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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 104979A
10 December 2018

JOHN GREENEWALD
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Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 19 August 2018, for Intellipedia pages on "Bilderberg". As stated in our initial response to you dated 23 August 2018, your request was assigned Case Number 104979. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided in your letter, you are considered an "all other" requester. As such, you are allowed 2 hours of search and the duplication of 100 pages at no cost. There are no assessable fees for this request. Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA.

For your information, NSA provides a service of common concern for the Intelligence Community (IC) by serving as the executive agent for Intelink. As such, NSA provides technical services that enable users to access and share information with peers and stakeholders across the IC and DoD. Intellipedia pages are living documents that may be originated by any user organization, and any user organization may contribute to or edit pages after their origination. Intellipedia pages should not be considered the final, coordinated position of the IC on any particular subject. The views and opinions of authors do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government.

We conducted a search across all three levels of Intellipedia and located documents that are responsive to your request. Some of the documents are enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the documents.

This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities (in this case, internal URLs), as well as the names of its employees. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). We

have determined that such information exists in this record, and we have excised it accordingly.

In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosure in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you requested against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below.

- The appeal must be in sent via U.S. postal mail, fax, or electronic delivery (e-mail) and addressed to:

NSA FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road STE 6932
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932

The facsimile number is (443)479-3612.

The appropriate email address to submit an appeal is FOIARSC@nsa.gov.

- It must be postmarked or delivered electronically no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Decisions appealed after 90 days will not be addressed.
- Please include the case number provided above.
- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial was unwarranted.
- NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

For further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at foialo@nsa.gov. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. OGIS contact information is: Office of Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail: ogis@nara.gov; main: 202-741-5770; toll free: 1-877-684-6448; or fax: 202-741-5769.

Please be advised that records responsive to your request include material containing other government agencies' information. Because we are

unable to make determinations as to the releasability of the other agencies' information, the subject material has been referred to the appropriate agencies for review and direct response to you.

Sincerely,


for

JOHN R. CHAPMAN
Chief, FOIA/PA Office
NSA Initial Denial Authority

Encls:
a/s

(U) Turkish Islamic Television

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From Intellipedia



(U) This page or file appears to be abandoned. It has not been edited since January 25, 2008. Please help with completing or updating the page if it has intelligence value

(U) See Intellipedia:Abandoned pages for more information about pages with this banner.

(U) See the discussion page for more information about the status of this page.

Turkey has three Islamic television stations--stations with links to Islamic institutions that carry programming apparently designed to appeal to a conservative Islamic audience. Kanal 7, Samanyolu, and Mesaj have links with Islamic newspapers, which are evident in the television appearances of columnists from the papers -- Yeni Safak commentators on Kanal 7, Zaman columnists on Samanyolu, and Yeni Mesaj analysts on Mesaj. According to the left-wing website www.solmeclis.net, Kanal 7 is controlled by Yimpas Holding, an Islamic company.^[1] Samanyolu is owned by Samanyolu Yayincilik Hizmetleri A.S., which is alleged to have close ties with the Fethullah Gulen community, and Feza Yayincilik, which publishes the daily, Zaman, and Aksiyon magazine. Samanyolu and Zaman occasionally carry Fethullah Gulen's sermons and articles.^[2] Mesaj TV is reportedly owned or controlled by Haydar Bas, leader of the Independent Turkey Party (BTP) and the Kadiri sect, according to www.medyaline.com/haberler, which includes detailed information about Bas's background.^[3]



Turkey Portal

Kanal 7, Samanyolu, and Mesaj each carry a number of programs focusing on moral and religious issues. Unlike non-Islamic TV stations, they do not broadcast reality game shows or programs about celebrities, and they avoid comments and scenes that could disturb conservative audiences.

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KANAL 7 TV

Kanal 7 broadcasts news, talk shows, and programs on business and finance and religion as well as music, sports, and other entertainment programming, including movies, cooking and travel shows, cartoons, and children's programs. The station also broadcasts several drama series focusing on social issues, the lives of ordinary people, familial problems, traditions (such as honor killings), and moral values. The station's website provides information about the station and live broadcasts. The station is owned by "Yeni Dunya Iletisim A.S" whose chairman of the board is Zekeriya Karaman. According to www.el-aziz.com^[4], Karaman was appointed chairman when the company was formed, in line with the instructions of National View founder, long-time pro-Islamic politician, and former Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, who is still alleged to influence Karaman.

Kanal 7's primary target audience consists of conservatives with deep-seated family and religious traditions. Verses of the Koran are recited before daily programs start at 0700.

Programming

News: News is broadcast four times each day: **Kanal 7 de Sabah** (Morning on Kanal 7, 0730-0900) includes the main highlights in the Turkish press read by the newscaster; **Ogle Haberleri** (Noon News, 1200-1215); **Haber Saati** (News Hour, 1830-1930) is the prime time newscast; and **Haber Maratonu** (News Marathon, 0130). On some occasions, the newscaster gets live updates from reporters and interviews Yeni Safak columnist Fehmi Koru about major news items. Kanal 7 news programming has a pro-government slant; it usually highlights statements made by Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and rarely reports comments made by the leaders of opposition parties.

Talk shows: Talk shows avoid sexual innuendos and female hosts do not wear dresses that could be described as sexy--unlike those on mainstream television stations--but they do not cover their heads.

- **Sozun Ozu** (The Gist of the Matter): Bugun columnist Nazli Ilıcak interviews journalists about current political and economic issues. She recently interviewed Sabah columnist Asli Aydinbas about the next presidential election and Fehmi Koru about the Bilderberg conference. (Wednesdays, 2345)
- **Iskele Sancak** (Port and Starboard): Yeni Safak columnist Mustafa Karaalioglu moderates discussions among politicians, academics, journalists, and experts about current political and economic issues. On 23 June, a group of businessmen and academics focused on recent fluctuations in Turkish financial markets and the appreciation of hard currencies against the Turkish Lira, and criticized the fiscal policies of the government and the Central Bank. On 30 June, Karaalioglu and a group of journalists, including Cengiz Candar, Eser Karakas, Mehmet Altan, and Omer Lutfi Mete, discussed international issues, including relations between Turkey and the EU. (Fridays, 2330-0130)
- **Yasayan Ekonomi** (Living Economy) highlights various companies and economic issues. (Saturdays, 1330-1430)

Religious programs

Kanal 7's three religious programs focus on Prophet Muhammad's life and teachings, interpretation of Koranic verses, and how Muslims should worship.

- **Hayat Dersleri** (Life Lessons) is hosted by Professor Cevat Aksit, who speaks about Prophet

Muhammad's life and teachings and responds to questions from viewers over the phone. (weekdays, 0700-0730)

- **Islam ve Hayat** (Islam and Life) is presented by Professor Faruk Beser, who gives advice about religious issues and responds to questions . (Saturdays, 0900-0945)
- On **Asr-i Saadet'ten Tablolar**(Snapshots from the Time of Happiness), Deputy President of the Presidency of Religious Affairs Necmettin Nursacan focuses on various aspects of Islam and moral and cultural values. His show is interspersed with religious poems. A group of men and women, including women wearing headscarves, are invited to this program. (Sundays, 1130 - 1300; Thursdays, 2330-0130)

Entertainment

Kanal 7 airs three live entertainment programs, mostly featuring local folk singers: **Nur Erturk'le Her Sabah** (Every Morning with Nur Erturk) (0930-1200); **Paylastikca** (Sharing) hosted by Sebnem Kisaparmak, who also reads letters from soldiers and their families; and a folk music program, **Mahmut Tuncer Show**(Mondays, 2300; Wednesdays, 0145).

Soray Uzun on the Road features actor Soray Uzun chatting with locals and making jokes during trips to various towns and villages in different parts of Turkey. It focuses on local food and traditions. (Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 2000-2200)

Turksoy'la Ipekyolu (Turksoy on the Silk Road"), which is hosted by Turksoy, features Turkish communities living along the route of the ancient Silk Road. (Saturdays, 1230-1330)

Deniz Feneri (Lighthouse) raises donations for needy or homeless people. (Tuesdays, 2315-0115; Thursdays, 0145-0345)

Fikralarla Turkiye"(Turkish Anecdotes), which consists of short episodes based on Turkish folktales, is presented by Ismail Turut, a folk singer. (Tuesdays, 2145-2345; Fridays, 1945-2130)

Films: Kanal 7 frequently broadcasts Turkish films but rarely airs foreign films.

Children's Programs : Kanal 7's only programs for children are two cartoon shows: One broadcasts Western cartoons, such as Bugs Bunny, Road Runner, Tom and Jerry, Tweety, and Pokemon. (weekdays, 1200-1330) The other airs educational Turkish cartoons, mainly about historical events and figures. (weekdays, 1430-1630)

Commercials mostly feature consumer goods. The only difference between advertisements on Kanal 7 and mainstream television stations is that the former also broadcasts commercials for a hotel (Hotel Caprice) that has separate beaches for male and f e male guests and for religious publications on prophets (mostly Prophet Muhammad) and Islamic scholars.

Samanyolu (STV)

Samanyolu broadcasts news, talk shows, and religious programs as well as music, sports, cartoons, movies, dramas, children's programs, and shows on cooking and travel. It was established on 13 January 1993, allegedly by the Fethullah Gulen community, according to nationalist Hurriyet columnist Emin Colasan.^[5] It is now owned by "Samanyolu Yayıncılık Hizmetleri A.Ş." The station's website^[6] provides information about the station and its programming and broadcasts live over the Internet. The homepage contains links to a video

documentary of the Gulenist movement and videos of interviews with Fethullah Gulen. Its programs can be viewed in the Central Asian republics, Europe, Africa, and the United States via satellite.

Samanyolu's primary target audience consists of conservatives with deep-seated family and religious traditions. Verses of the Koran are recited before Samanyolu's daily programs start at 0730. The motto on its masthead is "Change the course of your life."

Programming

News: News is broadcast three times each day --at 0730, 1300, and 1845--the latter is a one-hour prime time newscast. News items are reported by an in-studio announcer over video.

Ozel Gundem(Special Agenda) is hosted by Hidayet Karaca , the general coordinator of Samanyolu, and Ahmet Boken, its news coordinator. On 4 July 2006, they interviewed Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat (Tuesdays, 2330)

Pazar Sohbeti (Sunday Chat) is hosted by Zaman columnist Huseyin Gulerce. On 9 July, he interviewed Felicity Party leader Recai Kutan. (Sundays, 1130- 1300)

Religious Programs

Inancin Golgesinde(Under the Shadow of Faith) highlights pious people who make sacrifices to help others and Islamic scholars who traveled to other countries to spread Islam in the past. Ahmet Sahin and Davut Ayduz, who write for the daily Zaman, respond to questions about religious issues. (Daily, 0800-0845)

Entertainment & Other Programming

Samanyolu airs no live or recorded entertainment or comedy programs. It devotes much of its prime time to television series focusing on moral values, respect for parents and elders, the fear of God, and punishments in the next world for those who have committed sins. The channel shows Turkish and foreign films.

Actor Cem Kurdoglu interviews celebrities in "Yakamoz" (Phosphorescence). (Thursdays , 1100)

Kimse yok mu? (Is Anybody out There?) finds families willing to donate funds for the poor families and takes them to needy families in the same cities. (Saturdays, 1130 - 1300)

Buyuk Bulusma (Great Encounter) depicts an angel appearing as an old bearded man wearing a white robe and turban, who questions people in the next world before they are sent to Hell for sins they committed before death. (Wednesdays and Sundays; 2000-2130)

Subat Sogugu (February Chill), a popular television series until it ended on 27 June, featured a police chief and his struggle against a secret group consisting of businessmen, journalists, bureaucrats, and leaders of crime syndicates, who hatched conspiracies against patriotic and idealist people in order to maintain their influence. The name of the series seems to allude to what is known as the 28 February process, which led to the downfall of a coalition government in 1997. (formerly Tuesdays, 2200, currently replaced by movies)

Children's programs: Samanyolu broadcasts cartoons and puppet shows. (Daily, 1000 -1700)

Reality Shows:

- **Davetsiz Misafi** (An Uninvited Guest) features local traditions and food in different Turkish cities,

towns, and villages. (Daily, 0300)

- **Ayna**(Mirror) is a travel program featuring trips made by Saim Orhan to different countries. (Saturdays, 2300)
- **Kasif**(Explorer) is a similar travel program highlighting Muslim countries and countries where Turkish schools have been established. (Sundays, 2300)

Samanyolu airs commercials similar to those broadcast by secular television stations, but there is one ad for a package containing religious CDs about the lives of prophets.

Mesaj TV

Mesaj TV broadcasts news, talk shows, and programs on religion and business and finance, as well as music, sports, cartoons, movies, children's programming, and shows on cooking and travel. It targets religious people who also have strong nationalist sentiments. It is critical of the ruling Justice and Development Party.

Mesaj TV can be viewed on cable TV and via satellite. The station's website (<http://www.mesajtv.com>) provides limited information about the station and its programming (and was showing only the station name and no other content on 14 December). Mesaj TV's programming is unpredictable because it frequently replaces programs on its website without prior notice. Its broadcasts are occasionally interrupted--probably due to technical failures.

Mesaj TV also airs some programs previously broadcast by Bas's Meltem TV^[7], which suggests there is a strong relationship between the two channels. Mesaj TV's website does not contain any information about its owner, but it is reportedly owned or controlled by Haydar Bas, leader of the Independent Turkey Party (BTP), and the Kadiri sect.^[8]

Programming

News: Mesaj TV broadcasts news three times each day -- at 1300, 1900, and 0030. News items are usually reported by an in-studio announcer over video. There is an obvious anti-Western slant in its newscasts. On 25 September the prime newscast announcer said that comments by the Pope, who he described as the "leader of the Crusaders," revealed a major plot targeting Muslims because the announcer regards such dialogue as a tool aimed at spreading Christianity. In the second news item, the announcer noted that a statement by an EU official showed that Turkish accession to the EU was only a fantasy despite major concessions given by the government.

Talk shows: Talk shows and studio debates broadcast by Mesaj TV are mostly moderated by columnists who write for the daily Yeni Mesaj. They reflect an anti-Western stance and highlight Haydar Bas' "national economy model."

- **Diyalog** (Dialogue) is hosted by Yeni Mesaj columnist Muharrem Bayraktar. The 2 July program focused on education policies in Turkey and criticism of Christian missionaries. (Sundays, 2230)
- On **Haftanin Sohbeti** (Weekly Chat), Yeni Mesaj columnist Emin Koc moderates a studio debate among a group of journalists, primarily from Yeni Mesaj. (Tuesdays, 2100)
- Yeni Mesaj broadcasts **Dusunce Cemberi** (The Circle of Thought). The host of the program, who is not identified on the program but is featured on Yeni Mesaj's site, interviews an unidentified political analyst about current issues. (Daily, 1800-1900)

- **Perde Arkasi** (Backstage) highlights commentaries by columnists and political analysts. Allegations that a teenager who killed a Catholic priest in Trabzon had been influenced by statements made by Haydar Bas were denied in the program aired on 7 July. (Fridays, 2030-2120)
- **Kum Saati** (Hourglass) focuses on current economic and political developments. (Fridays, 1200)
- **Koridor**(Corridor), anchored by Yeni Mesaj columnist Ahmet Erimhan, is a one-hour studio debate. (Sundays, 1500-1600)
- A recorded talk show, **Tuna Boylari** (Banks of the Danube), highlights eastern European cities with substantial numbers of immigrants of Turkish origin. This program is a Meltem TV production.
- Mesaj TV broadcasts different sessions of an international congress entitled **National Economy Model**, which was held in Baku in 2006. Guest speakers from Turkey, Russia, and Azerbaijan praise Bas's national economy model. Its daily programming also includes programs on the economy, which mostly feature trade fairs in Turkey. (2030)

Religious Programs

Mesaj TV broadcasts recitations of the Koran with Turkish subtitles and videos of Islamic hymns requested by its viewers. (Daily, 0700-0900 and 1700-1800)

- On **Kuran Ogreniyorum** (I Learn the Koran), Muslim clergyman Recep Sahin gives advice on religious issues and teaches the Koran. (Daily, 1600-1700)

Entertainment

Mesaj TV broadcasts three entertainment programs featuring local folk singers, especially from the Black Sea region: the "Ferhat Saglam Show" (Fridays, 2130); "Kervan" (Caravan, Mondays, 0900); and "Yildirim'la Turku Kervani" (Caravan of Folk Songs with Yildirim, Thursdays, 2100).

Children's programs -- Mesaj TV broadcasts Western cartoons and documentaries for children. (Daily, 1000-1300)

Commercials --Mesaj TV airs commercials featuring consumer goods in addition to some religious publications.

References

1. Yimpas Holding has recently come under investigation by the Capital Market Board for financial irregularities and its owner is reportedly wanted in Germany for fraud.
2. In addition, the television station Kanalturk alleged that Nurettin Veren, a leading figure in the Fethullah Gulen community, is one of the shareholders of Samanyolu and Zaman <http://www.basinkonseyi.org.tr/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=674>.
3. Detailed information about the shareholders of these companies may be found in Turkish Companies Registration Gazette, which is published by the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB), and can be obtained by subscription. But there are allegations that the real owners of the companies owning some television stations and newspapers are not named in their share register, according to Hikmet Bila writing on 10 June 2001 in the secular Cumhuriyet.

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4. This website was established by a group of journalists who previously worked for the Elazig bureau of Milli Gazete and were allegedly fired as a result of pressure from Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his aides after circulating copies of a supplement of Milli Gazete criticising Erdogan's aides in the National Assembly
5. 12 November 2004
6. <http://www.stv.com.tr>
7. According to a Milliyet report, (<http://www.milliyet.com.tr/2002/04/07/guncel/gun01.html>), Meltem TV is owned by Haydar Bas. Its website (www.meltemtv.com.tr) is not active. It also broadcasts through a Turksat satellite Turksat 1C 42 Doou 11874 V 3400. It can be viewed by standard antennas and is not available by cable TV.
8. For information about Haydar Bas's sect, see <http://www.haber3.com/> and <http://www.yuruyus.com/>. His sect is also called Icmal or Kasiye. He is said to enjoy strong support in Trabzon and neighboring provinces. A fundamentalist website (http://63.231.71.139/forum_posts.asp?TID=1935&PN=1) highlights an allegation that Bas received special training in the National Security Academy for two years. According to an unidentified disciple, there are retired generals in Bas's organization, and he is known as an arch enemy of Fethullah Gulen and National View founder Necmettin Erbakan). The daily Hurriyet reported in April 2002 that Bas was interrogated by a public prosecutor in connection with allegations about the Kadiri sect (<http://webarsiv.hurriyet.com.tr/2002/04/29/118782.asp>)

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