who called themselves "the Goon Squad" have pleaded guilty to raiding a home and torturing two Black men earlier this year. The men were handcuffed, beaten, tasered and sexually abused as officers shouted racial slurs. One of the men, Michael Corey Jenkins, was shot through the mouth, with a bullet lacerating his tongue and breaking his jaw before exiting his neck. Malik Shabazz, a lawyer for the two survivors, said the guilty pleas were "historic for justice against rogue police torture and police brutality" and that all the defendants should expect to receive time behind bars when they are sentenced in November. Some of the guilty men could face life in prison.

Louisiana Ex-Trooper Acquitted for Beating Black Motorist During Traffic Stop

Aug 04, 2023



In Louisiana, an ex-trooper was acquitted of violating the civil rights of Black motorist Aaron Larry Bowman. Former trooper Jacob Brown struck Bowman at least 18 times as he was pinned to the ground and repeatedly said, "I'm not resisting."

Ron DeSantis Increases Violent Rhetoric on Campaign Trail



Florida Governor Ron DeSantis is drawing fire for his increasingly violent rhetoric on the campaign trail as he seeks the Republican Party's nomination for president. On Sunday, DeSantis told a crowd at a New Hampshire campaign event that members of Mexican drug cartels at the U.S.-Mexico border would be "shot stone cold dead." He also said this about members of the federal bureaucracy.

Gov. Ron DeSantis: "We're going to have all these deep state people. You know, we're going to start slitting throats on day one."

On Thursday, the union representing men's professional basketball players sounded the alarm over a \$50,000 donation made by the Orlando Magic to a super PAC supporting DeSantis's campaign. The NBA Players Association said in a statement, "The Magic's donation does not represent player support for the recipient." The Orlando Magic is owned by the DeVos family, prominent Republicans whose ranks include Betsy DeVos, who served as education secretary under Donald Trump.

Texas A&M Reaches \$1M Settlement with Black Professor Whose Tenure Offer Was Rescinded



Texas A&M University has agreed to pay \$1 million to settle a lawsuit brought by a Black journalism professor whose offer of a tenure-track position was rescinded after a conservative website highlighted her work on diversity, equity and inclusion. Kathleen McElroy says Texas A&M's offer of tenure was reduced to a five-year contract position amid conservative backlash, and later further reduced to a one-year appointment from which she could be terminated at any time. McElroy says throughout the process she felt judged because of her race and gender. In January, a new Texas law is set to take effect banning programs and training that promote diversity, equity and inclusion. Texas A&M President M. Katherine Banks resigned in the wake of the scandal, calling the negative press it generated "a distraction." This comes after another Texas A&M professor, opioid expert Joy Alonzo, was temporarily suspended after a student accused her of disparaging Texas Republican Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick during a lecture.

"They Could Not Beat People Power": Voters Reelect TN Dems Expelled by GOP for Gun Violence Protest

Aug 04, 2023



In Tennessee, two Black Democratic lawmakers who were expelled by a Republican supermajority from the state House of Representatives have won reelection. Justin Pearson of Memphis and Justin Jones of Nashville were expelled in April for leading peaceful protests against gun violence inside the Tennessee General Assembly as thousands rallied to demand gun control in the wake of the Covenant elementary school shooting in Nashville. Both lawmakers were quickly reappointed to their former seats ahead of Thursday's special elections, when they were permanently reelected. This is state Representative Justin Jones speaking after his victory.

Rep. Justin Jones: "Today's election is a reminder that their attacks on democracy will not happen unchallenged. The people of District 52 have sent an overwhelming message, a mandate, to my Republican colleagues, that we're going to stand up and fight back, and that we're going to build a multiracial, multigenerational movement to transform this state and move our state forward, to fight for a state where we protect kids and not guns, to fight for a state where we protect each other, our humanity and our dignity. And so, we've treated this election seriously because we knew that they spent so much money trying to buy this election. But they could not beat people power."

Supporters: "Yes!"

Click here to see all our interviews with Justin Jones.

2023-08-04 Trump & the KKK Act: Carol Anderson on Reconstruction-Era Voting Rights Law Cited in Trump Indictment

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/8/4/trump_not_guilty_indictments

Image Credit: Bill Hennessy

On Thursday, former President Donald Trump pleaded not guilty to trying to overturn the results of his 2020 election loss. Trump appeared before a magistrate judge in Washington's federal courthouse two days after he was indicted. A key part of the election interference charges Trump faces relates to a Civil Warera rights law that protects the right of citizens to have their vote counted. We speak with Carol Anderson,



author of One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression Is Destroying Our Democracy and White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide, about Trump's attempt to wipe out the votes of Americans of color and the intimidation of Black voters and election workers. "This is the kind of terror that is reminiscent of what happened during Reconstruction that led to the KKK Act that Trump is charged with," says Anderson. "That kind of terror was the intimidation of Black people who were exercising the right to vote."

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Related Story

StoryAug 02, 2023<u>"Presidents Are Not Kings": Unpacking Historic</u>
Indictment of Donald Trump for Plot to Overturn Election

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AMY GOODMAN: Former President Donald Trump has pleaded not guilty to four felony charges over his efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential election. Trump entered the plea Thursday in the same federal district court in Washington, D.C., where more than a thousand of his supporters have faced criminal charges over the January 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol.

Prosecutors led by special counsel Jack Smith requested a speedy trial, while Trump's legal team asked the magistrate judge for more time to review documents and evidence in the case. It's part of Trump's legal strategy to delay the criminal cases against him until after the 2024 election, which he hopes he'll win and then could pardon himself. Trump's first pretrial hearing is set for August 28th.

Trump spoke after the arraignment.

DONALD TRUMP: When you look at what's happening, this is a persecution of a political opponent. This was never supposed to happen in America. This is the persecution of the person that's leading by very, very substantial numbers in the Republican primary and leading Biden by a lot. So, if you can't beat him, you persecute him or you prosecute him. We can't let this happen in America.

AMY GOODMAN: Going forward, the legal proceedings in this case will be presided over by U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan, an Obama appointee who has issued some of the toughest sentences for the January 6 rioters, often going beyond what the prosecutors asked for. Judge Chutkan is Black, as are many of those now prosecuting Trump — Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg, New York Attorney General Letitia James, Fulton County DA Fani Willis. They've all received racist threats.

Meanwhile, the Fulton County Sheriff Patrick Labat, who's also Black, said Tuesday the former president would not receive any special treatment if Trump is indicted in Georgia, where he's being investigated for election interference. Labat said, quote, "It doesn't matter your status, we have mugshots ready for you."

A key part of the election interference charges Trump faces relate to a Civil War-era rights law that protects the right of citizens to have their votes counted.

For more, we go to Atlanta, where we're joined by Carol Anderson, professor at Emory University, author of many books, including *One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression Is Destroying Our Democracy*.

Professor, welcome back to *Democracy Now!* It's great to have you with us. First of all, why don't you just respond to the overall indictment and President Trump's appearance yesterday in the Washington, D.C., court, pleading not guilty?

CAROL ANDERSON: The indictment was a long time coming, and it reaffirmed the belief in the rule of law, which it looked like for so long that he would be able to once again skate through, escape the consequences, being held accountable, for his assault on American democracy. And so, seeing him there, watching the sketches as they were coming through, listening to the journalists talking about what was happening in that courtroom, it was like, "Finally, finally,"

AMY GOODMAN: And so, talk about what legal analysts are now describing as a very elegant, streamlined series of charges, only four. They don't, by the way, include seditious conspiracy or insurrection. Talk about the significance of each one.

CAROL ANDERSON: So, what Jack Smith has laid out is the conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government, the conspiracy to basically subvert a political legal process for the United States. And the one that really attracts me is the conspiracy against rights, which is the right to vote, because underlying the Big Lie was the big lie of voter fraud. And that big lie of voter fraud was targeted at communities, at cities that have sizable Black and minority populations, and it was trying to delegitimize the votes of those American citizens.

And so, this is so streamlined because there are six — in that indictment, there are six unindicted co-conspirators, but they're not on the charge itself. It is the *United States of America v. Donald J. Trump*. And so, that's to make sure that this thing is clean, it's smooth. There are none of these pieces like we have with Mar-a-Lago with multiple defendants, with classified documents, that this thing can go through. So, the defense's claims of "we're having an inordinate amount of discovery that we have to go through, of the documents and the witness testimonies that the prosecutor has amassed," so much of that they already have from the January 6th committee hearings. What's new, for instance, is Mike Pence, who went before the grand jury and told about his conversations with Trump.

AMY GOODMAN: I want to talk about Georgia, where you are. You're a professor at Emory University in Atlanta. It was mentioned something like 48 times. Now, I'm talking about this federal indictment, not what's happening right now. I mean, a grand jury is meeting today once again in Atlanta, and those charges might come down anytime from the DA, Fani Willis. But Georgia being mentioned 48 times in the federal

indictment, and then, of course, Michigan mentioned scores of times, as well. Talk about the significance of what happened in Georgia and how that relates to the federal issue.

CAROL ANDERSON: Yes. So, Georgia was targeted — targeted hot, heavy and hard — by the Trump regime. So, you have that infamous phone call from Trump to Brad Raffensperger, who was the secretary of state, where Trump is saying, "All I need is 11,780 votes. Just find me 11,000 votes," and Raffensperger pushing back, saying, "The data don't support that. We don't have those numbers." And Trump is just demanding that Raffensperger overturn the will of the voters here in Georgia and just conjure up some votes and plug a number in there that says that Trump won the 16 Electoral College votes out of Georgia.

When that didn't work, they also had the fake elector scheme, where you have — the legal electors are already meeting in the statehouse, as the law requires. Then, the fake electors then sneak into the statehouse on December 14th, and they're meeting there, and they actually sign a document that says that they are the electors from the state of Georgia and that they then cast their 16 Electoral College votes for Donald J. Trump. And then they send that document to the federal judge, to the president of the Senate and to the head of the National Archives, giving the aura that this is legitimate, when it is actually illegitimate.

And then you have Mark Meadows coming into Georgia at a counting center as a recount is happening over absentee ballots. I mean, hard, hot and heavy pressure on Georgia to overturn the will of the voters.

And let me be really clear about the will of the voters. Ninety percent of Black voters in Georgia voted for Joseph Biden. Almost 70% of Hispanic voters in Georgia voted for Joseph Biden. And more than 60% of Asian American voters in Georgia voted for Joseph Biden. So this attempt to wipe out those votes is wiping out the votes of sizable blocs of minority voters, who did not vote for Donald J. Trump.

AMY GOODMAN: I want to talk about the issue of violence, because Donald Trump's defenders are continually saying — I'm thinking of people like Kevin McCarthy — right? — the House speaker — saying, "He's just being accused of thought crimes, things he thought or said, and anyone can say or think things."

But this is *The Atlantic* journalist Adam Serwer, who was pointing out on social media, "The indictment makes clear that Donald Trump and his accomplices planned to seize power by force and then maintain that power through the mass murder of American citizens by their own military."

The indictment says this: "Also on January 4, when Co-Conspirator 2 acknowledged to the Defendant's Senior Advisor that no court would support his proposal, the Senior Advisor told Co-Conspirator 2, '[Y]ou're going to cause riots in the streets.' Co-Conspirator 2 responded that there had previously been points in the nation's history where violence was necessary to protect the republic."

If you could respond to that, Professor Anderson, and also the significance, of course, of Mark Meadows, the chief of staff, who you just mentioned, who might well have flipped right now and be working with Jack Smith?

CAROL ANDERSON: Absolutely. So, you have not only Eastman, but you also have Jeffrey Clark of the Department of Justice being warned that this attempt to override the election, overturn the will of the voters, would lead to folks being out in the streets, would lead to riots. And the response was, "Well, that's what the Insurrection Act is for." So, there was a willingness to use the U.S. military against American citizens who were protesting for their rights, protesting, fighting for this democracy, protesting because the will of the voters had been overturned by a cabal of co-conspirators, a cabal who were in league with Donald J. Trump. And so, that willingness to use violence to overturn democracy is — it just tells you how deeply embedded this drive was to keep him in power, and the disregard they had for the lives of American citizens, who withstood a pandemic, a deadly pandemic, to go and vote, who understood that democracy was on the line and were willing to do what they needed to do.

So, in terms of violence, I also have to talk about Rudy Giuliani coming down here to Georgia for three legislative hearings, where he spews — he and his team spew a bevy of lies about dead people voting, but particularly about Shaye Moss and Ruby Freeman, two Black poll workers in Fulton County at State Farm

Arena, that Rudy Giuliani equated, made equivalent, with drug dealers, passing around USB ports as if they were heroin, as if it was heroin and cocaine, so linking election workers, Black election workers, with drug dealers. And then those two women receive enormous death threats, death threats that are so horrific that it causes Ruby Freeman to — the FBI warns her that she has to leave her home for protection. That's the kind of violence that this kind of cabal was willing to generate in order to keep Donald Trump in power against the will of the voters. That's why Georgia is so prominent in this discussion.

AMY GOODMAN: I want to talk about what's just happened, the latest news with Rudy Giuliani, Professor Anderson. In recent weeks, Trump's lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, said he will not contest, so he's admitting that he lied, that he will not contest that he made, quote, "false statements" about those two Georgia election workers in the aftermath of the 2020 election. I want to go through exactly what you're talking about. Ruby Freeman and Shaye Moss, a mother and daughter, are suing Giuliani for defamation for accusing them of manipulating ballots in Fulton County, Georgia, on Election Day 2020. The Georgia elections board found Giuliani's statements to be false and unsubstantiated, according to an investigation by the Georgia elections board. This is California Congressmember Adam Schiff introducing video of Giuliani's remarks during that hearing in the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the Capitol.

REP. ADAM SCHIFF: I'd like to show you some of the statements that Rudy Giuliani made in a second hearing before the Georgia state legislators, a week after that video clip from State Farm Arena was first circulated by Mr. Giuliani and President Trump. I want to advise viewers that these statements are completely false and also deeply disturbing.

RUDY GIULIANI: Tape earlier in the day of Ruby Freeman and Shaye Freeman Moss and one other gentleman quite obviously surreptitiously passing around USB ports as if they are vials of heroin or cocaine. I mean, it's our — it's obvious to anyone who's a criminal investigator or prosecutor they are engaged in surreptitious illegal activity, again, that day. And that's a week ago, and they're still walking around Georgia lying.

AMY GOODMAN: The Black former Georgia state election worker that Giuliani is referring to also testified before the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack. This is Shaye Moss being questioned by California Congressmember Adam Schiff.

REP. ADAM SCHIFF: How did you first become aware that Rudy Giuliani, the president's lawyer, was accusing you and your mother of a crime?

SHAYE MOSS: I was at work, like always, and the former chief, Mr. Jones, asked me to come to his office. And when I went to his office, the former director, Mr. Barron, was in there, and they showed me a video on their computer. It was just like a very short clip of us working at State Farm, and it had someone on the video, like, talking over the video, just saying that we were doing things that we weren't supposed to do, just lying throughout the video. And that's when I first found out about it. ...

REP. ADAM SCHIFF: In one of the videos we just watched, Mr. Giuliani accused you and your mother of passing some sort of USB drive to each other. What was your mom actually handing you on that video?

SHAYE MOSS: A ginger mint.

AMY GOODMAN: So, there you have Shaye Moss. And the way their lives were turned upside down, Professor Anderson, I mean, men coming to their homes demanding they come out, talk about the significance of this. And now it's shown that the tape is doctored, and Giuliani is admitting that he lied.

CAROL ANDERSON: Right. And this is — and so, this is the kind of terror that is reminiscent of what happened during Reconstruction that led to the KKK Act that Trump is charged with, because that kind of terror was the intimidation of Black people who were exercising their right to vote, the intimidation of Black

people who believed that they were American citizens, the intimidation of Black people who were engaged in the electoral process. This is what was happening based on a lie, where Giuliani admits that he lied.

Even worse, I have to say, is that these lies about election fraud, about massive rampant voter fraud, becomes the basis for the voter suppression laws that many states, like Georgia, then put in place. So, you've got an incredible array of laws in place, pieces of those laws dealing with absentee ballots, dealing with drop boxes, dealing with mobile voting units, dealing with places like State Farm, that Fulton County was able to use to deal with the fact that it had to close 90 polling places, and so this was a way to provide a way for people to be able to vote. So, the state using Rudy Giuliani's big lie and Donald Trump's big lie to justify shutting down access to the ballot box to minority communities, because the vast number of drop boxes that were shut down after the passage of S.B. 202 were in the Atlanta metropolitan area. So it went from over a hundred drop boxes to fewer than 25 drop boxes.

AMY GOODMAN: And I wanted to ask you about the people involved in these cases, those who are bringing them, judging them. The judge in the new D.C. case is Black. That's U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan, Jamaican American. Now many of those prosecuting Trump are Black. Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg, New York AG Letitia James, Fulton County DA Fani Willis have all received racist threats. And then you have Patrick Labat, the Fulton County sheriff, saying, "He's going to get a mugshot if he's charged in our courts." Can you talk about the significance of this, and then particularly Fani Willis and Labat, who they are, since you're in Atlanta?

CAROL ANDERSON: So, this is why you have this — also this kind of massive pushback about Trump can't get a fair trial in D.C., he can't get a fair trial in Manhattan, he can't get a fair trial in Fulton County, because of the Blackness of those spaces and because Black people and Black elected officials are seen as illegitimate. Think about Trump with birtherism, with Obama. That was an attack on Obama's legitimacy, legitimacy as an American citizen, legitimacy as an elected political official.

When Blackness becomes illegitimate — so, I think about Mo Brooks, the congressman out of Alabama, who said that if we only count the legal votes, then Trump would be in his second term. So, those legal votes are white people's votes. The illegal votes are those from African Americans. And so, therefore, folks like Fani Willis, folks like Judge Chutkan, folks like Tish James, folks like Alvin Bragg, they're not legal, they're not legitimate, so they can be discounted.

So, when you get a charge that says, "I want a change of venue from D.C. to West Virginia," that is sending the signal about the illegitimacy of Black people as American citizens. This, again, is what happened after the Civil War, where the Ku Klux Klan rose up and said, "These aren't American citizens. The 14th Amendment does not apply to them. The 15th Amendment does not apply to them. We can do to them whatever we want." And that's what you're seeing replicated here in the 21st century.

AMY GOODMAN: So, now, Professor Anderson, there's a lot being made of: All Trump wants to do at this point — I mean, he's made history every time here, and now the third indictment, and we're expecting to see the fourth any day now in Atlanta — is delay these trials, so that if he were to become president, or he had an ally who became president, he could be pardoned. But a president can only pardon on federal crimes.

CAROL ANDERSON: Right.

AMY GOODMAN: You've got Fani Willis in Atlanta. That is not federal; that's state. So, if you can talk about what we're about to see in Atlanta, the grand jury now meeting today?

CAROL ANDERSON: Yeah. So, one of the things that Fani Willis has been really clear on, she's like, "We're ready to go." And so, that means, for me, that an indictment is coming soon. And Fani Willis doesn't play. She does not play. And so, you can expect to see a really crisp, clean trial, with locked-in evidence. And if he is convicted here in Georgia, if an indictment comes down and he is convicted, then it means that he won't be able to pardon himself.

And so, part of what I also want to push back on is the assumption that Trump will win the next election. I saw a recent poll that 63% of Americans do not like Donald Trump. And what that means then is that we have the power as American citizens to make sure that this man, who attacked American democracy, who attacked the foundations of the rule of law, does not regain power and have the ability to insert himself in a place where we have an autocracy, where even the memory of a democracy will be abolished. We have the power to stop this thing by registering to vote and by getting out to vote and ensuring that Donald Trump is not the next president of the United States.

AMY GOODMAN: Carol Anderson, I want to thank you for being with us, professor at Emory University, author of many books, including *One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression Is Destroying Our Democracy*.

Coming up, we look at Niger, a week after a military coup ousted the country's president. One of the coup leaders in Niger has received U.S. military training, had met with a top U.S. officer at the U.S. drone base in Niger just last month. U.S.-trained officers involved with something like 11 coups in Africa over the last decade or so. Stay with us.

2023-08-04 Blowback in Africa: U.S.-Trained Officer Overthrows Pro-U.S. Leader in Niger, Site of U.S. Drone Base

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/8/4/niger_ajala_turse

Last Wednesday, Nigerien military officers announced they had overthrown President Mohamed Bazoum, a close ally of the United States and France. ECOWAS, an economic bloc of West African countries, has threatened to take military action unless the coup is reversed by Sunday. But the leader of Niger's new military junta has vowed to defy any attempts to restore the former president to power, while Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea — all, like Niger, former French colonies that have



undergone military coups in the past three years — have warned against any foreign intervention in Niger. Meanwhile, Niger's new leaders have announced the country will end military cooperation with France, whose outsized presence in its former colony is a major source of resentment in the resource-rich but still poverty-stricken nation. We speak to Nick Turse, an investigative journalist and contributing writer for *The Intercept*. He recently revealed that one of the leaders of the coup in Niger, Brigadier General Moussa Salaou Barmou, was previously trained by the U.S. military, as were the leaders of nearly a dozen other coups in West Africa since 2008. We also speak to Olayinka Ajala, a senior lecturer in politics and international relations at Leeds Beckett University, who says Niger and its neighbors must tread carefully in order to avoid a "very bloody" military conflict.

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Links "What caused the coup in Niger? An expert outlines three driving factors"

- "Niger Coup Leader Joins Long Line of U.S.-Trained Mutineers"
- "Soldiers Mutiny in U.S.-Allied Niger"
- "Tomorrow's Battlefield: U.S. Proxy Wars and Secret Ops in Africa"

Transcript

This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form.

AMY GOODMAN: This is *Democracy Now!*, democracynow.org, *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman, as we turn to Niger, a week after a military coup ousted President Mohamed Bazoum. The leader of Niger's new military junta has vowed to defy any attempts to restore the ousted president to power. ECOWAS, a bloc of West African countries, have threatened to take military action unless the coup is reversed by Sunday. That's August 6th. Meanwhile, the leaders of Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea have all warned against foreign intervention in Niger.

On Thursday, President Biden issued his first statement on the crisis, saying, quote, "I call for President Bazoum and his family to be immediately released, and for the preservation of Niger's hard-earned democracy."

Bazoum is a close ally of the United States and France. The U.S. has over a thousand troops in Niger, where the United States also runs a major drone base. Earlier today, Niger's new leaders announced they would end military cooperation with France, which ruled Niger until 1960.

On Thursday, thousands of supporters of the coup rallied to decry international sanctions being placed on Niger, which is one of the poorest nations in the world despite being a leading exporter of uranium.

COUP SUPPORTER: [translated] People are coming. The people are coming. And we're going to demonstrate to all the ECOWAS countries and all those who are taking unpopular and inhumane measures against Niger, which is in the process of freeing itself from the yoke of colonization.

AMY GOODMAN: We're joined now by two guests. Olayinka Ajala is senior lecturer in politics and international relations at Leeds Beckett University. His new <u>piece</u> for *The Conversation* is titled "What caused the coup in Niger? An expert outlines three driving factors." He's joining us from Glasgow, Scotland. And in New Jersey, we're joined by Nick Turse, investigative journalist, contributing writer for *The Intercept*, recently <u>revealed</u> one of the leaders of the coup in Niger, the Brigadier General Moussa Salaou Barmou, was trained by the U.S. military, recently met with the head of U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Lieutenant General Jonathan Braga, at the U.S. drone base in Niger. African officers trained by the U.S. military have now taken part in 11 coups in West Africa since 2008.

We're going to start there, Nick Turse. If you can explain what's taken place in the last week, and particularly the U.S. connection to the coup leaders?

NICK TURSE: Yes. Thanks so much for having me on, Amy.

You know, as you said, the United States has trained a number of coup leaders in West Africa over recent years. And this is part of the U.S. security strategy. I mean, they've flooded this region, the West African Sahel, with a tremendous amount of security assistance, really, since 9/11. They've poured a tremendous amount of security assistance dollars into the region. They've built a plethora of small U.S. outposts. You mentioned one of them, the U.S. drone base at Agadez. You know, they've built up militaries in the region at the expense of building up civilian institutions and civil society.

And this U.S. security assistance-U.S. counterterrorism paradigm really hasn't been successful over this time. Back in 2002, 2003, when security assistance to Niger first began, the State Department counted just nine terrorist attacks in sub-Saharan Africa. Last year, in just Niger and its neighbors Burkina Faso and Mali alone, the Pentagon counted more than 2,700. So you're talking about something like a 30,000% increase. So, there's been a tremendous amount of security assistance poured into the region, but the metrics have all gone in the wrong way.

AMY GOODMAN: And, Olayinka Ajala, if you can talk about the significance of that U.S. connection? I mean, on the one hand, you have President Biden saying he wants democracy to be assured, although he didn't, interestingly, say Bazoum must be restored. He just said the family must be protected, and democracy must be preserved. But the significance of the U.S. connection, the French connection, and the fact that those who are involved with the coup are couching this as an anti-colonialist move?

OLAYINKA AJALA: Yeah, absolutely. The U.S. and France have significant interests in the country, military and economic interests. You mentioned the fact that Niger is the seventh-largest producer of uranium in the world. And most of these mineral — natural resources are mined by French companies. So, the citizens in the country are seeing a lot of military installations, the drone base in Agadez, lots of military formations around the country, without substantive economic growth. So, this is one of the reasons why we've seen quite large protests in support of this. So, the role of the U.S. and France is one of the reasons, especially in terms of the lack of economic development. But increase in military development and [inaudible] is one of the reasons why all the citizens are actually revolting and supporting this coup.

AMY GOODMAN: And can you talk about who goes out in the street, and also the U.S.-Russia connection? You had some out in the streets after the coup shouting, "Putin! Putin!" But who is going out, and who is staying home?

OLAYINKA AJALA: Well, speaking with people on the ground in Niger, it's almost half and half. But a lot of people who are supporters and lovers of democracy are afraid to go out because of the large military presence, especially in Niamey. So, what I'm hearing on the ground is that it's almost even in terms of people who support the movement or support the military junta and those who are against. But most of the people we've seen protesting are the ones who are in support. So, that is quite tricky. We shouldn't be fooled by the videos of the protests we've seen. A large number of Nigeriens are still in support of democracy.

AMY GOODMAN: Nick Turse, talk about the formation of ECOWAS, who they are. They are threatening to — I don't know if it's move into Niger, they said, to restore the president. Meanwhile, the leaders of Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea have all warned against foreign intervention in Niger to reverse the coup. Over the weekend, Burkina Faso's interim leader,

Ibrahim Traoré, who took power in a coup in September, made international headlines for remarks he made in Moscow during the Russia-African Summit. He criticized what he called "imperialist neocolonialism."

IBRAHIM TRAORÉ: [translated] The questions my generation is asking are the following, if I can summarize. It is that we do not understand how Africa, with so much wealth on our soil, with generous nature, water, sunshine and abundance, how Africa is today the poorest continent. Africa is a hungry continent. And how come there are heads of state all over the world begging? These are the questions we are asking ourselves, and we have no answers so far.

We have the opportunity to forge new relationships, and I hope that these relationships can be the best ones to give our people a better future.

My generation also asks me to say that because of this poverty, they are forced to cross the ocean to try to reach Europe. They die in the ocean. But soon they will no longer have to cross, because they will come to our palaces to seek their daily bread.

As far as what concerns Burkina Faso today, for more than eight years we've been confronted with the most barbaric and the most violent form of imperialist neocolonialism. Slavery continues to impose itself on us. Our predecessors taught us one thing: A slave who cannot assume his own revolt does not deserve to be pitied. We do not feel sorry for ourselves. We do not ask anyone to feel sorry for us. The people of Burkina Faso have decided to fight, to fight against terrorism, in order to relaunch their development.

AMY GOODMAN: That's Burkina Faso's interim leader, Ibrahim Traoré, who actually is wearing a hat, harkening back to previous Burkina Faso leader Thomas Sankara, who was assassinated. But, Nick Turse, if you can talk about what he is saying in the — it's also interesting this happened at the Russia-Africa Summit in St. Petersburg that Putin addressed. Far fewer leaders from Africa came than last time.

NICK TURSE: That's right. You know, I actually spoke with a few sources of mine in Burkina Faso over the last couple days. I've done some significant reporting there over the past years. And, you know, I've heard from some that that speech really resonated a great deal, that the anticolonialist bent of it made a big impact on people. They thought it was a really strong speech. There is a great deal of resistance to French neocolonialism, the French colonialist past there.

I also have heard from people that, you know, they see the situation in Burkina as deteriorating significantly in terms of both terrorist violence, uptick in kidnappings and also in crackdowns of freedom of expression, freedom of the press. So, you have both these things going on there. You know, there are some that really support the government and believe there is more behind this type of rhetoric, and then others who say that this is a smokescreen, and it's just entrenching the power of a military junta that really isn't so interested in fighting against colonialism, neocolonialism, but more interested in entrenching its own power and using that rhetoric for its own benefit.

AMY GOODMAN: So, if you can talk more about the U.S. training that goes on of African leaders, talk more about Secretary of State Blinken just having visited Niger, and the significance of this drone base, where it's used, the one in Niger, how the U.S. uses it as a launching pad in the world?

NICK TURSE: Yes. Air Base 201, it's located in Agadez, which is in the central north of the country. And this is really the linchpin of U.S. military outposts, which have proliferated over the last several years in West Africa. This is a surveillance hub. It's used for anti-terrorist activities. As you said, drones are launched from here, including armed drones, MQ-9 Reapers. So, this is an exceptionally important base. It was built at a price tag of over \$110 million and maintained each year at a price tag of about \$20 million to \$30 million. So it's a significant facility.

The U.S. Africa Command, the umbrella military organization for U.S. military activity on the continent, they often claim that these aren't U.S. bases, that the U.S. doesn't have bases in Africa outside of Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti. I've been to Air Base 201. They wouldn't let me on board it, on board the base, but, you know, I traveled to its gates, and I observed it from the ground and from the air. This is a substantial military base. There's no other word for it.

And I think the United States is now doing everything it can to make sure that it can continue operations there. You know, you mentioned Secretary Blinken. He and the State Department as a whole tried to stay away, I think, from calling this a coup, when it's quite obviously one. But I think they want to keep their options open. You know, once a coup is declared, the U.S. is supposed to stop most of its security assistance. There are ways around that. There are loopholes. I reported recently that in neighboring Mali, where you have a U.S.-led junta there, there is still some trickle of security aid flowing. The United States finds a way when it needs to. But Niger is so central to the counterterrorism paradigm and security interests in that region, I think they'll do everything they can to keep Air Base 201 in action and as much U.S. military presence there as possible.

AMY GOODMAN: And, Olayinka Ajala, it's interesting that it's Guinea, Burkina Faso and Mali that are warning against military intervention by ECOWAS. ECOWAS did not speak in all of these — the cases of their coups. Do you think that has emboldened the junta in Niger to take over? And what would an ECOWAS intervention look like? And if you can talk about how ECOWAS is seen, the African military alliance, in Africa?

OLAYINKA AJALA: Absolutely. That was what I mentioned in the <u>piece</u> which I wrote earlier in the week, where I stated that one of the reasons for this coup was because ECOWAS did not really do anything significant to deter other countries from — the militaries from other countries from taking power. So, when the coups in Burkina Faso, Guinea and Mali happened, there were couple of sanctions issued against the military regime, but nothing further was done.

But we need to put this in context. One reason why Niger is quite different, in addition to, lately, the country being allied to the U.S., to France, is also the fact that Niger has land border with seven different African countries. So, whatever happens in Niger impacts significantly on many countries in the Sahel and in West Africa. So this is why it is more of interest than the other three countries.

I think, in terms of what ECOWAS is trying to do, a delegation led by the former military president of Nigeria, Abdulsalami Abubakar, returned to ECOWAS headquarters this morning in Abuja without any significant progress. They didn't even see General Tchiani throughout the visit. So this tells us that not a lot has been made in terms of progress or in persuading the junta to step down.

The deadline of Sunday for them to hand over back power to Bazoum or hold and face military intervention or the use of force against them, we don't know how this is going to play out, but it is going to be very bloody. The spokesman for ECOWAS yesterday said this will be the very last

option. But any military attack would be very significant, because we've heard yesterday the leaders of the juntas in the other three countries have threatened to support Niger, and they stated that any attack on Niger will be an attack on them all. So, ECOWAS, they have to tread very carefully, because it's a very tricky situation for everyone.

AMY GOODMAN: And the role of your country, Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, oil-rich nation, what it is threatening right now?

OLAYINKA AJALA: Well, it's really interesting, because Niger is a very important ally to Nigeria, especially in the fight against Boko Haram and the Islamic State-West Africa Province around the Lake Chad. So, it is an ally Nigeria is very keen not to lose, especially in this fight, because substantial gains have been made in the fight in the last couple of years, and they won't want these to be reversed.

Also, in terms of the president of Nigeria, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, being the head of ECOWAS, it has assumed this post in the last few weeks and is keen to put a mark, because it's issued very strong statements against coup, not only in Niger but across the region. Interestingly, in his acceptance speech as the chairman of ECOWAS, he kept mentioning coup, even before this happened. So, this is in relation to what has happened in the other three countries, which I feel Nigeria felt it was a lost opportunity, because if more pressure had been put on either of these countries or all of these other three countries, perhaps this wouldn't have happened in Niger.

AMY GOODMAN: And finally, Nick Turse, what do you think, as an American reporter on Africa, what is the American press and, overall, the press missing when it comes to understanding what's happening here and what can happen?

NICK TURSE: Well, I think a lot of times we're missing deep context on this. One thing that really stood out to me, *The Washington Post* yesterday published an <u>op-ed</u> by the deposed head of state in Niger, President Bazoum. And, you know, he talks about it being the last bastion of democracy in the Sahel. And when I was there earlier this year, I did not find it the most democratic state. If you read State Department reports, you'll see that there are tremendous amounts of abuses of the citizenry there. The military, that we've been backing for years, has committed a tremendous amount of atrocities. And this has built a great deal of ill will within the military itself and within the civilian population. And I think what's missing is that type of context, the understanding of what pumping all of this money into the security apparatus in the Sahel has meant for the people there.

AMY GOODMAN: Well, we're going to have to leave it there. I thank you both so much for being with us, and we'll continue to follow things closely there in Niger. Nick Turse, investigative journalist, contributing writer for *The Intercept*, we will link to your recent pieces, "Niger Coup Leader Joins Long Line of U.S.-Trained Mutineers," as well as "Soldiers Mutiny in U.S-Allied Niger." And, Olayinka Ajala, we thank you so much for being with us from Glasgow, senior lecturer in politics and international relations from Leeds Beckett University. And we will link to your piece, "What caused the coup in Niger? An expert outlines three driving factors." I'm Amy Goodman. Thanks so much for joining us.

2023-08-04 The Quantum Leap: A New Earth Is Calling, and It Is Ready For You!

https://dna-awakening.org/the-quantum-leap-a-new-earth-is-calling-and-it-is-ready-for-you/#more-5564

by **DNA AWAKENING**



What if I told you that the Earth you know and love is about to change forever? That in a matter of years, maybe even months, the planet will undergo a radical transformation that will usher in a new era of existence for humanity and all life forms. That this is not a fantasy or a prophecy, but a scientific fact based on the laws of physics and the cycles of the cosmos. Would you believe me? Would you be ready for it?

In this blog post, I will explain what is happening to our planet and why it is the most exciting and important event in human history. I will also share some tips on how to prepare yourself for this quantum shift and how to align with the new vibrational environment that will emerge. This is not a doom-and-gloom scenario, but a positive and hopeful one. This is the cosmic countdown to the birth of 5D Earth.

Time of Birth of the New Earth

The term 5D Earth refers to the fifth dimensional version of Earth that is emerging as a result of the ascension process that is happening right now. Ascension is the term used to describe the evolutionary leap that our planet and humanity are taking from the third dimension (3D) to the fifth dimension (5D).

The third dimension is the physical realm of matter, time and space, where we experience duality, separation, limitation and fear. The fifth dimension is the spiritual realm of light, love and unity, where we experience oneness, abundance, freedom and joy.

The ascension process is triggered by the cosmic cycles that govern the evolution of our solar system and galaxy. These cycles are influenced by the movements of celestial bodies such as planets, stars and black holes, which create energetic waves and alignments that affect the consciousness and vibration of everything in their path.

One of these cycles is the precession of the equinoxes, which is the gradual shift of the Earth's axis over a period of about 26,000 years. This cycle determines the astrological ages that influence the collective consciousness and culture of humanity. We are currently at the end of the Age of Pisces, which began around 2,000 years ago and is characterized by religion, hierarchy, patriarchy and war. We are also at the beginning

of the Age of Aquarius, which will last for about 2,000 years and is characterized by spirituality, equality, cooperation and peace.

Another cycle is the galactic alignment, which is the alignment of our solar system with the galactic center or core of our Milky Way galaxy. This alignment happens every 13,000 years and creates a powerful influx of cosmic energy that activates our DNA and raises our vibration. The last time this alignment happened was in December 2012, which marked the end of the Mayan calendar and the beginning of a new era for humanity.

These cycles are converging to create a window of opportunity for our planet to ascend to a higher dimension. This window is open from 2012 to 2032, according to some sources. During this time, Earth is receiving unprecedented amounts of light and information from the galactic center and other sources, such as solar flares, gamma rays and cosmic rays. These energies are changing the structure and frequency of our planet, as well as our own bodies and minds.

New Earth Vibrational Environment

As Earth ascends to a higher dimension, it creates a new vibrational environment that affects everything on it. The new Earth vibrates at a much faster rate than the old Earth, which means that everything on it must also vibrate faster or be left behind. This includes us humans.

Our physical bodies are made up of atoms that vibrate at different frequencies depending on our state of health, emotions and thoughts. When we are exposed to higher frequencies from the new Earth, our atoms must either match them or be out of sync with them. If we match them, we experience harmony, health and happiness. If we don't match them, we experience disharmony, disease and distress.

The same applies to our mental and emotional bodies. Our thoughts and feelings also have frequencies that can either resonate or clash with the new Earth frequencies. If we resonate with them, we experience clarity, creativity and compassion. If we clash with them, we experience confusion, chaos and conflict.

The key to aligning with the new Earth vibrational environment is to raise our own vibration by choosing positive thoughts, feelings and actions that reflect our true essence as divine beings of light and love. By doing so, we not only benefit ourselves but also contribute to the collective ascension process by creating a positive feedback loop that amplifies the light on the planet.

Planet Earth Moves in 5D New Era

As more and more people raise their vibration and align with the new Earth frequencies, they create a critical mass that shifts the collective consciousness from 3D to 5D. This is what is known as the planetary ascension, which is the culmination of the cosmic countdown to the birth of 5D Earth.

The planetary ascension is not a single event, but a gradual and ongoing process that has been happening for decades and will continue to happen for years to come. It is not something that will happen to us, but something that we are co-creating with our free will and intention.

The planetary ascension is not a physical relocation, but a dimensional shift that will change our perception and experience of reality. We will not leave the Earth, but we will see and feel it in a new way. We will not lose our physical bodies, but we will transform them into lighter and more refined versions. We will not abandon our 3D lives, but we will transcend them with higher wisdom and purpose.

The planetary ascension is not a separation, but a unification of all life forms on Earth and beyond. We will not be isolated from each other, but we will be connected by a web of love and light. We will not be divided by our differences, but we will celebrate our diversity as expressions of the same source. We will not be in competition, but in cooperation for the highest good of all.

Dawning of the New Earth Dimension

The birth of 5D Earth is not the end of the world, but the beginning of a new one. A new world that is based on love, peace and harmony. A new world that is full of joy, abundance and creativity. A new world that is guided by intuition, inspiration and synchronicity. A new world that is aligned with our true nature as spiritual beings having a human experience.

The dawning of the new Earth dimension is not a distant future, but a present reality that we can access right now. It is not a place that we have to go to, but a state of being that we have to embody. It is not a dream that we have to wake up from, but a vision that we have to manifest.

The dawning of the new Earth dimension is not a privilege for the few, but a birthright for the many. It is not a reward for the worthy, but a gift for the willing. It is not a challenge for the brave, but an invitation for the curious.

Being in the Energy of New Earth

If you are reading this blog post, chances are that you are already feeling the energy of the new Earth and are curious about what it means for you and your life. You may have noticed some changes in yourself and your surroundings, such as:

- Increased sensitivity to energy, emotions and intuition
- Enhanced creativity, imagination and manifestation
- · Expanded awareness, consciousness and spirituality
- Accelerated healing, growth and transformation
- Heightened synchronicities, miracles and magic
- · Shifted priorities, values and goals
- · Altered relationships, careers and lifestyles
- New opportunities, challenges and choices

These changes are signs that you are being in the energy of the new Earth and are aligning with its vibration. They are also invitations for you to explore your potential and purpose in this new era of existence.

Being in the energy of the new Earth does not mean that you have to abandon your 3D life or reject your 3D self. It means that you have to embrace your 5D self and integrate it into your 3D life. It means that you have to balance your physical needs with your spiritual desires. It means that you have to honor your individuality while recognizing your interdependence.

Being in the energy of the new Earth does not mean that you have to ignore your problems or deny your challenges. It means that you have to face them with courage and compassion. It means that you have to solve them with creativity and cooperation. It means that you have to learn from them with gratitude and grace.

Being in the energy of the new Earth does not mean that you have to be perfect or enlightened. It means that you have to be open and curious. It means that you have to be willing and ready.

The New Earth Is Not Just A Dream

The birth of 5D Earth is not just a dream, but a reality that is unfolding before our eyes. It is not just a possibility, but a probability that is increasing every day. It is not just a hope, but a certainty that is supported by science and spirit.

The birth of 5D Earth is not just about us, but about all life forms on this planet and beyond. It is not just about now, but about eternity. It is not just about here, but about everywhere.

The birth of 5D Earth is not just an event, but an adventure. An adventure that we are all invited to join and enjoy. An adventure that we are all co-creating and celebrating.

Are you ready for it?