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## United States Department of State



Washington, D.C. 20520

DOS Case No. F-2019-00124 NSA Case No. 104883 R-1

Mr. John Greenwald 27305 W Live Oak Rd Castaic, CA 91384

MAY 0 6 2019

Dear Mr. Greenwald:

I refer to your August 5, 2018 Freedom of Information Act request to the National Security Agency (NSA). Of the relevant documents the NSA retrieved in response to your request, one was considered to be of primary interest to the Department of State and was therefore referred to us for appropriate action.

After careful review, we determined that it may be released in part; it is attached to this letter. The excised material was exempt from disclosure pursuant to:

• 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), which concerns matters specifically exempted from release by statute.

For further assistance or to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact our FOIA Requester Service Center or our FOIA Public Liaison via email to FOIAstatus@state.gov or by telephone at (202) 261-8484.

If you are not satisfied with DOS's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to: Appeals Officer, Appeals Review Panel, Office of Information Programs and Services, U.S. Department of State, SA-2, 515 22nd Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20522-8100, or faxed to (202) 261-8571. Appeals must be postmarked within 90 calendar days of the date of this initial agency decision letter. Please include a copy of this letter with your written appeal and clearly state why you disagree with the determinations set forth in this response.

Additionally, if you are not satisfied with DOS's determination in response to your request, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, email address: ogis@nara.gov; telephone: (202) 741-5770; toll free number: 1-877-684-6448; fax: (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

Lui Q

Eric F. Stein, Director Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosure: As stated

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C06653731 FIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2019-00124 Doc No. C06653731 Date: 03/22/2019

#### RELEASE IN PART B3 NATSECACT1947

# (U//FOUO) Deep State

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**B3 NATSECACT1947** 

#### SECRET

From Intellipedia

"Deep State" refers to a purported network of military, civilian, and criminal elements who seek to influence Turkish social and political developments. In particular, the Deep State (Turkish: Derin Devlet) is said to see itself as the last line of defense of secularism in Turkey. This idea comes originally from a 1928 speech by Turkey's first president Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, who urged "Turkish youth" to defend the secular nature of the state at all costs. Many conspiracy theory books have been written about the Deep State, speculating about who is part of it, its influence on events in Turkey, and its links to foreign intelligence services.

The term originated mainly as a result of the Susurluk scandal of the late 1990s. That scandal erupted when a car carrying a well known secularist politician, a known mafia chieftan, and a police chief crashed in the countryside near Bursa in the town of Susurluk. For many Turks, this event proved that diverse elements in Turkish society were secretly conspiring to protect the secular regime, even by resorting to illegal means.

### The Deep State in Action

Following the tragic January murder of Armenian-Turkish journalist Hrant Dink a video surfaced that purportedly showed a group of jandarma officials posing hand-in-hand with the suspected murderer behind a Turkish flag. The video, together with claims that the Istanbul police had received a tip that Dink was being targeted but did not warn him or take action, raised questions about the Deep State. Prime Minister Erdogan heightened the rhetoric by publicly acknowledging his belief in the existence of a "deep state" and saying that "we have to minimize it, and if possible, to destroy it."

# **Targetting the Deep State**

The January 22, 2008 police round-up of scores of people in Istanbul and other cities, related to the discovery of a weapons cache in Istanbul's Umraniye district last June, may be a battle in the war to fight the "deep state" in Turkey.

Current PM Erdogan apparently opposes it and is looking for ways to subvert if not destroy it. Despite apparent support for this investigation at the highest levels of the political leadership, prosecution can only be successful with the cooperation of Turkey's arch-nationalist judiciary.

### References

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