



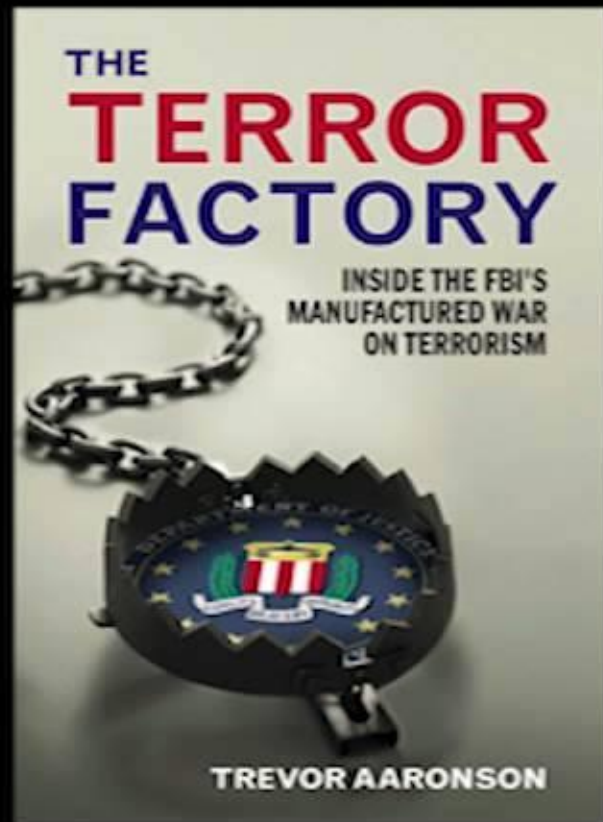
THE HIGHERSIDE CHAT



W/ GREG CARLWOOD

CONSPIRACY, MYSTERY, AND COMEDY.

EPISODE 41: THE FBI'S TERROR FACTORY W/ TREVOR AARONSON



BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



onspiraTees.net



1
00:00:10,549 --> 00:00:08,310
in the 1930s

2
00:00:13,190 --> 00:00:10,559
roosevelt nation through a series of

3
00:00:14,230 --> 00:00:13,200
radio broadcasts known as the fireside

4
00:00:16,230 --> 00:00:14,240
chats

5
00:00:18,070 --> 00:00:16,240
his aim was to reassure the common man

6
00:00:23,189 --> 00:00:18,080
that our society would recover from its

7
00:00:27,830 --> 00:00:25,670
for a new era of worldly frustration we

8
00:00:33,190 --> 00:00:27,840
offer a fresh conversation

9
00:00:37,270 --> 00:00:35,030
wow how's it going everybody welcome to

10
00:00:39,350 --> 00:00:37,280
thc drinking a little drink

11
00:00:40,790 --> 00:00:39,360
smoking a little smoke i'm the man who

12
00:00:42,630 --> 00:00:40,800
calls himself the carl wood thanks for

13
00:00:44,630 --> 00:00:42,640

listening thanks for tweeting liking and

14

00:00:46,150 --> 00:00:44,640

reviewing the show you're all bona fide

15

00:00:47,670 --> 00:00:46,160

pimps and i salute you for it

16

00:00:49,430 --> 00:00:47,680

i'm moving some of the pieces around on

17

00:00:51,510 --> 00:00:49,440

thc so i'm going to drop on you

18

00:00:52,950 --> 00:00:51,520

everyone's favorite ad for conspiracies

19

00:00:54,549 --> 00:00:52,960

my attempt to bring the conspiracy

20

00:00:57,350 --> 00:00:54,559

perspective out into the open

21

00:00:59,430 --> 00:00:57,360

into the world of bold fashion it's also

22

00:01:01,510 --> 00:00:59,440

the best way to keep me alive supporting

23

00:01:03,110 --> 00:01:01,520

that little venture so here's that and

24

00:01:05,270 --> 00:01:03,120

on the other side we'll be talking to

25

00:01:07,510 --> 00:01:05,280

trevor aronson about his new book

26

00:01:09,030 --> 00:01:07,520

terror factory inside the fbi's

27

00:01:16,310 --> 00:01:09,040

manufactured war

28

00:01:19,429 --> 00:01:17,830

we're here because we don't buy into the

29

00:01:21,190 --> 00:01:19,439

[h__\h] of mainstream culture

30

00:01:22,630 --> 00:01:21,200

we're tired of the mundane passionless

31

00:01:24,230 --> 00:01:22,640

careers we've been shuffled into as a

32

00:01:25,270 --> 00:01:24,240

result of this orchestrated debt-based

33

00:01:26,789 --> 00:01:25,280

system of rule

34

00:01:28,550 --> 00:01:26,799

and the stranglehold on education

35

00:01:29,910 --> 00:01:28,560

entertainment by cold soulless

36

00:01:33,030 --> 00:01:29,920

corporations

37

00:01:35,670 --> 00:01:33,040

people yes we are frustrated yes

38

00:01:37,190 --> 00:01:35,680

we are tired and we reject the free of

39

00:01:39,350 --> 00:01:37,200

root tranquilizers that are monday night

40

00:01:41,429 --> 00:01:39,360

football and an ice cold budweiser

41

00:01:42,710 --> 00:01:41,439

we have to stop hiding stop hiding

42

00:01:44,550 --> 00:01:42,720

behind the headphones in the cherry

43

00:01:46,230 --> 00:01:44,560

popper 420 username

44

00:01:48,149 --> 00:01:46,240

let the world see that the resistance is

45

00:01:50,469 --> 00:01:48,159

strong and society is changing

46

00:01:51,670 --> 00:01:50,479

it was a time to be anonymous that time

47

00:01:53,190 --> 00:01:51,680

has passed

48

00:01:55,270 --> 00:01:53,200

and so the higher side chats would like

49

00:01:57,030 --> 00:01:55,280

to present conspiracies as the dawning

50

00:01:58,310 --> 00:01:57,040

of this new paradigm in the uniform of

51
00:01:59,910 --> 00:01:58,320
the revolution

52
00:02:01,990 --> 00:01:59,920
because bold fashion should mean more

53
00:02:03,670 --> 00:02:02,000
than some celebrity meat dress or frappu

54
00:02:05,910 --> 00:02:03,680
and a silly pink polo

55
00:02:07,510 --> 00:02:05,920
conspirates redefines bold fashion as

56
00:02:08,469 --> 00:02:07,520
having the balls to project socially

57
00:02:10,309 --> 00:02:08,479
uncomfortable

58
00:02:11,830 --> 00:02:10,319
and unpopular truths from your radiant

59
00:02:15,350 --> 00:02:11,840
chest all

60
00:02:17,750 --> 00:02:15,360
[h__\h] day conspiracies.net

61
00:02:18,949 --> 00:02:17,760
let them know that you know bold designs

62
00:02:22,309 --> 00:02:18,959
for trouble times

63
00:02:24,390 --> 00:02:22,319

hard truths soft [\h__\h]

64

00:02:26,550 --> 00:02:24,400

folks it has been over a decade since

65

00:02:28,390 --> 00:02:26,560

the suspicious tragedy of 911 and it's

66

00:02:30,309 --> 00:02:28,400

hard for even the most conventional of

67

00:02:31,990 --> 00:02:30,319

patriots to argue that our response

68

00:02:34,309 --> 00:02:32,000

hasn't been at very least

69

00:02:35,990 --> 00:02:34,319

a bit overblown yeah we've invaded

70

00:02:36,949 --> 00:02:36,000

numerous countries ruined more lives

71

00:02:39,110 --> 00:02:36,959

than can be counted

72

00:02:40,630 --> 00:02:39,120

overthrown unconnected governments hung

73

00:02:42,470 --> 00:02:40,640

unaffiliated leaders

74

00:02:44,710 --> 00:02:42,480

spent trillions of dollars on corporate

75

00:02:45,830 --> 00:02:44,720

weaponry groped and degraded millions of

76

00:02:47,509 --> 00:02:45,840

innocent travelers

77

00:02:49,270 --> 00:02:47,519

confiscated hundreds of thousands of

78

00:02:51,350 --> 00:02:49,280

bottles of cologne and hair gel

79

00:02:52,630 --> 00:02:51,360

accepted the invasion of our privacy and

80

00:02:54,550 --> 00:02:52,640

invited our streamline

81

00:02:56,229 --> 00:02:54,560

in definite detention folks it would

82

00:02:57,910 --> 00:02:56,239

seem excessive even without the looming

83

00:02:59,430 --> 00:02:57,920

doubt of the official story

84

00:03:01,110 --> 00:02:59,440

unfortunately the culture of fear

85

00:03:02,949 --> 00:03:01,120

stemming from that single day

86

00:03:04,229 --> 00:03:02,959

has done damage to this world that will

87

00:03:05,750 --> 00:03:04,239

last generations

88

00:03:07,589 --> 00:03:05,760

a fact that hits home much harder when

89

00:03:09,350 --> 00:03:07,599

you realize the majority of the paranoia

90

00:03:10,070 --> 00:03:09,360

causing terror plots over the past 10

91

00:03:11,910 --> 00:03:10,080

years

92

00:03:13,830 --> 00:03:11,920

have not been planned in some foreign

93

00:03:16,390 --> 00:03:13,840

cave in the sand but instead by

94

00:03:18,229 --> 00:03:16,400

overeager agents and fbi cubicles

95

00:03:19,990 --> 00:03:18,239

today's guest trevor aronson is here to

96

00:03:21,110 --> 00:03:20,000

walk us through just such a realization

97

00:03:23,589 --> 00:03:21,120

with his new book

98

00:03:25,750 --> 00:03:23,599

the terror factory inside the fbi's

99

00:03:27,509 --> 00:03:25,760

manufactured war on terrorism

100

00:03:29,509 --> 00:03:27,519

trevor is a winner of over two dozen

101

00:03:31,030 --> 00:03:29,519

awards in journalism and his trajectory

102

00:03:33,030 --> 00:03:31,040

is looking stronger than ever

103

00:03:34,869 --> 00:03:33,040

you've seen him on democracy now russian

104

00:03:36,949 --> 00:03:34,879

times and this american life and i'm

105

00:03:39,830 --> 00:03:36,959

happy to welcome him here to thc

106

00:03:40,789 --> 00:03:39,840

trevor how's it going great great thanks

107

00:03:42,390 --> 00:03:40,799

for having me

108

00:03:44,789 --> 00:03:42,400

absolutely thanks for being here wow

109

00:03:46,869 --> 00:03:44,799

what a great book man

110

00:03:48,309 --> 00:03:46,879

i commend your work in such a taboo area

111

00:03:50,229 --> 00:03:48,319

making a career out of government

112

00:03:52,470 --> 00:03:50,239

criticism seems to be riskier and

113

00:03:54,550 --> 00:03:52,480

riskier these days

114

00:03:56,390 --> 00:03:54,560

i i think we we do see you know there's

115

00:03:58,149 --> 00:03:56,400

a especially after 9 11 there was a real

116

00:04:00,390 --> 00:03:58,159

skepticism of the press or i'm sorry

117

00:04:01,830 --> 00:04:00,400

unwillingness by the press to really be

118

00:04:03,910 --> 00:04:01,840

skeptical of these

119

00:04:06,309 --> 00:04:03,920

uh you know types of cases and the fbi's

120

00:04:08,229 --> 00:04:06,319

counterterrorism program in general

121

00:04:09,670 --> 00:04:08,239

right and uh so well so to kick it off

122

00:04:11,110 --> 00:04:09,680

in the intro i ran through quite a few

123

00:04:14,149 --> 00:04:11,120

of the negative consequences

124

00:04:15,910 --> 00:04:14,159

due to the war on terror now most

125

00:04:17,189 --> 00:04:15,920

tried and too true patriots would

126

00:04:19,030 --> 00:04:17,199

respond by saying everything the

127

00:04:21,110 --> 00:04:19,040

government is doing is justified

128

00:04:22,710 --> 00:04:21,120

because we've had no attacks since but

129

00:04:24,230 --> 00:04:22,720

would you say that's a naive way of

130

00:04:26,070 --> 00:04:24,240

looking at it

131

00:04:28,390 --> 00:04:26,080

i i do think it's not you know it's true

132

00:04:28,950 --> 00:04:28,400

that we we haven't had any uh attacks i

133

00:04:30,310 --> 00:04:28,960

mean

134

00:04:32,230 --> 00:04:30,320

there have been a couple of close calls

135

00:04:33,189 --> 00:04:32,240

you know i don't make the case in the in

136

00:04:34,790 --> 00:04:33,199

the book that there there aren't

137

00:04:36,790 --> 00:04:34,800

terrorists at all i mean if you look at

138

00:04:38,870 --> 00:04:36,800

najib zazi you know he came close to

139

00:04:39,189 --> 00:04:38,880

obama's new york subway system in 2009

140

00:04:42,710 --> 00:04:39,199

and

141

00:04:45,590 --> 00:04:42,720

attempt to bomb times square

142

00:04:47,189 --> 00:04:45,600

in 2010 but you know the majority of

143

00:04:48,710 --> 00:04:47,199

cases that the

144

00:04:50,230 --> 00:04:48,720

department of justice and the fbi have

145

00:04:52,469 --> 00:04:50,240

brought into federal court

146

00:04:53,990 --> 00:04:52,479

uh for terrorism charges since 9 11

147

00:04:57,590 --> 00:04:54,000

haven't been like najib

148

00:04:59,189 --> 00:04:57,600

zazi and fajr instead they've been

149

00:05:00,950 --> 00:04:59,199

you know what i would consider people on

150

00:05:03,189 --> 00:05:00,960

the fringes of society that are

151
00:05:04,310 --> 00:05:03,199
economically desperate or in some cases

152
00:05:06,230 --> 00:05:04,320
mentally ill

153
00:05:08,070 --> 00:05:06,240
who get caught up in a sting operation

154
00:05:09,670 --> 00:05:08,080
involving an fbi informant

155
00:05:11,590 --> 00:05:09,680
who offers them all the means and

156
00:05:12,469 --> 00:05:11,600
opportunity they need to commit an act

157
00:05:15,670 --> 00:05:12,479
of terrorism

158
00:05:18,150 --> 00:05:15,680
you know what the fbi fears today is not

159
00:05:18,950 --> 00:05:18,160
this trained well-organized cell of

160
00:05:20,710 --> 00:05:18,960
terrorists

161
00:05:22,469 --> 00:05:20,720
like we saw in 911 or like in other

162
00:05:23,350 --> 00:05:22,479
parts of the world what they really fear

163
00:05:24,790 --> 00:05:23,360

is someone who

164

00:05:26,550 --> 00:05:24,800

they consider a lone wolf someone here

165

00:05:28,230 --> 00:05:26,560

in the united states who you know

166

00:05:30,150 --> 00:05:28,240

doesn't have a specific connection to al

167

00:05:30,550 --> 00:05:30,160

qaeda but you know becomes inspired

168

00:05:33,029 --> 00:05:30,560

through

169

00:05:33,830 --> 00:05:33,039

al qaeda jihadi videos and extremist

170

00:05:35,749 --> 00:05:33,840

message boards

171

00:05:37,110 --> 00:05:35,759

to commit some sort of act of terrorism

172

00:05:38,950 --> 00:05:37,120

and so these sting operations are

173

00:05:40,310 --> 00:05:38,960

intended to lure these people out to

174

00:05:43,029 --> 00:05:40,320

find the people who are

175

00:05:43,350 --> 00:05:43,039

on that line you know as an fbi says you

176
00:05:45,270 --> 00:05:43,360
know

177
00:05:47,029 --> 00:05:45,280
crossing about to cross over from

178
00:05:49,110 --> 00:05:47,039
sympathizer to operator

179
00:05:51,110 --> 00:05:49,120
and they do that by by inserting

180
00:05:52,790 --> 00:05:51,120
informants and undercover agents

181
00:05:54,550 --> 00:05:52,800
and you know buddying them up so to

182
00:05:55,909 --> 00:05:54,560
speak to people who say they want to

183
00:05:57,110 --> 00:05:55,919
commit an act of terrorism

184
00:05:58,950 --> 00:05:57,120
and then providing all the means

185
00:06:00,550 --> 00:05:58,960
necessary the logistical means sometimes

186
00:06:02,230 --> 00:06:00,560
the idea itself

187
00:06:04,070 --> 00:06:02,240
and in almost every case they provide

188
00:06:05,270 --> 00:06:04,080

the bomb and the weapons and so most of

189

00:06:07,350 --> 00:06:05,280

these people

190

00:06:08,790 --> 00:06:07,360

who are prosecuted on terrorism charges

191

00:06:10,550 --> 00:06:08,800

and who the federal government

192

00:06:12,710 --> 00:06:10,560

puts forward in press conferences as

193

00:06:14,309 --> 00:06:12,720

being a dangerous tariff who was about

194

00:06:15,990 --> 00:06:14,319

without the strike never have the

195

00:06:16,629 --> 00:06:16,000

capacity on their own for terrorism in

196

00:06:18,629 --> 00:06:16,639

most cases

197

00:06:20,390 --> 00:06:18,639

they never had weapons of their own in

198

00:06:21,510 --> 00:06:20,400

in most cases they had very little money

199

00:06:22,790 --> 00:06:21,520

and so it's hard to believe that on

200

00:06:24,390 --> 00:06:22,800

their own they would have become tariffs

201
00:06:26,070 --> 00:06:24,400
but through these elaborate sting

202
00:06:27,430 --> 00:06:26,080
operations the fbi is able to kind of

203
00:06:29,350 --> 00:06:27,440
overnight transform them

204
00:06:31,110 --> 00:06:29,360
into uh you know someone that the the

205
00:06:31,830 --> 00:06:31,120
public starts to believe as a dangerous

206
00:06:34,390 --> 00:06:31,840
terrorist

207
00:06:36,390 --> 00:06:34,400
right and some of these stories are are

208
00:06:39,270 --> 00:06:36,400
more shocking than others you know the

209
00:06:41,029 --> 00:06:39,280
the range is pretty wide on how you know

210
00:06:42,710 --> 00:06:41,039
susceptible to terrorism

211
00:06:43,909 --> 00:06:42,720
the patsy really is but run us through

212
00:06:44,629 --> 00:06:43,919
these numbers because the book says

213
00:06:47,270 --> 00:06:44,639

there's been

214

00:06:49,029 --> 00:06:47,280

about 508 people charged with having

215

00:06:51,270 --> 00:06:49,039

terrorists planned since 9 11

216

00:06:52,309 --> 00:06:51,280

what percentage of these quote foiled

217

00:06:55,430 --> 00:06:52,319

plots could be

218

00:06:57,029 --> 00:06:55,440

considered in some way fbi manufactured

219

00:06:59,270 --> 00:06:57,039

right so there's been in the decade

220

00:07:01,670 --> 00:06:59,280

after 9 11 there were a little over 500

221

00:07:03,029 --> 00:07:01,680

defendants and terrorism cases and of

222

00:07:06,070 --> 00:07:03,039

those 500

223

00:07:08,390 --> 00:07:06,080

um about half were were

224

00:07:09,189 --> 00:07:08,400

involving informants so in some cases

225

00:07:10,870 --> 00:07:09,199

the informant

226

00:07:12,309 --> 00:07:10,880

acted as you might suspect he provided

227

00:07:14,790 --> 00:07:12,319

information to the fbi

228

00:07:15,510 --> 00:07:14,800

but in other cases in in more than 150

229

00:07:17,670 --> 00:07:15,520

cases

230

00:07:19,430 --> 00:07:17,680

the informant acts as almost as an agent

231

00:07:21,110 --> 00:07:19,440

provocateur he provides

232

00:07:23,029 --> 00:07:21,120

uh he plays a role in the sting

233

00:07:23,749 --> 00:07:23,039

operation in some cases he provides the

234

00:07:26,230 --> 00:07:23,759

idea

235

00:07:27,909 --> 00:07:26,240

in other cases he provides the means and

236

00:07:30,150 --> 00:07:27,919

in these sting operations there

237

00:07:32,150 --> 00:07:30,160

there's never anyone you know by

238

00:07:33,589 --> 00:07:32,160

themselves who's capable of terrorism

239

00:07:35,430 --> 00:07:33,599

it's always the fbi informant to the

240

00:07:36,150 --> 00:07:35,440

undercover agent who make the terrorism

241

00:07:38,469 --> 00:07:36,160

possible

242

00:07:40,070 --> 00:07:38,479

you know a good example of this is a a

243

00:07:40,870 --> 00:07:40,080

case that became well known outside new

244

00:07:42,550 --> 00:07:40,880

york city

245

00:07:44,869 --> 00:07:42,560

known as the newburgh iv and these were

246

00:07:46,790 --> 00:07:44,879

four african-american converts to islam

247

00:07:47,990 --> 00:07:46,800

and thanks to a very aggressive

248

00:07:50,230 --> 00:07:48,000

informant they

249

00:07:51,189 --> 00:07:50,240

engaged in this plot to bomb synagogues

250

00:07:53,270 --> 00:07:51,199

in the bronx

251
00:07:55,350 --> 00:07:53,280
well it turns out that the lead defended

252
00:07:57,270 --> 00:07:55,360
on the case in the case with a

253
00:07:59,670 --> 00:07:57,280
walmart stalker who had a history of

254
00:08:01,270 --> 00:07:59,680
mental illness had no money on his own

255
00:08:03,589 --> 00:08:01,280
and it was the informant who ultimately

256
00:08:05,189 --> 00:08:03,599
provided everything they needed that he

257
00:08:06,230 --> 00:08:05,199
provided the transportation because they

258
00:08:08,390 --> 00:08:06,240
didn't have cars

259
00:08:09,510 --> 00:08:08,400
he provided the money they needed to

260
00:08:11,110 --> 00:08:09,520
build the bomb making

261
00:08:13,909 --> 00:08:11,120
to buy the bomb making material he

262
00:08:15,749 --> 00:08:13,919
provided the know-how to build the bombs

263
00:08:17,189 --> 00:08:15,759

and then all the the defendants had to

264

00:08:18,550 --> 00:08:17,199

do was just place the bombs

265

00:08:20,550 --> 00:08:18,560

in front of the synagogues which they

266

00:08:22,070 --> 00:08:20,560

did but on their own these are guys that

267

00:08:23,430 --> 00:08:22,080

were on the fringes of society i mean

268

00:08:24,869 --> 00:08:23,440

they had no interest in

269

00:08:26,869 --> 00:08:24,879

you know commit no ability to commit

270

00:08:27,589 --> 00:08:26,879

terrorism on their own and in addition

271

00:08:29,430 --> 00:08:27,599

to

272

00:08:30,869 --> 00:08:29,440

the informant providing all the means he

273

00:08:32,230 --> 00:08:30,879

offered he also offered a number of

274

00:08:34,790 --> 00:08:32,240

inducements you know he offered

275

00:08:35,430 --> 00:08:34,800

them in 250 000 and carried forward in

276

00:08:36,949 --> 00:08:35,440

the plot

277

00:08:39,110 --> 00:08:36,959

and you know to the lead defendant he

278

00:08:41,110 --> 00:08:39,120

offered him a to buy him a barber shop

279

00:08:42,550 --> 00:08:41,120

and so you know that's a case that fbi

280

00:08:44,230 --> 00:08:42,560

director robert mueller has

281

00:08:46,710 --> 00:08:44,240

decided repeatedly to congress as an

282

00:08:48,949 --> 00:08:46,720

example of the fbi thwarting

283

00:08:49,910 --> 00:08:48,959

an impending terrorist attack but in

284

00:08:51,829 --> 00:08:49,920

truth that

285

00:08:53,350 --> 00:08:51,839

that attack was only made possible

286

00:08:54,070 --> 00:08:53,360

through this elaborate sting operation

287

00:08:56,389 --> 00:08:54,080

where the fbi

288

00:08:57,269 --> 00:08:56,399

basically empowered you know a group of

289

00:08:59,030 --> 00:08:57,279

losers to

290

00:09:00,550 --> 00:08:59,040

you know overnight become terrorists

291

00:09:01,590 --> 00:09:00,560

right i mean in some of these cases you

292

00:09:05,110 --> 00:09:01,600

got

293

00:09:07,590 --> 00:09:05,120

an informant who is paid by the fbi

294

00:09:09,350 --> 00:09:07,600

per terrorist i guess and you know

295

00:09:11,670 --> 00:09:09,360

they're finding people

296

00:09:12,630 --> 00:09:11,680

who are kind of online just running

297

00:09:14,710 --> 00:09:12,640

their mouth that have

298

00:09:16,230 --> 00:09:14,720

mental problems and no money and then

299

00:09:17,750 --> 00:09:16,240

they're stringing them along

300

00:09:19,269 --> 00:09:17,760

offering them money to do it and then

301

00:09:21,990 --> 00:09:19,279

saying hey guys get this guy

302

00:09:24,070 --> 00:09:22,000

i got one put the check in the bank

303

00:09:25,829 --> 00:09:24,080

exactly you know and i think that's

304

00:09:28,150 --> 00:09:25,839

that's one of the most fascinating parts

305

00:09:29,350 --> 00:09:28,160

about this story i think because

306

00:09:30,870 --> 00:09:29,360

you know this story ultimately is a

307

00:09:32,070 --> 00:09:30,880

story about terrorism but it's also a

308

00:09:33,590 --> 00:09:32,080

story about

309

00:09:35,269 --> 00:09:33,600

you know justice and the fairness of

310

00:09:36,870 --> 00:09:35,279

justice justice united states and the

311

00:09:38,150 --> 00:09:36,880

administration of that justice

312

00:09:39,990 --> 00:09:38,160

and you know what's particularly

313

00:09:41,030 --> 00:09:40,000

disturbing i think is that so many of

314

00:09:42,550 --> 00:09:41,040

these informants

315

00:09:44,310 --> 00:09:42,560

involved in these sting operations have

316

00:09:44,790 --> 00:09:44,320

a financial interest in the prosecution

317

00:09:46,790 --> 00:09:44,800

you know

318

00:09:47,829 --> 00:09:46,800

they will get paid if they find someone

319

00:09:48,949 --> 00:09:47,839

who um

320

00:09:50,790 --> 00:09:48,959

you know they can portray as this

321

00:09:51,190 --> 00:09:50,800

terrorist and a sting operation and they

322

00:09:52,710 --> 00:09:51,200

can

323

00:09:54,389 --> 00:09:52,720

be paid handsome sums you know some of

324

00:09:55,990 --> 00:09:54,399

these informants make a hundred thousand

325

00:09:57,590 --> 00:09:56,000

dollars or more per case

326

00:09:59,350 --> 00:09:57,600

and so when you have that kind of

327

00:10:00,470 --> 00:09:59,360

incentive where you know if you can go

328

00:10:01,829 --> 00:10:00,480

out and find someone

329

00:10:03,350 --> 00:10:01,839

um who says they want to commit an act

330

00:10:04,949 --> 00:10:03,360

of terrorism and bring them along on the

331

00:10:05,670 --> 00:10:04,959

plot there's going to be a lot of money

332

00:10:07,509 --> 00:10:05,680

waiting for you

333

00:10:09,110 --> 00:10:07,519

for it at the end you know that's going

334

00:10:10,389 --> 00:10:09,120

to that creates a recipe where you're

335

00:10:10,949 --> 00:10:10,399

going to have a lot of these cases

336

00:10:12,069 --> 00:10:10,959

because

337

00:10:14,069 --> 00:10:12,079

the informant is going to be very

338

00:10:16,310 --> 00:10:14,079

aggressive in finding people who are

339

00:10:17,990 --> 00:10:16,320

susceptible who are easily influenced

340

00:10:19,190 --> 00:10:18,000

and then guide them along in a process

341

00:10:19,910 --> 00:10:19,200

you know that's part of a sting

342

00:10:21,750 --> 00:10:19,920

operation

343

00:10:24,230 --> 00:10:21,760

where you know from day one they have

344

00:10:26,870 --> 00:10:24,240

little capacity and by day 90

345

00:10:27,670 --> 00:10:26,880

you know they have a bomb in a storage

346

00:10:28,949 --> 00:10:27,680

unit and they're

347

00:10:31,350 --> 00:10:28,959

ready willing to deliver it with the

348

00:10:32,069 --> 00:10:31,360

informant it is crazy and one of the

349

00:10:34,230 --> 00:10:32,079

most shocking

350

00:10:36,470 --> 00:10:34,240

stories in the book to me about someone

351
00:10:38,470 --> 00:10:36,480
becoming a patsy in a terror plot was

352
00:10:39,910 --> 00:10:38,480
the story of the albany pizza man

353
00:10:41,350 --> 00:10:39,920
mohamed haussein

354
00:10:43,110 --> 00:10:41,360
walk us through that case a little bit

355
00:10:44,630 --> 00:10:43,120
so folks can better understand how this

356
00:10:47,190 --> 00:10:44,640
happens to people

357
00:10:48,870 --> 00:10:47,200
right so the fbi was interested in this

358
00:10:51,509 --> 00:10:48,880
man who was a local imam

359
00:10:51,910 --> 00:10:51,519
in in uh albany new york named yasina

360
00:10:53,990 --> 00:10:51,920
ref

361
00:10:55,030 --> 00:10:54,000
and they needed to find a way to get to

362
00:10:57,269 --> 00:10:55,040
him and so

363
00:10:58,949 --> 00:10:57,279

they um they ended up targeting this

364

00:10:59,590 --> 00:10:58,959

local pizzeria owner named mohammed

365

00:11:01,509 --> 00:10:59,600

hussain

366

00:11:02,870 --> 00:11:01,519

and the the fbi used this very

367

00:11:04,870 --> 00:11:02,880

aggressive informant

368

00:11:05,990 --> 00:11:04,880

named shahed hussein and and the names

369

00:11:07,190 --> 00:11:06,000

can be confusing but because they were

370

00:11:10,230 --> 00:11:07,200

both similar but

371

00:11:11,269 --> 00:11:10,240

in in this case um muhammad hussain you

372

00:11:12,710 --> 00:11:11,279

know is going about his

373

00:11:14,310 --> 00:11:12,720

life he's actually built a nice life for

374

00:11:15,190 --> 00:11:14,320

himself united states he had several

375

00:11:17,430 --> 00:11:15,200

rental properties

376

00:11:18,230 --> 00:11:17,440

a successful pizzeria he cared for his

377

00:11:20,470 --> 00:11:18,240

whole family

378

00:11:21,269 --> 00:11:20,480

as well as his mentally disabled brother

379

00:11:22,949 --> 00:11:21,279

and um

380

00:11:24,470 --> 00:11:22,959

the fbi chose to target him because they

381

00:11:27,990 --> 00:11:24,480

wanted to get closer to the

382

00:11:30,550 --> 00:11:28,000

the imam and muhammad hussein was a

383

00:11:31,829 --> 00:11:30,560

a very devout muslim and was active in

384

00:11:33,910 --> 00:11:31,839

the local mosque

385

00:11:35,590 --> 00:11:33,920

and they they devised this plot where

386

00:11:36,630 --> 00:11:35,600

they were going to loan to muhammad

387

00:11:39,430 --> 00:11:36,640

hussein

388

00:11:41,670 --> 00:11:39,440

um money that he needed to repair some

389

00:11:44,230 --> 00:11:41,680

boilers at a rental property that he had

390

00:11:45,509 --> 00:11:44,240

and uh essentially the the fbi informant

391

00:11:46,870 --> 00:11:45,519

told muhammad was saying well

392

00:11:48,710 --> 00:11:46,880

you know i've got this money coming in

393

00:11:51,190 --> 00:11:48,720

i'm an importer exporter from

394

00:11:52,710 --> 00:11:51,200

from china and you know i've got to move

395

00:11:54,550 --> 00:11:52,720

this fifty thousand dollars i'll give

396

00:11:56,790 --> 00:11:54,560

you fifty thousand dollars if you'll

397

00:11:58,310 --> 00:11:56,800

uh you know pay it back to me over time

398

00:12:01,269 --> 00:11:58,320

and so they agreed to do that

399

00:12:03,590 --> 00:12:01,279

um what the fbi do is that muhammad

400

00:12:06,069 --> 00:12:03,600

hossein being a very devout muslim

401
00:12:07,350 --> 00:12:06,079
would want a muslim religious leader to

402
00:12:08,790 --> 00:12:07,360
oversee the transaction which is

403
00:12:11,030 --> 00:12:08,800
customary in islam

404
00:12:11,990 --> 00:12:11,040
and just to make sure that the the

405
00:12:13,590 --> 00:12:12,000
financial

406
00:12:15,269 --> 00:12:13,600
uh transaction meets the religious

407
00:12:16,870 --> 00:12:15,279
standards and so the fbi

408
00:12:18,389 --> 00:12:16,880
undercover agent says that muhammad who

409
00:12:19,990 --> 00:12:18,399
said well you know i don't want an

410
00:12:21,110 --> 00:12:20,000
indian and i don't want a pakistani

411
00:12:22,790 --> 00:12:21,120
overseeing this

412
00:12:24,389 --> 00:12:22,800
and um and he said that for a very

413
00:12:26,710 --> 00:12:24,399

specific reason which was that

414

00:12:27,990 --> 00:12:26,720

that only left one other local muslim

415

00:12:29,990 --> 00:12:28,000

religious leader in town and that was

416

00:12:33,030 --> 00:12:30,000

justina ref who was in iraqi

417

00:12:34,230 --> 00:12:33,040

and uh uh kurdish iraqi and so yashina

418

00:12:36,470 --> 00:12:34,240

rest is brought in to

419

00:12:38,310 --> 00:12:36,480

oversee this financial transaction and

420

00:12:39,030 --> 00:12:38,320

during the financial transaction the fbi

421

00:12:41,750 --> 00:12:39,040

informant

422

00:12:43,269 --> 00:12:41,760

holds up a trigger device for a missile

423

00:12:44,629 --> 00:12:43,279

which is really hard to tell if the

424

00:12:47,269 --> 00:12:44,639

trigger provides it looks like an

425

00:12:48,949 --> 00:12:47,279

oversized label maker um and he's saying

426

00:12:50,710 --> 00:12:48,959

things about mujahideen and

427

00:12:52,870 --> 00:12:50,720

making a number of comments that are

428

00:12:54,949 --> 00:12:52,880

somewhat nonsensical at times

429

00:12:56,790 --> 00:12:54,959

but that was enough for the fbi to to

430

00:12:58,949 --> 00:12:56,800

build a case around both of them

431

00:12:59,910 --> 00:12:58,959

for money laundering for supporting

432

00:13:02,550 --> 00:12:59,920

terrorism

433

00:13:03,430 --> 00:13:02,560

and uh yasina ref was was was convicted

434

00:13:05,190 --> 00:13:03,440

as was

435

00:13:07,590 --> 00:13:05,200

mohammed hossein and muhammad hussain is

436

00:13:09,110 --> 00:13:07,600

serving at least 15 years in prison

437

00:13:11,670 --> 00:13:09,120

but this is a guy who never had any

438

00:13:14,069 --> 00:13:11,680

specific connection to terrorism

439

00:13:15,190 --> 00:13:14,079

right the evidence suggested that it was

440

00:13:16,790 --> 00:13:15,200

very

441

00:13:19,110 --> 00:13:16,800

unlikely that he realized the money he

442

00:13:20,230 --> 00:13:19,120

was funneling was supposed to be related

443

00:13:22,389 --> 00:13:20,240

at all to terrorism

444

00:13:24,470 --> 00:13:22,399

there was a rather uh you know odd

445

00:13:25,750 --> 00:13:24,480

moment where the fbi informant shows

446

00:13:27,990 --> 00:13:25,760

muhammad hussain a

447

00:13:29,670 --> 00:13:28,000

service to air missile but then tells

448

00:13:31,430 --> 00:13:29,680

him later that you know he's an importer

449

00:13:32,389 --> 00:13:31,440

exporter and he knows an fbi agent and

450

00:13:33,910 --> 00:13:32,399

it's all legitimate

451
00:13:34,949 --> 00:13:33,920
and so muhammad hussain was left with

452
00:13:36,470 --> 00:13:34,959
the impression that well that's weird

453
00:13:37,910 --> 00:13:36,480
that he was importing weapons but

454
00:13:39,509 --> 00:13:37,920
you know he tells me he knows an fbi

455
00:13:40,069 --> 00:13:39,519
agent he tells me it's legitimate you

456
00:13:41,430 --> 00:13:40,079
know there

457
00:13:43,110 --> 00:13:41,440
there is a legitimate business in

458
00:13:45,269 --> 00:13:43,120
importing and exporting weapons

459
00:13:47,430 --> 00:13:45,279
um and you know this was a case that

460
00:13:49,030 --> 00:13:47,440
largely outraged the community in albany

461
00:13:50,629 --> 00:13:49,040
um and it was enough to get but it was

462
00:13:53,030 --> 00:13:50,639
enough to get both of them you know

463
00:13:54,069 --> 00:13:53,040

convicted and neither of these men were

464

00:13:56,389 --> 00:13:54,079

at all involved

465

00:13:58,470 --> 00:13:56,399

in any plot that was imminent in any you

466

00:14:00,230 --> 00:13:58,480

know terrorism organization that

467

00:14:02,310 --> 00:14:00,240

posed any sort of threat to the united

468

00:14:05,350 --> 00:14:02,320

states you know the the only connection

469

00:14:07,189 --> 00:14:05,360

to terrorism was a rather distant

470

00:14:09,350 --> 00:14:07,199

connection for yasina ref where

471

00:14:10,710 --> 00:14:09,360

allegedly in iraq they found a list of

472

00:14:13,430 --> 00:14:10,720

names uh for

473

00:14:14,550 --> 00:14:13,440

a group and yassina ref's name was on

474

00:14:15,189 --> 00:14:14,560

that but that was all the government

475

00:14:16,230 --> 00:14:15,199

really had

476

00:14:17,829 --> 00:14:16,240

and that's all they've been able to

477

00:14:19,030 --> 00:14:17,839

release publicly yet they were still

478

00:14:20,230 --> 00:14:19,040

able to get convictions for both of

479

00:14:22,629 --> 00:14:20,240

these men

480

00:14:24,230 --> 00:14:22,639

yeah it is really sad because the guy is

481

00:14:26,230 --> 00:14:24,240

just working in his pizza shop an

482

00:14:29,350 --> 00:14:26,240

informant shows up he's giving

483

00:14:31,189 --> 00:14:29,360

toys to his kids he's telling him he can

484

00:14:33,829 --> 00:14:31,199

get his uh mentally challenged

485

00:14:35,670 --> 00:14:33,839

brother an id card and he's just

486

00:14:37,030 --> 00:14:35,680

injecting himself into this man's life

487

00:14:38,790 --> 00:14:37,040

he didn't seek him out

488

00:14:40,550 --> 00:14:38,800

and uh you know then he's like oh you

489

00:14:41,269 --> 00:14:40,560

need a loan man well i can help you out

490

00:14:43,670 --> 00:14:41,279

and i guess he

491

00:14:45,350 --> 00:14:43,680

kind of thought because of the religious

492

00:14:47,189 --> 00:14:45,360

connection like maybe that's why he's

493

00:14:47,750 --> 00:14:47,199

being so nice he's got the extra money

494

00:14:49,189 --> 00:14:47,760

but

495

00:14:51,189 --> 00:14:49,199

you know to just be turned around and

496

00:14:52,470 --> 00:14:51,199

thrown in jail for 15 years

497

00:14:54,790 --> 00:14:52,480

you know a lot of people think oh this

498

00:14:56,310 --> 00:14:54,800

can't happen to me and

499

00:14:57,990 --> 00:14:56,320

i'm sure there's also a little bit of a

500

00:14:59,110 --> 00:14:58,000

culture of racism when it comes to the

501
00:15:01,829 --> 00:14:59,120
prosecution

502
00:15:02,310 --> 00:15:01,839
but you know it's not that far off from

503
00:15:04,550 --> 00:15:02,320
just

504
00:15:06,310 --> 00:15:04,560
happening to anyone that they decide to

505
00:15:07,590 --> 00:15:06,320
throw into that plot

506
00:15:09,189 --> 00:15:07,600
and it's certainly worth noting that the

507
00:15:10,230 --> 00:15:09,199
evidence suggested that the informant

508
00:15:12,470 --> 00:15:10,240
they used

509
00:15:14,069 --> 00:15:12,480
in targeting muhammad hussein was a far

510
00:15:15,350 --> 00:15:14,079
worse criminal than muhammad hussein

511
00:15:17,509 --> 00:15:15,360
ever could have been you know the the

512
00:15:20,150 --> 00:15:17,519
informant she had hussein was accused of

513
00:15:22,069 --> 00:15:20,160

murder in pakistan and fled the country

514

00:15:25,430 --> 00:15:22,079

he was then running a dmv scam where he

515

00:15:27,590 --> 00:15:25,440

had several people who worked at the dmv

516

00:15:29,430 --> 00:15:27,600

he helped a number of immigrants get

517

00:15:30,710 --> 00:15:29,440

driver's licenses that were fraudulent

518

00:15:31,590 --> 00:15:30,720

so they could use them to become cab

519

00:15:34,069 --> 00:15:31,600

drivers

520

00:15:35,670 --> 00:15:34,079

in new york there's evidence that while

521

00:15:37,030 --> 00:15:35,680

he was declaring bankruptcy

522

00:15:38,389 --> 00:15:37,040

he didn't declare to the court five

523

00:15:39,430 --> 00:15:38,399

hundred thousand dollars he had in an

524

00:15:40,870 --> 00:15:39,440

overseas account

525

00:15:42,710 --> 00:15:40,880

you know all types of things that you

526

00:15:44,310 --> 00:15:42,720

know are criminal

527

00:15:46,150 --> 00:15:44,320

and he was able to escape those criminal

528

00:15:48,150 --> 00:15:46,160

charges because he agreed to work

529

00:15:49,829 --> 00:15:48,160

as an informant for the fbi and then

530

00:15:51,430 --> 00:15:49,839

ultimately you know hounded muhammad

531

00:15:52,870 --> 00:15:51,440

hossein as part of this case

532

00:15:54,550 --> 00:15:52,880

and you know now she had hussein has

533

00:15:55,749 --> 00:15:54,560

continued to work with the fbi he

534

00:15:57,430 --> 00:15:55,759

he makes a hundred thousand dollars or

535

00:15:58,310 --> 00:15:57,440

more per case and move moves from case

536

00:16:00,629 --> 00:15:58,320

to case and

537

00:16:01,670 --> 00:16:00,639

you know has both an economic incentive

538

00:16:02,870 --> 00:16:01,680

because he can make a lot of money

539

00:16:04,470 --> 00:16:02,880

within that with the fbi

540

00:16:05,910 --> 00:16:04,480

but also a kind of a punitive one you

541

00:16:07,030 --> 00:16:05,920

know that that as long as he works for

542

00:16:08,550 --> 00:16:07,040

the fbi he

543

00:16:09,829 --> 00:16:08,560

doesn't have to worry about facing any

544

00:16:10,949 --> 00:16:09,839

criminal charges for what he's done in

545

00:16:13,269 --> 00:16:10,959

the past

546

00:16:15,030 --> 00:16:13,279

yeah and you call him in the book you

547

00:16:15,509 --> 00:16:15,040

call him the super informant and he is

548

00:16:17,269 --> 00:16:15,519

such an

549

00:16:19,110 --> 00:16:17,279

[h__\h] because you know he has a

550

00:16:21,110 --> 00:16:19,120

culture of doing this to people

551
00:16:22,790 --> 00:16:21,120
for his paycheck and obviously you said

552
00:16:24,470 --> 00:16:22,800
you know the guy

553
00:16:26,230 --> 00:16:24,480
is a worse criminal than anyone than

554
00:16:27,590 --> 00:16:26,240
most of the people he's he's getting

555
00:16:29,189 --> 00:16:27,600
mixed up in these plots

556
00:16:30,870 --> 00:16:29,199
he's just a guy hungry for money and he

557
00:16:32,710 --> 00:16:30,880
found a way to get it

558
00:16:34,470 --> 00:16:32,720
absolutely yeah one of the things i

559
00:16:36,230 --> 00:16:34,480
mentioned as i mentioned in the book

560
00:16:37,910 --> 00:16:36,240
you know it's important to understand

561
00:16:39,670 --> 00:16:37,920
that you know informants are not

562
00:16:41,430 --> 00:16:39,680
nice guys they're they're usually you

563
00:16:42,310 --> 00:16:41,440

know in some cases worse than the people

564

00:16:44,629 --> 00:16:42,320

they target

565

00:16:45,910 --> 00:16:44,639

you know steven trotter who's a judge and

566

00:16:47,110 --> 00:16:45,920

the district court appellate judge in

567

00:16:49,189 --> 00:16:47,120

the federal level

568

00:16:50,470 --> 00:16:49,199

calls you know the informant sociopath

569

00:16:51,350 --> 00:16:50,480

and i think that's a great description

570

00:16:53,350 --> 00:16:51,360

for them because

571

00:16:55,030 --> 00:16:53,360

you know they have to basically do what

572

00:16:56,790 --> 00:16:55,040

most people would

573

00:16:58,310 --> 00:16:56,800

would hate which is that they have to go

574

00:17:00,310 --> 00:16:58,320

and every day lie to someone

575

00:17:01,829 --> 00:17:00,320

and then over months and even years

576

00:17:03,430 --> 00:17:01,839

build up an intense

577

00:17:05,189 --> 00:17:03,440

relationship a great friendship with

578

00:17:06,230 --> 00:17:05,199

someone and then be willing to turn on

579

00:17:08,470 --> 00:17:06,240

that person you know

580

00:17:10,069 --> 00:17:08,480

and send that person to jail for for

581

00:17:11,669 --> 00:17:10,079

decades and and i don't think that's

582

00:17:12,949 --> 00:17:11,679

something that anyone other than a

583

00:17:13,750 --> 00:17:12,959

sociopath could really do in good

584

00:17:15,110 --> 00:17:13,760

conscience right

585

00:17:16,630 --> 00:17:15,120

and it doesn't always end well i mean

586

00:17:17,590 --> 00:17:16,640

have you ever seen bulletproof you know

587

00:17:20,789 --> 00:17:17,600

that

588

00:17:23,990 --> 00:17:20,799

right yeah i mean you know

589

00:17:25,029 --> 00:17:24,000

these ultimately the the fbi you know

590

00:17:27,510 --> 00:17:25,039

it's important to note like

591

00:17:28,309 --> 00:17:27,520

in using these informants the good ones

592

00:17:30,230 --> 00:17:28,319

are never going to be

593

00:17:31,669 --> 00:17:30,240

good guys you know so ultimately almost

594

00:17:33,190 --> 00:17:31,679

every one of these informants

595

00:17:35,590 --> 00:17:33,200

has some kind of baggage you know the

596

00:17:37,750 --> 00:17:35,600

fbi in many of these thing operations

597

00:17:38,950 --> 00:17:37,760

has used criminals they've included you

598

00:17:40,870 --> 00:17:38,960

know drug dealers

599

00:17:43,430 --> 00:17:40,880

um in one case it included a man who was

600

00:17:45,110 --> 00:17:43,440

wanted in albania for shooting someone

601
00:17:46,630 --> 00:17:45,120
in another case it included a child

602
00:17:48,150 --> 00:17:46,640
molester you know it

603
00:17:49,990 --> 00:17:48,160
the fbi is willing to use just about

604
00:17:51,430 --> 00:17:50,000
anyone as an informant uh

605
00:17:53,029 --> 00:17:51,440
which really raises a question you know

606
00:17:54,630 --> 00:17:53,039
like are we really um

607
00:17:56,070 --> 00:17:54,640
are we using people who are worse than

608
00:17:56,470 --> 00:17:56,080
the people we're targeting you know are

609
00:17:59,750 --> 00:17:56,480
we

610
00:18:03,110 --> 00:17:59,760
smaller ones essentially right

611
00:18:03,830 --> 00:18:03,120
another point about uh muhammad hussein

612
00:18:05,590 --> 00:18:03,840
was

613
00:18:07,830 --> 00:18:05,600

you know he said to you when you visited

614

00:18:09,110 --> 00:18:07,840

him in jail his kids are now without a

615

00:18:11,510 --> 00:18:09,120

father

616

00:18:12,310 --> 00:18:11,520

growing up without guidance that's the

617

00:18:14,630 --> 00:18:12,320

kind of

618

00:18:15,990 --> 00:18:14,640

action that creates someone who wants to

619

00:18:18,549 --> 00:18:16,000

do damage to this government

620

00:18:19,750 --> 00:18:18,559

taking away someone's father you know

621

00:18:21,270 --> 00:18:19,760

that's what that's a

622

00:18:23,750 --> 00:18:21,280

you're going to want revenge for that

623

00:18:26,470 --> 00:18:23,760

not necessarily that his kids do but

624

00:18:27,909 --> 00:18:26,480

we we have to be careful of like uh what

625

00:18:29,270 --> 00:18:27,919

we're doing to people these are real

626
00:18:30,630 --> 00:18:29,280
lives

627
00:18:33,270 --> 00:18:30,640
it's a it's a good point to raise

628
00:18:34,870 --> 00:18:33,280
because it really raises a question of

629
00:18:37,190 --> 00:18:34,880
blowback you know what ultimately will

630
00:18:38,230 --> 00:18:37,200
happen as a an unintended consequence of

631
00:18:39,830 --> 00:18:38,240
these policies

632
00:18:42,470 --> 00:18:39,840
you know and certainly some of these men

633
00:18:43,590 --> 00:18:42,480
that we're sending away for 15 25 35

634
00:18:44,870 --> 00:18:43,600
years

635
00:18:46,549 --> 00:18:44,880
you know that were caught up in a sting

636
00:18:47,990 --> 00:18:46,559
operation on their own unable to commit

637
00:18:51,190 --> 00:18:48,000
acts of terrorism

638
00:18:53,430 --> 00:18:51,200

you know it it's not unreasonable to ask

639

00:18:54,870 --> 00:18:53,440

whether upon their release from jail in

640

00:18:56,230 --> 00:18:54,880

their 40s and their 50s

641

00:18:58,150 --> 00:18:56,240

they will be so angry that they will

642

00:18:59,909 --> 00:18:58,160

actually become terrorists that on their

643

00:19:01,270 --> 00:18:59,919

own 25 years ago they never could have

644

00:19:02,390 --> 00:19:01,280

become and i think that is

645

00:19:04,789 --> 00:19:02,400

one of the things that'll be really

646

00:19:05,750 --> 00:19:04,799

interesting to see and let's look at the

647

00:19:07,510 --> 00:19:05,760

other side of

648

00:19:09,110 --> 00:19:07,520

informants because there's also there's

649

00:19:11,029 --> 00:19:09,120

the criminal informants but there's also

650

00:19:12,630 --> 00:19:11,039

a lot of intimidation and blackmailing

651
00:19:14,390 --> 00:19:12,640
that goes into creating unwilling

652
00:19:16,710 --> 00:19:14,400
informants in the muslim community

653
00:19:18,630 --> 00:19:16,720
while using some type of various

654
00:19:20,470 --> 00:19:18,640
leverage to pressure them into finding

655
00:19:22,549 --> 00:19:20,480
something just to get the heat off of

656
00:19:24,070 --> 00:19:22,559
them right you know

657
00:19:25,669 --> 00:19:24,080
the best thing to compare this to in

658
00:19:27,029 --> 00:19:25,679
some ways but it's important to compare

659
00:19:30,150 --> 00:19:27,039
two because it's so different

660
00:19:31,830 --> 00:19:30,160
is how the fbi investigated you know

661
00:19:32,870 --> 00:19:31,840
organized crime in the 80s for example

662
00:19:34,789 --> 00:19:32,880
like when they were going after the

663
00:19:36,230 --> 00:19:34,799

italian mafia organizations

664

00:19:38,070 --> 00:19:36,240

in those cases the way they recruited

665

00:19:39,990 --> 00:19:38,080

informants was they looked for people

666

00:19:41,110 --> 00:19:40,000

who were you know the lower level mafia

667

00:19:42,870 --> 00:19:41,120

soldiers who were

668

00:19:44,310 --> 00:19:42,880

who are committing crimes minor ones

669

00:19:45,830 --> 00:19:44,320

like you know stealing a car

670

00:19:47,350 --> 00:19:45,840

and then you get that guy you bust him

671

00:19:48,630 --> 00:19:47,360

for stealing a car and you say to him

672

00:19:51,270 --> 00:19:48,640

you know if you work with us

673

00:19:51,669 --> 00:19:51,280

we can make that that stolen car theft

674

00:19:54,150 --> 00:19:51,679

charge

675

00:19:55,350 --> 00:19:54,160

go away um and you can you have to work

676
00:19:56,150 --> 00:19:55,360
with us as an informant and that's how

677
00:19:57,669 --> 00:19:56,160
they recruited

678
00:19:59,110 --> 00:19:57,679
these informants well if you're

679
00:20:00,230 --> 00:19:59,120
recruiting in the muslim community it's

680
00:20:01,750 --> 00:20:00,240
a lot different than recruiting from

681
00:20:04,310 --> 00:20:01,760
within an organized crime

682
00:20:05,350 --> 00:20:04,320
uh organization you know in these cases

683
00:20:06,789 --> 00:20:05,360
you know these are people who are

684
00:20:07,990 --> 00:20:06,799
law-abiding people going about their day

685
00:20:10,070 --> 00:20:08,000
working everyday jobs

686
00:20:11,270 --> 00:20:10,080
going to the mosque on friday you know

687
00:20:13,510 --> 00:20:11,280
you're not going to catch them

688
00:20:15,590 --> 00:20:13,520

stealing cars and so in this case the

689

00:20:16,230 --> 00:20:15,600

fbi needs to build up its capacity for

690

00:20:18,230 --> 00:20:16,240

intelligence

691

00:20:19,990 --> 00:20:18,240

in muslim communities and it does that

692

00:20:21,990 --> 00:20:20,000

by using what leverage it can

693

00:20:23,190 --> 00:20:22,000

and in the muslim community immigration

694

00:20:23,750 --> 00:20:23,200

tends to be the greatest form of

695

00:20:26,470 --> 00:20:23,760

leverage

696

00:20:27,990 --> 00:20:26,480

right so what we what we see is uh and

697

00:20:28,870 --> 00:20:28,000

what we've seen a number of cases is the

698

00:20:31,909 --> 00:20:28,880

fbi

699

00:20:33,029 --> 00:20:31,919

working very closely with ice using

700

00:20:35,430 --> 00:20:33,039

immigration and the threat of

701

00:20:36,950 --> 00:20:35,440

deportation as leverage to recruit

702

00:20:39,350 --> 00:20:36,960

informants you know so these are people

703

00:20:41,270 --> 00:20:39,360

who didn't violate any laws if they

704

00:20:43,750 --> 00:20:41,280

if they were facing possible deportation

705

00:20:46,470 --> 00:20:43,760

that's a civil issue not a criminal one

706

00:20:47,430 --> 00:20:46,480

and in these cases the fbi uses that to

707

00:20:49,590 --> 00:20:47,440

say well you know

708

00:20:51,830 --> 00:20:49,600

unless you work with us you're gonna you

709

00:20:53,430 --> 00:20:51,840

know have to be deported or they'll say

710

00:20:55,190 --> 00:20:53,440

hey you know we're we know you're

711

00:20:55,830 --> 00:20:55,200

looking to get your your family over

712

00:20:58,310 --> 00:20:55,840

from

713

00:20:59,590 --> 00:20:58,320

syria if you work with us we'll make

714

00:21:02,149 --> 00:20:59,600

that happen if you don't

715

00:21:03,510 --> 00:21:02,159

they probably won't be able to come over

716

00:21:04,149 --> 00:21:03,520

and that's an extraordinary form of

717

00:21:06,230 --> 00:21:04,159

leverage

718

00:21:08,070 --> 00:21:06,240

that the fbi is able to use and and it's

719

00:21:09,029 --> 00:21:08,080

been incredibly effective you know today

720

00:21:11,590 --> 00:21:09,039

the fbi has

721

00:21:13,750 --> 00:21:11,600

15 000 informants who are working for it

722

00:21:15,750 --> 00:21:13,760

it's just 10 times as many as it had

723

00:21:17,190 --> 00:21:15,760

under hoover and you know some of these

724

00:21:18,149 --> 00:21:17,200

informants are like i mentioned shahid

725

00:21:20,789 --> 00:21:18,159

hussein who

726

00:21:22,070 --> 00:21:20,799

was a criminal who you know played as an

727

00:21:22,870 --> 00:21:22,080

agent provocative for these sting

728

00:21:24,630 --> 00:21:22,880

operations

729

00:21:26,710 --> 00:21:24,640

others are providing information under

730

00:21:28,470 --> 00:21:26,720

duress um you know acting and sting

731

00:21:28,950 --> 00:21:28,480

operations under address as a result of

732

00:21:31,110 --> 00:21:28,960

these

733

00:21:33,190 --> 00:21:31,120

immigration threats you know to point

734

00:21:35,190 --> 00:21:33,200

out another one of his methods that

735

00:21:36,470 --> 00:21:35,200

that really does because i'm sure some

736

00:21:37,990 --> 00:21:36,480

people are like well you know it's got

737

00:21:39,110 --> 00:21:38,000

to be pretty tough to get mixed up in a

738

00:21:40,789 --> 00:21:39,120

terror plot but

739

00:21:42,950 --> 00:21:40,799

it really isn't i mean it even came out

740

00:21:43,669 --> 00:21:42,960

in court that he uses code words for

741

00:21:45,990 --> 00:21:43,679

missiles

742

00:21:47,110 --> 00:21:46,000

that he makes up that only he knows that

743

00:21:49,029 --> 00:21:47,120

the person he's talking to doesn't know

744

00:21:50,390 --> 00:21:49,039

he called it uh a chaudry

745

00:21:52,230 --> 00:21:50,400

you're like oh yeah i'm transporting

746

00:21:53,669 --> 00:21:52,240

some cauldries and you guys just like

747

00:21:54,230 --> 00:21:53,679

okay whatever like you're gonna give me

748

00:21:55,990 --> 00:21:54,240

fifty

749

00:21:57,669 --> 00:21:56,000

thousand dollars like you know and he

750

00:22:00,310 --> 00:21:57,679

was paying them back too it's just

751

00:22:01,669 --> 00:22:00,320

it's so unfortunate in the memo line

752

00:22:03,270 --> 00:22:01,679

there when he was paying them back he

753

00:22:04,470 --> 00:22:03,280

put you know loan repayment you know

754

00:22:05,750 --> 00:22:04,480

there were certainly evidences suggest

755

00:22:07,510 --> 00:22:05,760

he thought it was alone

756

00:22:09,510 --> 00:22:07,520

um there there was very little evidence

757

00:22:11,590 --> 00:22:09,520

to support the idea that

758

00:22:12,549 --> 00:22:11,600

the two defendants uh muhammad hussain

759

00:22:14,310 --> 00:22:12,559

and yasina ref

760

00:22:15,750 --> 00:22:14,320

knew what chowdhury meant you know it

761

00:22:17,270 --> 00:22:15,760

was clear that

762

00:22:18,710 --> 00:22:17,280

he was he was using that word but it was

763

00:22:19,590 --> 00:22:18,720

unclear that they even knew what

764

00:22:21,270 --> 00:22:19,600

chowdhury meant

765

00:22:22,950 --> 00:22:21,280

um and you know it also fit a pattern

766

00:22:25,029 --> 00:22:22,960

too you know later

767

00:22:26,310 --> 00:22:25,039

hussein that same informant was used in

768

00:22:27,669 --> 00:22:26,320

this new brick case that i mentioned

769

00:22:29,669 --> 00:22:27,679

earlier where these men were

770

00:22:30,870 --> 00:22:29,679

plotting to bomb synagogues in the bronx

771

00:22:33,190 --> 00:22:30,880

and in that case

772

00:22:34,950 --> 00:22:33,200

during during trial testimony it came

773

00:22:38,230 --> 00:22:34,960

out because on one of the recordings

774

00:22:39,990 --> 00:22:38,240

shahed hussein offers the men 250 000

775

00:22:41,110 --> 00:22:40,000

to carry forward with the plot and

776

00:22:41,990 --> 00:22:41,120

obviously that looks very bad on the

777

00:22:42,710 --> 00:22:42,000

government side you know you're

778

00:22:44,070 --> 00:22:42,720

basically offering

779

00:22:46,310 --> 00:22:44,080

you know bribing someone to go forward

780

00:22:48,950 --> 00:22:46,320

in a sting operation and uh

781

00:22:50,710 --> 00:22:48,960

hussein says well that was a code word

782

00:22:51,110 --> 00:22:50,720

and uh the the defense attorney asked

783

00:22:52,710 --> 00:22:51,120

them well

784

00:22:54,149 --> 00:22:52,720

who knew that code word and shahed

785

00:22:55,510 --> 00:22:54,159

hussein had to admit well he was the

786

00:22:56,710 --> 00:22:55,520

only one who knew that code word

787

00:22:58,390 --> 00:22:56,720

and so obviously it's not much of a code

788

00:22:59,430 --> 00:22:58,400

word if you're the only one who knows it

789

00:23:01,830 --> 00:22:59,440

and you know it was

790

00:23:03,909 --> 00:23:01,840

it was clear in both of these cases that

791

00:23:05,750 --> 00:23:03,919

hussein was doing and saying things

792

00:23:07,510 --> 00:23:05,760

whatever he needed to do to make a

793

00:23:09,990 --> 00:23:07,520

prosecutable case

794

00:23:10,549 --> 00:23:10,000

that to me that specific case was the

795

00:23:12,310 --> 00:23:10,559

most

796

00:23:13,909 --> 00:23:12,320

shocking but digging through all these

797

00:23:17,029 --> 00:23:13,919

documents and cases yourself what did

798

00:23:19,110 --> 00:23:17,039

you find most troubling or surprising

799

00:23:21,029 --> 00:23:19,120

you know in some of these cases what i

800

00:23:21,990 --> 00:23:21,039

found troubling was the fact that as i

801

00:23:24,390 --> 00:23:22,000

mentioned earlier that they

802

00:23:25,590 --> 00:23:24,400

used people who were worse than the

803

00:23:26,310 --> 00:23:25,600

people they were targeting you know for

804

00:23:28,630 --> 00:23:26,320

example they

805

00:23:30,390 --> 00:23:28,640

in seattle they used that child molester

806

00:23:31,990 --> 00:23:30,400

who ultimately targeted

807

00:23:33,990 --> 00:23:32,000

two men who were mentally ill one of

808

00:23:35,270 --> 00:23:34,000

them had schizoaffective disorder which

809

00:23:37,190 --> 00:23:35,280

means he had trouble distinguishing

810

00:23:38,470 --> 00:23:37,200

between reality and fantasy which

811

00:23:40,390 --> 00:23:38,480

obviously someone who

812

00:23:42,230 --> 00:23:40,400

uh is going to be very susceptible to

813

00:23:44,070 --> 00:23:42,240

the influence of an informant

814

00:23:45,990 --> 00:23:44,080

um but in other cases you know what i

815

00:23:48,310 --> 00:23:46,000

found so shocking was just

816

00:23:50,470 --> 00:23:48,320

how how how little the capacity was you

817

00:23:52,549 --> 00:23:50,480

know one of my one of my favorite cases

818

00:23:54,470 --> 00:23:52,559

uh for lack of a better term is this man

819

00:23:57,029 --> 00:23:54,480

named derek sharif and

820

00:23:57,750 --> 00:23:57,039

you know derek was this guy who lived in

821

00:23:59,750 --> 00:23:57,760

illinois

822

00:24:01,590 --> 00:23:59,760

and he recently converted to islam and

823

00:24:03,830 --> 00:24:01,600

his and his parents and his family

824

00:24:05,750 --> 00:24:03,840

had ostracized him for it and he was

825

00:24:07,350 --> 00:24:05,760

working at this video game store

826

00:24:09,110 --> 00:24:07,360

didn't have a place to live and his car

827

00:24:11,269 --> 00:24:09,120

had just broken down so derek was

828

00:24:12,630 --> 00:24:11,279

in like the worst possible situation you

829

00:24:14,549 --> 00:24:12,640

can possibly be

830

00:24:16,070 --> 00:24:14,559

and an informant comes to a video game

831

00:24:17,190 --> 00:24:16,080

store and says hey yeah i know

832

00:24:18,870 --> 00:24:17,200

i know you know you don't have a place

833

00:24:19,830 --> 00:24:18,880

to live you don't your car's broken down

834

00:24:21,590 --> 00:24:19,840

why don't you live with me

835

00:24:23,029 --> 00:24:21,600

you can use my car you know i've got

836

00:24:24,470 --> 00:24:23,039

food you can just stay with me

837

00:24:26,549 --> 00:24:24,480

and derek you know because it was the

838

00:24:27,909 --> 00:24:26,559

day before ramadan thinks this is a sign

839

00:24:29,750 --> 00:24:27,919

from god and goes and

840

00:24:31,029 --> 00:24:29,760

lives with this informant and over the

841

00:24:32,230 --> 00:24:31,039

course of months the informant

842

00:24:34,390 --> 00:24:32,240

encourages him to

843

00:24:35,669 --> 00:24:34,400

move forward in a plot to attack a

844

00:24:37,909 --> 00:24:35,679

shopping mall and this wasn't an

845

00:24:38,870 --> 00:24:37,919

idea that the informant came up with and

846

00:24:40,549 --> 00:24:38,880

so

847

00:24:42,470 --> 00:24:40,559

they talk about it and derek is saying

848

00:24:44,070 --> 00:24:42,480

some pretty hateful odious things and

849

00:24:45,590 --> 00:24:44,080

but the problem for the fbi's case was

850

00:24:46,390 --> 00:24:45,600

that they needed what's called an overt

851
00:24:47,909 --> 00:24:46,400
action they had

852
00:24:49,430 --> 00:24:47,919
they had to get him doing something that

853
00:24:50,149 --> 00:24:49,440
wasn't that was more than just talking

854
00:24:52,549 --> 00:24:50,159
about it

855
00:24:53,750 --> 00:24:52,559
and uh so so they decided well let's

856
00:24:55,190 --> 00:24:53,760
let's see if we can get him to buy

857
00:24:58,230 --> 00:24:55,200
grenades for the attack

858
00:24:59,830 --> 00:24:58,240
but the big problem for the fbi

859
00:25:01,830 --> 00:24:59,840
was that derek was flat broke he didn't

860
00:25:02,310 --> 00:25:01,840
have any money and so the informant says

861
00:25:03,750 --> 00:25:02,320
to him

862
00:25:05,510 --> 00:25:03,760
well you've got these old stereo

863
00:25:06,070 --> 00:25:05,520

speakers right but what if we took this

864

00:25:07,990 --> 00:25:06,080

to the

865

00:25:09,590 --> 00:25:08,000

the arms dealer and i think if we took

866

00:25:10,630 --> 00:25:09,600

it to him and said hey we'll give you

867

00:25:13,029 --> 00:25:10,640

the stereo speakers

868

00:25:14,390 --> 00:25:13,039

and you'll give us the five grenades

869

00:25:15,350 --> 00:25:14,400

he'll say fair trade

870

00:25:16,630 --> 00:25:15,360

and uh you know of course it's

871

00:25:17,430 --> 00:25:16,640

ridiculous on its face you know i don't

872

00:25:18,789 --> 00:25:17,440

know a lot about

873

00:25:20,310 --> 00:25:18,799

black market arm stealing but i don't

874

00:25:20,710 --> 00:25:20,320

think a arm dealer is going to accept

875

00:25:22,710 --> 00:25:20,720

two

876

00:25:24,549 --> 00:25:22,720

ratty old stereo speakers for no you

877

00:25:27,990 --> 00:25:24,559

need at least four

878

00:25:30,070 --> 00:25:28,000

right and so they end up going to uh the

879

00:25:31,990 --> 00:25:30,080

shopping mall and derek brings his two

880

00:25:33,669 --> 00:25:32,000

scenario speakers and hands them over to

881

00:25:35,430 --> 00:25:33,679

this undercover agent who's posing as an

882

00:25:36,870 --> 00:25:35,440

arms dealer and the undercover agent

883

00:25:39,269 --> 00:25:36,880

hands them back

884

00:25:40,070 --> 00:25:39,279

the grenades and uh the fbi rushes in

885

00:25:42,230 --> 00:25:40,080

and arrests him

886

00:25:43,590 --> 00:25:42,240

and ultimately he's convicted uh of

887

00:25:44,549 --> 00:25:43,600

conspiracy to use a weapon of mass

888

00:25:47,190 --> 00:25:44,559

destruction

889

00:25:48,149 --> 00:25:47,200

uh and is now serving 25 years in prison

890

00:25:49,909 --> 00:25:48,159

well obviously

891

00:25:51,669 --> 00:25:49,919

you know derek sharif on his own with

892

00:25:53,269 --> 00:25:51,679

his two spirit old stereo speakers

893

00:25:54,870 --> 00:25:53,279

never could have obtained the grenades

894

00:25:56,549 --> 00:25:54,880

never would have been able to move

895

00:25:58,630 --> 00:25:56,559

forward in a plot like this and so

896

00:26:00,149 --> 00:25:58,640

what i find most disturbing is are cases

897

00:26:02,149 --> 00:26:00,159

like that where

898

00:26:03,750 --> 00:26:02,159

ultimately men like derek sharif are

899

00:26:05,269 --> 00:26:03,760

convicted and sentenced

900

00:26:06,870 --> 00:26:05,279

according to sentencing guidelines that

901
00:26:10,149 --> 00:26:06,880
were designed for true

902
00:26:11,830 --> 00:26:10,159
capable terrorists so the fbi by

903
00:26:14,230 --> 00:26:11,840
empowering him by giving him access to

904
00:26:16,390 --> 00:26:14,240
these grenades ultimately puts him

905
00:26:17,830 --> 00:26:16,400
under sentencing guidelines that on his

906
00:26:19,350 --> 00:26:17,840
own he never could have committed a

907
00:26:20,950 --> 00:26:19,360
crime that would put him there and so

908
00:26:22,950 --> 00:26:20,960
you know to me that's a great example of

909
00:26:25,430 --> 00:26:22,960
the fbi really just empowering someone

910
00:26:26,870 --> 00:26:25,440
to become a terrorist who on his own you

911
00:26:28,149 --> 00:26:26,880
know was probably incapable of even

912
00:26:30,230 --> 00:26:28,159
minor crimes

913
00:26:31,750 --> 00:26:30,240

right and in regards to some of the

914

00:26:33,350 --> 00:26:31,760

misguided youth and

915

00:26:35,430 --> 00:26:33,360

mentally unstable there's a comment in

916

00:26:37,029 --> 00:26:35,440

the book made by one of the defense

917

00:26:39,029 --> 00:26:37,039

attorneys and he says something like

918

00:26:41,269 --> 00:26:39,039

this whole mess could have been avoided

919

00:26:43,029 --> 00:26:41,279

if the fbi counseled individuals rather

920

00:26:45,350 --> 00:26:43,039

than encouraging them and i thought wow

921

00:26:46,789 --> 00:26:45,360

it seems so simple doesn't it

922

00:26:48,149 --> 00:26:46,799

absolutely you know actually i'm in

923

00:26:49,669 --> 00:26:48,159

portland oregon right now and there's a

924

00:26:51,669 --> 00:26:49,679

trial going on involving this

925

00:26:53,269 --> 00:26:51,679

this man named muhammad muhammad and you

926
00:26:54,470 --> 00:26:53,279
know that's a great example of this this

927
00:26:56,310 --> 00:26:54,480
was a guy who

928
00:26:57,830 --> 00:26:56,320
you know espoused radical beliefs that

929
00:26:58,710 --> 00:26:57,840
he wanted to get involved in jihad

930
00:27:00,390 --> 00:26:58,720
somehow and

931
00:27:02,390 --> 00:27:00,400
these undercover agents came to him and

932
00:27:05,029 --> 00:27:02,400
said are you interested in you know

933
00:27:06,470 --> 00:27:05,039
do working on a plot with us and he says

934
00:27:08,549 --> 00:27:06,480
yes and he's and he talks about how he

935
00:27:10,310 --> 00:27:08,559
wants to bomb pioneer square in portland

936
00:27:11,990 --> 00:27:10,320
and uh the fbi agents ultimately give

937
00:27:13,510 --> 00:27:12,000
him everything he needs you know he had

938
00:27:15,430 --> 00:27:13,520

he has no he has no money he's about to

939

00:27:17,029 --> 00:27:15,440

be evicted from his apartment the fbi

940

00:27:18,950 --> 00:27:17,039

gives him i think three thousand dollars

941

00:27:19,430 --> 00:27:18,960

to pay his back rent so the eviction

942

00:27:23,669 --> 00:27:19,440

won't

943

00:27:25,430 --> 00:27:23,679

they then provide the bomb

944

00:27:27,190 --> 00:27:25,440

everything he needs they provide the car

945

00:27:28,630 --> 00:27:27,200

they provide everything and

946

00:27:30,389 --> 00:27:28,640

ultimately he moves forward in this plot

947

00:27:31,909 --> 00:27:30,399

but that's an example of this kid

948

00:27:33,669 --> 00:27:31,919

he was 19 at the time when this thing

949

00:27:33,990 --> 00:27:33,679

operation started who probably could

950

00:27:35,750 --> 00:27:34,000

have just

951
00:27:37,110 --> 00:27:35,760
been scared out of doing something like

952
00:27:38,470 --> 00:27:37,120
this probably

953
00:27:41,110 --> 00:27:38,480
you know in the middle of the sting

954
00:27:42,470 --> 00:27:41,120
operation if the fbi said boo we got you

955
00:27:43,909 --> 00:27:42,480
you know what are you doing here instead

956
00:27:44,630 --> 00:27:43,919
of letting him carry forward with it the

957
00:27:45,750 --> 00:27:44,640
whole time

958
00:27:46,710 --> 00:27:45,760
i don't think this is a guy who

959
00:27:48,310 --> 00:27:46,720
necessarily would have become a

960
00:27:50,070 --> 00:27:48,320
terrorist but right you know the fbi did

961
00:27:52,710 --> 00:27:50,080
these elaborate sting operations

962
00:27:53,590 --> 00:27:52,720
you know puts you know goes all the way

963
00:27:55,430 --> 00:27:53,600

and gets them to

964

00:27:57,350 --> 00:27:55,440

commit these fantastical acts you know

965

00:27:59,029 --> 00:27:57,360

these ex these these acts of terrorism

966

00:28:00,710 --> 00:27:59,039

that if they were real

967

00:28:01,909 --> 00:28:00,720

would be horrific but when they're able

968

00:28:03,750 --> 00:28:01,919

to bring them to a jury they're just

969

00:28:04,149 --> 00:28:03,760

like so overwhelming that in most cases

970

00:28:08,070 --> 00:28:04,159

they're

971

00:28:09,750 --> 00:28:08,080

cases well another side is uh

972

00:28:11,110 --> 00:28:09,760

you know the cozy relationship between

973

00:28:12,630 --> 00:28:11,120

government and the media and one of my

974

00:28:13,830 --> 00:28:12,640

favorite examples in the book of how

975

00:28:15,830 --> 00:28:13,840

that works is

976

00:28:17,830 --> 00:28:15,840

the case of the liberty city seven so

977

00:28:20,870 --> 00:28:17,840

what was so sketchy about the uh

978

00:28:22,230 --> 00:28:20,880

the timing of that event right so you

979

00:28:23,669 --> 00:28:22,240

know this this was under the

980

00:28:25,590 --> 00:28:23,679

administration of george w bush it would

981

00:28:27,669 --> 00:28:25,600

have been his second term in office

982

00:28:29,269 --> 00:28:27,679

and you know as you may recall that the

983

00:28:30,149 --> 00:28:29,279

new york times had written a number of

984

00:28:32,630 --> 00:28:30,159

stories about

985

00:28:34,310 --> 00:28:32,640

government overreach in spying on

986

00:28:36,549 --> 00:28:34,320

law-abiding citizens

987

00:28:37,590 --> 00:28:36,559

um using powers that were given to the

988

00:28:41,110 --> 00:28:37,600

bush administration

989

00:28:42,470 --> 00:28:41,120

after 9 11. and you know one example of

990

00:28:43,510 --> 00:28:42,480

that you know you may recall one of the

991

00:28:45,510 --> 00:28:43,520

examples was

992

00:28:47,029 --> 00:28:45,520

you know white warrantless wiretapping

993

00:28:47,590 --> 00:28:47,039

being able to listen in on conversations

994

00:28:53,430 --> 00:28:47,600

without

995

00:28:54,710 --> 00:28:53,440

in october of 2006 the new york times

996

00:28:55,110 --> 00:28:54,720

was about to release this story about

997

00:28:56,630 --> 00:28:55,120

how

998

00:28:58,630 --> 00:28:56,640

the bush administration was also getting

999

00:29:00,389 --> 00:28:58,640

access to bank records without

1000

00:29:02,070 --> 00:29:00,399

without warrants with the same type of

1001
00:29:02,950 --> 00:29:02,080
violation and they've worked together

1002
00:29:04,549 --> 00:29:02,960
for days

1003
00:29:06,070 --> 00:29:04,559
with the bush administration saying you

1004
00:29:06,870 --> 00:29:06,080
know this is the story that's coming out

1005
00:29:08,310 --> 00:29:06,880
the new york times

1006
00:29:09,990 --> 00:29:08,320
really did due diligence and telling

1007
00:29:11,590 --> 00:29:10,000
them this is what we have what's your

1008
00:29:12,070 --> 00:29:11,600
response and this is the day it's coming

1009
00:29:14,230 --> 00:29:12,080
out

1010
00:29:15,269 --> 00:29:14,240
well the the day before that story is

1011
00:29:17,590 --> 00:29:15,279
about to come out the

1012
00:29:18,389 --> 00:29:17,600
the the doj announced the the

1013
00:29:20,870 --> 00:29:18,399

prosecution

1014

00:29:22,070 --> 00:29:20,880

uh the indictment against seven guys in

1015

00:29:24,470 --> 00:29:22,080

liberty city which is

1016

00:29:25,669 --> 00:29:24,480

the poor section of miami and the

1017

00:29:27,590 --> 00:29:25,679

accusation was that

1018

00:29:29,669 --> 00:29:27,600

it was just over the top to begin with

1019

00:29:30,870 --> 00:29:29,679

you know alberto gonzalez said that

1020

00:29:32,549 --> 00:29:30,880

these seven guys

1021

00:29:33,909 --> 00:29:32,559

were going to declare ground war on the

1022

00:29:35,510 --> 00:29:33,919

united states of america which

1023

00:29:37,190 --> 00:29:35,520

obviously on its face is ridiculous it's

1024

00:29:38,310 --> 00:29:37,200

seven guys in the port in the poor

1025

00:29:40,230 --> 00:29:38,320

section of miami

1026
00:29:42,310 --> 00:29:40,240
and then the other accusation was that

1027
00:29:44,789 --> 00:29:42,320
they were plotting to bomb

1028
00:29:45,510 --> 00:29:44,799
the sears tower in chicago as well as

1029
00:29:55,029 --> 00:29:45,520
the

1030
00:29:58,070 --> 00:29:55,039
connection was

1031
00:30:00,149 --> 00:29:58,080
an undercover informant who um was

1032
00:30:01,750 --> 00:30:00,159
posing as an al-qaeda operative and who

1033
00:30:03,510 --> 00:30:01,760
was offering the guys fifty thousand

1034
00:30:05,909 --> 00:30:03,520
dollars to move forward in the plot

1035
00:30:07,350 --> 00:30:05,919
and yet the media you know immediately

1036
00:30:09,510 --> 00:30:07,360
portrayed this as

1037
00:30:10,549 --> 00:30:09,520
a dangerous plot and ultimately where it

1038
00:30:11,510 --> 00:30:10,559

was effective for the bush

1039

00:30:13,430 --> 00:30:11,520

administration

1040

00:30:15,510 --> 00:30:13,440

was that by by announcing it on the day

1041

00:30:17,029 --> 00:30:15,520

it did that pushed below the full this

1042

00:30:17,669 --> 00:30:17,039

very important new york times story

1043

00:30:20,230 --> 00:30:17,679

about

1044

00:30:22,230 --> 00:30:20,240

the bush administration's use of uh you

1045

00:30:24,310 --> 00:30:22,240

know warrantless searches on

1046

00:30:25,909 --> 00:30:24,320

bank records and you know ultimately it

1047

00:30:26,950 --> 00:30:25,919

took three trials to convict the liberty

1048

00:30:29,110 --> 00:30:26,960

city seven

1049

00:30:30,470 --> 00:30:29,120

um they only convicted five of the seven

1050

00:30:31,350 --> 00:30:30,480

you know several of the guys got really

1051

00:30:32,950 --> 00:30:31,360

short sentences

1052

00:30:34,630 --> 00:30:32,960

you know i should say short but i said

1053

00:30:36,389 --> 00:30:34,640

that relative to terrorism sentences you

1054

00:30:38,230 --> 00:30:36,399

know seven seven years or so

1055

00:30:39,430 --> 00:30:38,240

um and either guys that on their own

1056

00:30:40,070 --> 00:30:39,440

never had the capacity to commit

1057

00:30:41,669 --> 00:30:40,080

terrorism

1058

00:30:43,510 --> 00:30:41,679

you know never could have without the

1059

00:30:44,710 --> 00:30:43,520

informant got involved in a plot

1060

00:30:46,470 --> 00:30:44,720

involving al-qaeda because they were

1061

00:30:46,870 --> 00:30:46,480

never actually connected to al-qaeda and

1062

00:30:49,029 --> 00:30:46,880

yet

1063

00:30:50,710 --> 00:30:49,039

the media in many ways you know kind of

1064

00:30:52,630 --> 00:30:50,720

parroted exactly what the federal

1065

00:30:53,990 --> 00:30:52,640

government wanted it to in these cases

1066

00:30:55,590 --> 00:30:54,000

and that's that's true of a lot of these

1067

00:30:56,149 --> 00:30:55,600

terrorism cases you know it's true

1068

00:30:57,909 --> 00:30:56,159

almost

1069

00:30:59,830 --> 00:30:57,919

in every kind of crime case you know

1070

00:31:01,110 --> 00:30:59,840

early on when a when a crime including

1071

00:31:02,630 --> 00:31:01,120

terrorism is announced

1072

00:31:04,149 --> 00:31:02,640

the government has a has an efficient

1073

00:31:05,509 --> 00:31:04,159

way of kind of controlling the narrative

1074

00:31:07,190 --> 00:31:05,519

because that first story

1075

00:31:08,310 --> 00:31:07,200

is often you know the only access to

1076
00:31:09,110 --> 00:31:08,320
information you have comes from the

1077
00:31:11,909 --> 00:31:09,120
government

1078
00:31:13,509 --> 00:31:11,919
and um and and and for that reason you

1079
00:31:16,070 --> 00:31:13,519
know the media has been

1080
00:31:17,269 --> 00:31:16,080
very kind of lap dog-ish in its response

1081
00:31:18,549 --> 00:31:17,279
to these types of

1082
00:31:20,789 --> 00:31:18,559
cases you know when they're announced by

1083
00:31:22,870 --> 00:31:20,799
doj the media portrays it

1084
00:31:24,549 --> 00:31:22,880
almost you know instinctually as here's

1085
00:31:26,470 --> 00:31:24,559
another threat and it was thwarted

1086
00:31:27,590 --> 00:31:26,480
and thanks to like fbi agents who were

1087
00:31:29,669 --> 00:31:27,600
vigilant and

1088
00:31:30,950 --> 00:31:29,679

only later if it all kind of comes back

1089

00:31:32,470 --> 00:31:30,960

and says well wait a minute

1090

00:31:33,669 --> 00:31:32,480

were these guys really terrorists can

1091

00:31:35,269 --> 00:31:33,679

they really be terrorists if they were

1092

00:31:36,870 --> 00:31:35,279

never in contact with al qaeda

1093

00:31:39,110 --> 00:31:36,880

you know the only person who was

1094

00:31:40,549 --> 00:31:39,120

seemingly the terrorist in it

1095

00:31:42,549 --> 00:31:40,559

was the undercover operative who was

1096

00:31:43,350 --> 00:31:42,559

posing as a terrorist and i think

1097

00:31:45,990 --> 00:31:43,360

ultimately

1098

00:31:47,269 --> 00:31:46,000

we are seeing you know slowly a shift in

1099

00:31:48,870 --> 00:31:47,279

this conversation

1100

00:31:50,310 --> 00:31:48,880

um i'd like to think my reporting has

1101
00:31:51,350 --> 00:31:50,320
played some role in this but you know

1102
00:31:53,350 --> 00:31:51,360
for example like

1103
00:31:55,110 --> 00:31:53,360
the when quasi novice the the man who

1104
00:31:57,029 --> 00:31:55,120
was accused of applying to bomb the

1105
00:31:58,630 --> 00:31:57,039
federal reserve building in new york

1106
00:32:00,389 --> 00:31:58,640
this past october

1107
00:32:02,070 --> 00:32:00,399
with the involvement of an undercover

1108
00:32:03,269 --> 00:32:02,080
agent you know the fifth paragraph of

1109
00:32:04,950 --> 00:32:03,279
that story was a

1110
00:32:06,870 --> 00:32:04,960
a rather meaty explanation for the new

1111
00:32:08,630 --> 00:32:06,880
york times of the the criticism

1112
00:32:10,470 --> 00:32:08,640
of these cases and we weren't seeing

1113
00:32:11,750 --> 00:32:10,480

that before you know the previous six

1114

00:32:12,630 --> 00:32:11,760

years of these cases we weren't seeing

1115

00:32:14,549 --> 00:32:12,640

that type of

1116

00:32:16,230 --> 00:32:14,559

awareness by the media and my hope is

1117

00:32:17,590 --> 00:32:16,240

that eventually you know

1118

00:32:19,190 --> 00:32:17,600

this this conversation will shift

1119

00:32:20,870 --> 00:32:19,200

further and the media will be more

1120

00:32:22,950 --> 00:32:20,880

aggressive in questioning

1121

00:32:24,389 --> 00:32:22,960

the fbi and the doj about the efficacy

1122

00:32:26,310 --> 00:32:24,399

of these types of cases

1123

00:32:28,230 --> 00:32:26,320

of course yeah you got to hope what's

1124

00:32:30,389 --> 00:32:28,240

the state of the fbi's

1125

00:32:31,990 --> 00:32:30,399

terror factory today do you see these

1126

00:32:35,430 --> 00:32:32,000

practices dying down at

1127

00:32:37,350 --> 00:32:35,440

all like since 9 11. no

1128

00:32:39,509 --> 00:32:37,360

there really right now is very little

1129

00:32:40,470 --> 00:32:39,519

incentive for the fbi to pull back on

1130

00:32:42,149 --> 00:32:40,480

these practices

1131

00:32:44,389 --> 00:32:42,159

and and the reason for that is is really

1132

00:32:45,990 --> 00:32:44,399

twofold the the the primary reason is

1133

00:32:47,350 --> 00:32:46,000

that this is a bureaucratic

1134

00:32:49,110 --> 00:32:47,360

problem in some ways as i describe in

1135

00:32:50,870 --> 00:32:49,120

the book you know every year the fbi

1136

00:32:52,310 --> 00:32:50,880

gets three billion dollars to fight

1137

00:32:53,909 --> 00:32:52,320

terrorism and that's the largest part of

1138

00:32:54,870 --> 00:32:53,919

its budget that's that's more money than

1139

00:32:57,750 --> 00:32:54,880

they receive

1140

00:32:59,590 --> 00:32:57,760

for organized crime for financial fraud

1141

00:33:01,990 --> 00:32:59,600

for other areas that were traditionally

1142

00:33:03,430 --> 00:33:02,000

the focus of the fbi prior to 9 11. and

1143

00:33:05,110 --> 00:33:03,440

so they can't

1144

00:33:06,789 --> 00:33:05,120

every year spend 3 billion on

1145

00:33:08,310 --> 00:33:06,799

counter-terrorism and come back to

1146

00:33:09,909 --> 00:33:08,320

congress and say hey guys

1147

00:33:11,509 --> 00:33:09,919

we spent your 3 billion dollars and we

1148

00:33:13,509 --> 00:33:11,519

didn't find any terrorists you know

1149

00:33:15,669 --> 00:33:13,519

these these sting operations are a very

1150

00:33:17,509 --> 00:33:15,679

effective mechanism for the fbi

1151
00:33:18,710 --> 00:33:17,519
to say hey we spent your three billion

1152
00:33:20,230 --> 00:33:18,720
dollars and look what we found look at

1153
00:33:20,710 --> 00:33:20,240
this terror plot we poured it look at

1154
00:33:23,269 --> 00:33:20,720
the

1155
00:33:24,149 --> 00:33:23,279
threat that exists and you know it it

1156
00:33:26,950 --> 00:33:24,159
it's it's that

1157
00:33:28,950 --> 00:33:26,960
you know it's really a matter of kind of

1158
00:33:30,389 --> 00:33:28,960
focusing resources on a problem and

1159
00:33:32,230 --> 00:33:30,399
finding more problems you know and if

1160
00:33:34,470 --> 00:33:32,240
you focus three billion dollars of the

1161
00:33:36,070 --> 00:33:34,480
fbi's resources in any era you'd find

1162
00:33:38,070 --> 00:33:36,080
you know all kinds of problems depending

1163
00:33:39,430 --> 00:33:38,080

on the area you focus on and the other

1164

00:33:41,430 --> 00:33:39,440

issue that's that's really involved in

1165

00:33:44,149 --> 00:33:41,440

the fbi is that they have a near perfect

1166

00:33:44,549 --> 00:33:44,159

record of conviction on these trials um

1167

00:33:46,149 --> 00:33:44,559

so

1168

00:33:47,830 --> 00:33:46,159

you know the only real check for the fbi

1169

00:33:49,269 --> 00:33:47,840

in these cases is for the courts to

1170

00:33:50,070 --> 00:33:49,279

throw them out for there to be lots of

1171

00:33:52,070 --> 00:33:50,080

acquittals

1172

00:33:53,190 --> 00:33:52,080

and that would cause a re-examination of

1173

00:33:54,789 --> 00:33:53,200

these policies

1174

00:33:56,230 --> 00:33:54,799

but right now you know of these cases

1175

00:33:59,190 --> 00:33:56,240

there's a high degree

1176

00:34:00,789 --> 00:33:59,200

of guilty pleas given the the very long

1177

00:34:01,909 --> 00:34:00,799

sentences that that come as part of the

1178

00:34:04,149 --> 00:34:01,919

mandatory minimums

1179

00:34:05,269 --> 00:34:04,159

and then the other is that you know in

1180

00:34:07,430 --> 00:34:05,279

so far there have been

1181

00:34:09,349 --> 00:34:07,440

10 defendants who have argued entrapment

1182

00:34:11,750 --> 00:34:09,359

and they've so far been

1183

00:34:14,069 --> 00:34:11,760

unable to win on that defense the 11th

1184

00:34:15,750 --> 00:34:14,079

one mohamed mohamed here in portland

1185

00:34:18,389 --> 00:34:15,760

his trial is ongoing and he's also

1186

00:34:20,470 --> 00:34:18,399

arguing entrapment but you know so far

1187

00:34:22,310 --> 00:34:20,480

the the fbi and the doj have yeah they

1188

00:34:24,470 --> 00:34:22,320

said near perfect records of conviction

1189

00:34:26,069 --> 00:34:24,480

and and have had little reason to worry

1190

00:34:27,669 --> 00:34:26,079

that these cases will be thrown out for

1191

00:34:29,669 --> 00:34:27,679

entrapment

1192

00:34:31,349 --> 00:34:29,679

well like you pointed out the fbi gets

1193

00:34:32,230 --> 00:34:31,359

three billion dollars a year to fight

1194

00:34:33,909 --> 00:34:32,240

terrorism and

1195

00:34:35,589 --> 00:34:33,919

you know there are some estimates that

1196

00:34:37,030 --> 00:34:35,599

say that it would take about two billion

1197

00:34:39,430 --> 00:34:37,040

dollars a year

1198

00:34:40,950 --> 00:34:39,440

to end poverty i mean wouldn't bringing

1199

00:34:42,869 --> 00:34:40,960

citizens citizens to the war

1200

00:34:44,069 --> 00:34:42,879

of the world up to a sustainable level

1201

00:34:47,589 --> 00:34:44,079

of life do more to end

1202

00:34:50,629 --> 00:34:48,790

that's possible good question i mean to

1203

00:34:51,909 --> 00:34:50,639

me if you have something to lose

1204

00:34:53,909 --> 00:34:51,919

you're not going to get involved in this

1205

00:34:55,030 --> 00:34:53,919

the people who do are poor down on their

1206

00:34:57,109 --> 00:34:55,040

luck they want

1207

00:34:59,190 --> 00:34:57,119

excitement or attention but if everybody

1208

00:35:00,950 --> 00:34:59,200

had you know the basic necessities

1209

00:35:03,030 --> 00:35:00,960

covered like why would you risk that

1210

00:35:05,510 --> 00:35:03,040

jail has to be worse than your life you

1211

00:35:06,790 --> 00:35:05,520

know and in some cases jail's not

1212

00:35:08,950 --> 00:35:06,800

i mean certainly the the people that are

1213

00:35:10,470 --> 00:35:08,960

caught up in these sting operations

1214

00:35:11,589 --> 00:35:10,480

support that idea because these are

1215

00:35:13,349 --> 00:35:11,599

these are not people who are living

1216

00:35:15,030 --> 00:35:13,359

comfortable lives

1217

00:35:16,390 --> 00:35:15,040

with a good job and in a house with a

1218

00:35:17,589 --> 00:35:16,400

picket fence and a family

1219

00:35:19,510 --> 00:35:17,599

you know these are people very much on

1220

00:35:20,950 --> 00:35:19,520

the fringes of society who you know

1221

00:35:23,430 --> 00:35:20,960

don't have many economic

1222

00:35:25,190 --> 00:35:23,440

economic resources in most cases are are

1223

00:35:27,430 --> 00:35:25,200

very poorly educated

1224

00:35:28,310 --> 00:35:27,440

um and just don't have a great outlook

1225

00:35:30,310 --> 00:35:28,320

on life

1226
00:35:31,910 --> 00:35:30,320
because of their circumstances and you

1227
00:35:33,829 --> 00:35:31,920
know that's in part why they're

1228
00:35:35,670 --> 00:35:33,839
susceptible to this type of stuff either

1229
00:35:36,950 --> 00:35:35,680
you know for their for their own hatred

1230
00:35:38,310 --> 00:35:36,960
you know in the case of the new york

1231
00:35:39,750 --> 00:35:38,320
four that i mentioned earlier

1232
00:35:41,589 --> 00:35:39,760
you know this guy was hateful and

1233
00:35:43,349 --> 00:35:41,599
anti-semitic um

1234
00:35:44,870 --> 00:35:43,359
you know in part because he had this

1235
00:35:46,630 --> 00:35:44,880
life where he spent you know

1236
00:35:48,630 --> 00:35:46,640
an early part of his life in jail for

1237
00:35:50,710 --> 00:35:48,640
for dealing crack cocaine

1238
00:35:51,829 --> 00:35:50,720

he then worked at walmart and had very

1239

00:35:54,069 --> 00:35:51,839

little um

1240

00:35:55,750 --> 00:35:54,079

you know in the way of economic power

1241

00:35:57,589 --> 00:35:55,760

and in so many ways had been

1242

00:35:59,430 --> 00:35:57,599

disenfranchised and so here you have

1243

00:36:01,270 --> 00:35:59,440

this informant who comes to him and says

1244

00:36:02,710 --> 00:36:01,280

hey i can make you a big man don't you

1245

00:36:04,550 --> 00:36:02,720

want to be a big man like

1246

00:36:06,150 --> 00:36:04,560

get involved in this terror plot and a

1247

00:36:06,390 --> 00:36:06,160

guy like that is susceptible but you

1248

00:36:08,310 --> 00:36:06,400

know

1249

00:36:09,910 --> 00:36:08,320

someone like you or me someone comes to

1250

00:36:10,950 --> 00:36:09,920

us and says i can make you a big

1251
00:36:12,310 --> 00:36:10,960
big man you want to get into all

1252
00:36:13,589 --> 00:36:12,320
paraleg you know we're probably saying

1253
00:36:14,950 --> 00:36:13,599
get out of here and we're calling the

1254
00:36:15,670 --> 00:36:14,960
police but there are going to be those

1255
00:36:17,430 --> 00:36:15,680
people

1256
00:36:18,710 --> 00:36:17,440
who um you know are going to be

1257
00:36:20,069 --> 00:36:18,720
susceptible in that way

1258
00:36:21,990 --> 00:36:20,079
and those are the people that are really

1259
00:36:23,270 --> 00:36:22,000
being pulled into these sting operations

1260
00:36:25,109 --> 00:36:23,280
you know there was actually a judge who

1261
00:36:26,390 --> 00:36:25,119
oversaw one of these sting trials and

1262
00:36:28,630 --> 00:36:26,400
i thought she had a really great quote

1263
00:36:30,310 --> 00:36:28,640

that i quoted in the book which is

1264

00:36:32,150 --> 00:36:30,320

that you know these guys are so

1265

00:36:33,510 --> 00:36:32,160

buffoonish that if there really were

1266

00:36:34,150 --> 00:36:33,520

al-qaeda terrorists without the united

1267

00:36:35,510 --> 00:36:34,160

states

1268

00:36:37,030 --> 00:36:35,520

wanting to recruit people to commit to

1269

00:36:38,550 --> 00:36:37,040

acts of terrorism they probably wouldn't

1270

00:36:39,750 --> 00:36:38,560

even bothered with these guys you know

1271

00:36:40,550 --> 00:36:39,760

and i think that's that's a great

1272

00:36:41,990 --> 00:36:40,560

example because

1273

00:36:43,510 --> 00:36:42,000

these guys are a buffoonish and it's

1274

00:36:44,310 --> 00:36:43,520

really only the fbi through these sting

1275

00:36:46,150 --> 00:36:44,320

operations

1276

00:36:48,230 --> 00:36:46,160

that would even care to empower someone

1277

00:36:49,750 --> 00:36:48,240

like that to become a terrorist

1278

00:36:51,430 --> 00:36:49,760

well to bring this forward a little bit

1279

00:36:53,109 --> 00:36:51,440

it seems like

1280

00:36:55,270 --> 00:36:53,119

you know like with the case of the

1281

00:36:57,670 --> 00:36:55,280

liberty city seven that situation

1282

00:36:58,550 --> 00:36:57,680

it seems like the government is in this

1283

00:37:00,390 --> 00:36:58,560

pattern of

1284

00:37:02,470 --> 00:37:00,400

eroding some civil liberties getting a

1285

00:37:04,550 --> 00:37:02,480

little more aggressive and spying

1286

00:37:06,390 --> 00:37:04,560

and then it raises the public's eyebrow

1287

00:37:09,030 --> 00:37:06,400

and then all of a sudden that action

1288

00:37:10,230 --> 00:37:09,040

conveniently is justified with some

1289

00:37:12,390 --> 00:37:10,240

foiled plot

1290

00:37:14,150 --> 00:37:12,400

you know with ndaa a lot of people are

1291

00:37:15,910 --> 00:37:14,160

wary that government media are pushing

1292

00:37:17,990 --> 00:37:15,920

to blur the lines between

1293

00:37:19,990 --> 00:37:18,000

a real terrorist and say a protester or

1294

00:37:21,349 --> 00:37:20,000

in your case a real investigative

1295

00:37:22,710 --> 00:37:21,359

journalist some journalists are really

1296

00:37:24,069 --> 00:37:22,720

worried about that do you have any

1297

00:37:26,230 --> 00:37:24,079

thoughts there

1298

00:37:27,910 --> 00:37:26,240

i mean i think as far as the definition

1299

00:37:29,829 --> 00:37:27,920

of terrorism i mean one of the cases i

1300

00:37:32,069 --> 00:37:29,839

try to make in the book is that

1301
00:37:33,430 --> 00:37:32,079
we really have kind of bastardized and

1302
00:37:35,510 --> 00:37:33,440
distorted this word

1303
00:37:37,109 --> 00:37:35,520
so much you know these laws that were

1304
00:37:38,630 --> 00:37:37,119
written after 9 11

1305
00:37:40,630 --> 00:37:38,640
and before 9 11 that you know such as

1306
00:37:42,470 --> 00:37:40,640
the material support laws you know

1307
00:37:43,750 --> 00:37:42,480
these were laws intended for people that

1308
00:37:45,670 --> 00:37:43,760
were connected to

1309
00:37:47,430 --> 00:37:45,680
sophisticated international

1310
00:37:48,230 --> 00:37:47,440
organizations that had the means and the

1311
00:37:50,630 --> 00:37:48,240
know-how

1312
00:37:52,390 --> 00:37:50,640
to bomb a plane for example or obama

1313
00:37:53,270 --> 00:37:52,400

building or commit some horrific act of

1314

00:37:55,270 --> 00:37:53,280

terrorism

1315

00:37:56,310 --> 00:37:55,280

but you know through the evolution of

1316

00:37:58,230 --> 00:37:56,320

these cases

1317

00:37:59,430 --> 00:37:58,240

you know we're describing as terrorists

1318

00:38:01,030 --> 00:37:59,440

people that are just

1319

00:38:02,790 --> 00:38:01,040

kind of buffoonish and on the edges of

1320

00:38:04,870 --> 00:38:02,800

society and on their own

1321

00:38:05,829 --> 00:38:04,880

who couldn't become terrorism terrorists

1322

00:38:08,069 --> 00:38:05,839

and so i think

1323

00:38:09,589 --> 00:38:08,079

you know it's hard to know you know what

1324

00:38:10,790 --> 00:38:09,599

a terrorist is any longer because it's

1325

00:38:12,230 --> 00:38:10,800

been so distorted

1326

00:38:14,310 --> 00:38:12,240

and you know i think we can you can see

1327

00:38:15,190 --> 00:38:14,320

you can see the same in in similar cases

1328

00:38:16,630 --> 00:38:15,200

that aren't

1329

00:38:18,470 --> 00:38:16,640

related to islamic terrorism you know

1330

00:38:19,990 --> 00:38:18,480

we've had a number of prosecutions

1331

00:38:21,030 --> 00:38:20,000

involving environmental activists and

1332

00:38:22,710 --> 00:38:21,040

people on the left

1333

00:38:24,150 --> 00:38:22,720

you know the the nato ford for example

1334

00:38:26,390 --> 00:38:24,160

in chicago or these

1335

00:38:27,910 --> 00:38:26,400

these seven guys who plotted to you know

1336

00:38:29,109 --> 00:38:27,920

these so-called anarchists in cleveland

1337

00:38:31,030 --> 00:38:29,119

who plotted

1338

00:38:32,310 --> 00:38:31,040

a bridge over the cuyahoga river you

1339

00:38:33,670 --> 00:38:32,320

know these were guys you know one of

1340

00:38:35,510 --> 00:38:33,680

whom was mentally ill

1341

00:38:36,790 --> 00:38:35,520

who had no capacity on their own and it

1342

00:38:38,150 --> 00:38:36,800

was an informant who

1343

00:38:39,829 --> 00:38:38,160

provided them with the bomb that they

1344

00:38:42,150 --> 00:38:39,839

needed to set up the bridge

1345

00:38:43,109 --> 00:38:42,160

and you know we're now portraying them

1346

00:38:45,510 --> 00:38:43,119

as terrorists

1347

00:38:46,710 --> 00:38:45,520

and i i think what the media has done or

1348

00:38:49,750 --> 00:38:46,720

has allowed to happen

1349

00:38:50,710 --> 00:38:49,760

is for the is to really abduct to the

1350

00:38:52,870 --> 00:38:50,720

government

1351

00:38:54,710 --> 00:38:52,880

the role of defining what a terrorist is

1352

00:38:56,790 --> 00:38:54,720

and who a terrorist is so when

1353

00:38:58,390 --> 00:38:56,800

the fbi and the doj bring charges and

1354

00:39:00,790 --> 00:38:58,400

they say this man's a terrorist

1355

00:39:01,670 --> 00:39:00,800

the the media is happily to report you

1356

00:39:03,510 --> 00:39:01,680

know so-and-so

1357

00:39:04,870 --> 00:39:03,520

accused of you know terrorism and you

1358

00:39:07,829 --> 00:39:04,880

know suspected terrorists

1359

00:39:09,910 --> 00:39:07,839

and his name and what we don't we do see

1360

00:39:11,670 --> 00:39:09,920

some of is a real double standard we see

1361

00:39:13,430 --> 00:39:11,680

you know for example people charged with

1362

00:39:14,870 --> 00:39:13,440

islamic terrorism people on the left

1363

00:39:16,870 --> 00:39:14,880

environmental activists

1364

00:39:18,150 --> 00:39:16,880

so-called anarchists all being labeled

1365

00:39:19,829 --> 00:39:18,160

as terrorists but then

1366

00:39:21,829 --> 00:39:19,839

you know when they're sovereign citizens

1367

00:39:23,589 --> 00:39:21,839

for example or white supremacists

1368

00:39:25,270 --> 00:39:23,599

you know involved in plots that are

1369

00:39:26,870 --> 00:39:25,280

ultimately convicted

1370

00:39:29,510 --> 00:39:26,880

are only brought to court by doj and the

1371

00:39:30,710 --> 00:39:29,520

fbi we're not seeing that label applied

1372

00:39:32,550 --> 00:39:30,720

and you know i think that makes that's

1373

00:39:32,950 --> 00:39:32,560

what makes it even more confusing like

1374

00:39:34,950 --> 00:39:32,960

how

1375

00:39:36,790 --> 00:39:34,960

you know i'm not i if i was brought up

1376

00:39:38,230 --> 00:39:36,800

to testify to someone and they said

1377

00:39:40,069 --> 00:39:38,240

can you describe what a terrorist is

1378

00:39:41,670 --> 00:39:40,079

today you know based on the last 10

1379

00:39:42,069 --> 00:39:41,680

years worth of terrorism prosecutions in

1380

00:39:43,670 --> 00:39:42,079

the united

1381

00:39:45,190 --> 00:39:43,680

states i really would have a hard time

1382

00:39:47,109 --> 00:39:45,200

defining that

1383

00:39:48,230 --> 00:39:47,119

those type of tricks they use i thought

1384

00:39:49,829 --> 00:39:48,240

i saw them

1385

00:39:52,390 --> 00:39:49,839

happening in the occupy movement the

1386

00:39:54,150 --> 00:39:52,400

unfortunately brief occupy movement but

1387

00:39:56,550 --> 00:39:54,160

they were infested with agent

1388

00:39:58,310 --> 00:39:56,560

provocators you'd have one masked guy

1389

00:39:59,589 --> 00:39:58,320

throw a brick towards the cops then all

1390

00:40:00,950 --> 00:39:59,599

of a sudden he's gone but a hundred

1391

00:40:02,230 --> 00:40:00,960

innocent protesters are getting

1392

00:40:04,309 --> 00:40:02,240

tear-gassed and beaten

1393

00:40:05,589 --> 00:40:04,319

on the premise of them being violent it

1394

00:40:07,510 --> 00:40:05,599

makes you wonder

1395

00:40:09,990 --> 00:40:07,520

if change can ever really come about

1396

00:40:12,230 --> 00:40:10,000

because of this kind of manipulation

1397

00:40:14,309 --> 00:40:12,240

i think in some ways what we've seen

1398

00:40:16,470 --> 00:40:14,319

here

1399

00:40:18,230 --> 00:40:16,480

after 9 11 and with a focus on say

1400

00:40:19,109 --> 00:40:18,240

occupy or if you look at the sting

1401
00:40:21,030 --> 00:40:19,119
operation

1402
00:40:22,630 --> 00:40:21,040
involving the informant brandon darby

1403
00:40:23,430 --> 00:40:22,640
with the 2008 republican national

1404
00:40:24,870 --> 00:40:23,440
convention

1405
00:40:26,950 --> 00:40:24,880
what we've seen is a lot of money from

1406
00:40:27,270 --> 00:40:26,960
the federal government being earmarked

1407
00:40:30,390 --> 00:40:27,280
for

1408
00:40:32,710 --> 00:40:30,400
counterterrorism and that flow into the

1409
00:40:34,230 --> 00:40:32,720
fbi as well as local law enforcement

1410
00:40:36,069 --> 00:40:34,240
and the truth is there aren't a bunch of

1411
00:40:37,190 --> 00:40:36,079
muhammad autos running around the united

1412
00:40:37,990 --> 00:40:37,200
states you know there's no evidence

1413
00:40:39,829 --> 00:40:38,000

suggest that

1414

00:40:41,430 --> 00:40:39,839

that that is the case but you have

1415

00:40:42,230 --> 00:40:41,440

millions about billions of dollars

1416

00:40:44,790 --> 00:40:42,240

flowing

1417

00:40:46,550 --> 00:40:44,800

in the effort to fight terrorism and so

1418

00:40:47,990 --> 00:40:46,560

what ends up happening is groups that

1419

00:40:48,550 --> 00:40:48,000

aren't what it was necessarily targeted

1420

00:40:52,950 --> 00:40:48,560

for

1421

00:40:54,630 --> 00:40:52,960

counterterrorism activity

1422

00:40:56,230 --> 00:40:54,640

and i think you know that's why we see

1423

00:40:58,790 --> 00:40:56,240

what we see with you know

1424

00:41:00,550 --> 00:40:58,800

informants being used in occupy uh with

1425

00:41:02,790 --> 00:41:00,560

informants being used for example the

1426

00:41:04,790 --> 00:41:02,800

2008 republican national convention

1427

00:41:05,990 --> 00:41:04,800

and i think in some ways you know when a

1428

00:41:08,790 --> 00:41:06,000

bunch of counter-terrorism money

1429

00:41:10,550 --> 00:41:08,800

flows to cops there's a suspicion among

1430

00:41:12,550 --> 00:41:10,560

cops that well these people on the left

1431

00:41:14,069 --> 00:41:12,560

you know they're protesters they must be

1432

00:41:15,750 --> 00:41:14,079

up to no good they must be up to

1433

00:41:17,270 --> 00:41:15,760

on the verge of some sort of violence

1434

00:41:18,230 --> 00:41:17,280

and i don't think it's necessarily wrong

1435

00:41:20,550 --> 00:41:18,240

for the fbi

1436

00:41:22,870 --> 00:41:20,560

to use informants in those groups just

1437

00:41:24,309 --> 00:41:22,880

to use informants to get information to

1438

00:41:25,430 --> 00:41:24,319

you know to spy on them to some instead

1439

00:41:26,550 --> 00:41:25,440

to say like well are they really

1440

00:41:28,230 --> 00:41:26,560

interested in terrorism

1441

00:41:29,589 --> 00:41:28,240

but i think where the fbi has started

1442

00:41:31,430 --> 00:41:29,599

across the line

1443

00:41:33,349 --> 00:41:31,440

is by using these informants as

1444

00:41:34,150 --> 00:41:33,359

provocateurs as people right who aren't

1445

00:41:35,589 --> 00:41:34,160

just listening

1446

00:41:36,710 --> 00:41:35,599

but are saying hey do you want to do

1447

00:41:37,829 --> 00:41:36,720

something do you want to commit some

1448

00:41:39,270 --> 00:41:37,839

sort of act of terrorism

1449

00:41:41,510 --> 00:41:39,280

and i think that's what we're seeing

1450

00:41:42,630 --> 00:41:41,520

more and more with the use of informants

1451

00:41:44,550 --> 00:41:42,640

yeah there's just too much of a

1452

00:41:46,150 --> 00:41:44,560

financial incentive for them but uh you

1453

00:41:48,069 --> 00:41:46,160

know with the increased surveillance

1454

00:41:49,670 --> 00:41:48,079

and the erosion of privacy that we find

1455

00:41:51,030 --> 00:41:49,680

ourselves dealing with

1456

00:41:52,150 --> 00:41:51,040

what do you say to someone who says well

1457

00:41:53,589 --> 00:41:52,160

if you've got nothing to hide what are

1458

00:41:55,750 --> 00:41:53,599

you so afraid of because i think that's

1459

00:41:57,030 --> 00:41:55,760

the wrong attitude

1460

00:41:59,349 --> 00:41:57,040

absolutely you know i think this is

1461

00:42:01,589 --> 00:41:59,359

always there there's always a tension

1462

00:42:03,270 --> 00:42:01,599

and there's always a conflict between

1463

00:42:04,950 --> 00:42:03,280

you know civil liberties and national

1464

00:42:06,550 --> 00:42:04,960

security so then the question is

1465

00:42:08,950 --> 00:42:06,560

how much are we willing to give up on

1466

00:42:11,109 --> 00:42:08,960

the civil liberties side to feel safer

1467

00:42:12,390 --> 00:42:11,119

on the national security side and i

1468

00:42:13,030 --> 00:42:12,400

would argue that we're giving up too

1469

00:42:15,109 --> 00:42:13,040

much you know

1470

00:42:16,790 --> 00:42:15,119

in some ways the pendulum has swung way

1471

00:42:20,150 --> 00:42:16,800

too much toward national security

1472

00:42:22,790 --> 00:42:20,160

you know what we have now if you look at

1473

00:42:23,190 --> 00:42:22,800

national security under president obama

1474

00:42:24,630 --> 00:42:23,200

since

1475

00:42:26,470 --> 00:42:24,640

his tournament off his first term in

1476
00:42:27,670 --> 00:42:26,480
office there's been an explosion of what

1477
00:42:29,030 --> 00:42:27,680
are called warrantless electronic

1478
00:42:30,790 --> 00:42:29,040
wiretaps or warrantless electronic

1479
00:42:32,309 --> 00:42:30,800
surveillance where they're going into

1480
00:42:34,630 --> 00:42:32,319
people's email and looking

1481
00:42:35,829 --> 00:42:34,640
for evidence of you know being involved

1482
00:42:37,670 --> 00:42:35,839
in some kind of

1483
00:42:38,870 --> 00:42:37,680
security threat you know under current

1484
00:42:40,390 --> 00:42:38,880
fbi guidelines

1485
00:42:43,030 --> 00:42:40,400
they can open up what's called a threat

1486
00:42:45,349 --> 00:42:43,040
assessment of anyone for 72 hours

1487
00:42:46,550 --> 00:42:45,359
which allows them to data mine to go

1488
00:42:47,270 --> 00:42:46,560

through your email to go through your

1489

00:42:49,270 --> 00:42:47,280

trash

1490

00:42:50,870 --> 00:42:49,280

to find out if there's any reason to

1491

00:42:52,950 --> 00:42:50,880

believe you are a security threat

1492

00:42:54,790 --> 00:42:52,960

and they can do that without having any

1493

00:42:56,470 --> 00:42:54,800

reason to believe that you are

1494

00:42:58,309 --> 00:42:56,480

involved in any sort of crime they don't

1495

00:42:59,829 --> 00:42:58,319

need what's what was what's termed a

1496

00:43:01,670 --> 00:42:59,839

predicate like a

1497

00:43:03,750 --> 00:43:01,680

reasonable belief that you are involved

1498

00:43:05,270 --> 00:43:03,760

in criminal activity they can for 72

1499

00:43:06,470 --> 00:43:05,280

hours to spy on you for

1500

00:43:08,950 --> 00:43:06,480

the purpose of seeing if you were

1501
00:43:10,470 --> 00:43:08,960
involved in terrorism and then after 72

1502
00:43:11,829 --> 00:43:10,480
hours they need that predicate

1503
00:43:13,510 --> 00:43:11,839
and what we're seeing is an explosion of

1504
00:43:14,790 --> 00:43:13,520
this of the federal government using

1505
00:43:17,030 --> 00:43:14,800
those powers to

1506
00:43:18,309 --> 00:43:17,040
surveil people to to look at private

1507
00:43:19,430 --> 00:43:18,319
look at their private information look

1508
00:43:21,750 --> 00:43:19,440
at their private emails

1509
00:43:22,550 --> 00:43:21,760
all in the name of national security and

1510
00:43:24,390 --> 00:43:22,560
and i think what

1511
00:43:25,990 --> 00:43:24,400
what ultimately comes with this is a

1512
00:43:26,870 --> 00:43:26,000
number of like blowback issues you know

1513
00:43:28,710 --> 00:43:26,880

for example that's

1514

00:43:30,550 --> 00:43:28,720

essentially how david petraeus went down

1515

00:43:32,150 --> 00:43:30,560

right like you know this is a this is

1516

00:43:33,670 --> 00:43:32,160

this is power so in check that i brought

1517

00:43:35,030 --> 00:43:33,680

down the cia director

1518

00:43:37,030 --> 00:43:35,040

and yet you know i think it's important

1519

00:43:38,470 --> 00:43:37,040

for people to realize that in the

1520

00:43:40,309 --> 00:43:38,480

you know kind of name of

1521

00:43:42,069 --> 00:43:40,319

counterterrorism we've given the

1522

00:43:43,750 --> 00:43:42,079

government a lot of surveillance power

1523

00:43:45,109 --> 00:43:43,760

that's being used against everyone you

1524

00:43:46,950 --> 00:43:45,119

know i mean

1525

00:43:48,790 --> 00:43:46,960

we have we have fusion centers in every

1526
00:43:51,030 --> 00:43:48,800
state that collect information

1527
00:43:52,790 --> 00:43:51,040
from local police agencies that collect

1528
00:43:53,829 --> 00:43:52,800
license plate information

1529
00:43:55,990 --> 00:43:53,839
trying to figure out where people are

1530
00:43:56,710 --> 00:43:56,000
going there's a growing you know data

1531
00:43:58,150 --> 00:43:56,720
set that

1532
00:43:59,990 --> 00:43:58,160
the federal government has on on

1533
00:44:01,510 --> 00:44:00,000
everyone and i think you know

1534
00:44:03,430 --> 00:44:01,520
there should be more inquiry of that of

1535
00:44:04,870 --> 00:44:03,440
how much privacy and how much civil

1536
00:44:08,069 --> 00:44:04,880
liberty are we giving up

1537
00:44:09,829 --> 00:44:08,079
in you know the name of uh

1538
00:44:11,670 --> 00:44:09,839

of you know fighting terrorism like how

1539

00:44:13,190 --> 00:44:11,680

much of our you know how much are we

1540

00:44:15,190 --> 00:44:13,200

shredding the fabric of our society in

1541

00:44:16,870 --> 00:44:15,200

the name of protecting it so to speak

1542

00:44:18,390 --> 00:44:16,880

right it seems like the the culture is

1543

00:44:21,190 --> 00:44:18,400

kind of going to

1544

00:44:22,069 --> 00:44:21,200

a position where you're a suspicious

1545

00:44:23,349 --> 00:44:22,079

person first

1546

00:44:25,829 --> 00:44:23,359

and then you have to prove that you're

1547

00:44:27,109 --> 00:44:25,839

not you know rather than the other way

1548

00:44:28,309 --> 00:44:27,119

around

1549

00:44:29,430 --> 00:44:28,319

you know that's definitely the case with

1550

00:44:31,510 --> 00:44:29,440

these threat assessments which i said

1551
00:44:32,630 --> 00:44:31,520
are like these these 72-hour periods

1552
00:44:34,390 --> 00:44:32,640
where the fbi

1553
00:44:35,990 --> 00:44:34,400
can you know basically look under every

1554
00:44:37,910 --> 00:44:36,000
rock related to you and all they

1555
00:44:39,589 --> 00:44:37,920
really need is an informant someone

1556
00:44:40,309 --> 00:44:39,599
maybe who's the criminal himself someone

1557
00:44:42,470 --> 00:44:40,319
who's paid

1558
00:44:43,589 --> 00:44:42,480
who says hey you know i heard about this

1559
00:44:44,790 --> 00:44:43,599
guy greg and

1560
00:44:46,470 --> 00:44:44,800
he's interested in committing an act of

1561
00:44:47,910 --> 00:44:46,480
terrorism and then they that's enough

1562
00:44:48,150 --> 00:44:47,920
for them to look at you you know that's

1563
00:44:49,109 --> 00:44:48,160

it

1564

00:44:51,349 --> 00:44:49,119

you know that isn't enough for a

1565

00:44:53,589 --> 00:44:51,359

predicate but it's not that's not good

1566

00:44:54,950 --> 00:44:53,599

yeah exactly but you know now that

1567

00:44:57,750 --> 00:44:54,960

anti-terrorism has

1568

00:44:59,430 --> 00:44:57,760

become such an explosive economic market

1569

00:45:02,309 --> 00:44:59,440

do you think we'll ever see

1570

00:45:03,910 --> 00:45:02,319

a post post 911 world or do you suspect

1571

00:45:05,109 --> 00:45:03,920

that whenever people start requesting

1572

00:45:07,109 --> 00:45:05,119

rights back we're just going to see

1573

00:45:08,870 --> 00:45:07,119

some government made narrowly escaped

1574

00:45:11,510 --> 00:45:08,880

terror plot paraded across the media to

1575

00:45:13,510 --> 00:45:11,520

remind us to sit down and shut up

1576

00:45:15,109 --> 00:45:13,520

it's hard to know you know i quote art

1577

00:45:16,470 --> 00:45:15,119

cummings who is the former fbi assistant

1578

00:45:17,910 --> 00:45:16,480

director who created the

1579

00:45:19,589 --> 00:45:17,920

you know it was one of the architects of

1580

00:45:20,710 --> 00:45:19,599

the sting programs and you know and i

1581

00:45:22,390 --> 00:45:20,720

asked him about you know

1582

00:45:23,910 --> 00:45:22,400

this kind of war on terrorism how long

1583

00:45:26,309 --> 00:45:23,920

can this go and

1584

00:45:28,230 --> 00:45:26,319

what the fbi believes is that you know

1585

00:45:29,349 --> 00:45:28,240

we're not so much at war with al qaeda

1586

00:45:31,510 --> 00:45:29,359

as we are with what they term

1587

00:45:32,309 --> 00:45:31,520

al-qaeda-ism the kind of idea of al

1588

00:45:34,150 --> 00:45:32,319

qaeda

1589

00:45:35,670 --> 00:45:34,160

and i said to him you know well if it's

1590

00:45:36,710 --> 00:45:35,680

an idea you know you can't really kill

1591

00:45:38,470 --> 00:45:36,720

an idea how can you be

1592

00:45:39,750 --> 00:45:38,480

at war with an idea of course and he

1593

00:45:42,309 --> 00:45:39,760

said that's right it's

1594

00:45:42,790 --> 00:45:42,319

this indefinite war and i think the fbi

1595

00:45:45,030 --> 00:45:42,800

really

1596

00:45:45,990 --> 00:45:45,040

believes this is generational if not

1597

00:45:47,750 --> 00:45:46,000

longer that

1598

00:45:49,910 --> 00:45:47,760

you know this is this is a threat to us

1599

00:45:50,870 --> 00:45:49,920

the fear that lone wolves in the united

1600

00:45:52,630 --> 00:45:50,880

states will

1601
00:45:54,470 --> 00:45:52,640
become inspired by al Qaeda and commit

1602
00:45:56,630 --> 00:45:54,480
some sort of act of terrorism and so

1603
00:45:57,910 --> 00:45:56,640
they need to be on guard for that but

1604
00:45:59,030 --> 00:45:57,920
the question I raised in the book is

1605
00:46:00,550 --> 00:45:59,040
think is

1606
00:46:02,870 --> 00:46:00,560
you know how much have we missed as a

1607
00:46:04,630 --> 00:46:02,880
result of this focus on

1608
00:46:06,630 --> 00:46:04,640
uncounter terrorism you know if you look

1609
00:46:06,950 --> 00:46:06,640
at the mortgage fraud that went on in

1610
00:46:10,309 --> 00:46:06,960
the

1611
00:46:13,109 --> 00:46:10,319
fraud was an

1612
00:46:13,990 --> 00:46:13,119
area that the FBI prior to 9/11 was was

1613
00:46:15,910 --> 00:46:14,000

was cracking down

1614

00:46:17,750 --> 00:46:15,920

on was a big part of their business and

1615

00:46:19,430 --> 00:46:17,760

you know if they weren't so focused on

1616

00:46:20,950 --> 00:46:19,440

on counterterrorism could we have caught

1617

00:46:22,470 --> 00:46:20,960

some of these issues that became

1618

00:46:24,230 --> 00:46:22,480

financial contagions in the middle of

1619

00:46:25,589 --> 00:46:24,240

the last decade you know i think that's

1620

00:46:26,870 --> 00:46:25,599

a real question and i think that's what

1621

00:46:28,470 --> 00:46:26,880

more people should be asking

1622

00:46:30,069 --> 00:46:28,480

i i don't i don't make the case and i

1623

00:46:31,190 --> 00:46:30,079

would never make the case that terrorism

1624

00:46:31,829 --> 00:46:31,200

isn't a threat and that the fbi

1625

00:46:33,510 --> 00:46:31,839

shouldn't be

1626

00:46:36,309 --> 00:46:33,520

interested in terrorism it should what i

1627

00:46:37,829 --> 00:46:36,319

do make the case for i think is that

1628

00:46:39,430 --> 00:46:37,839

the priorities need to shift and i think

1629

00:46:40,309 --> 00:46:39,440

they need to shift back to organized

1630

00:46:42,150 --> 00:46:40,319

crime and

1631

00:46:43,910 --> 00:46:42,160

financial fraud and you know the the

1632

00:46:45,190 --> 00:46:43,920

typical things that the fbi was focused

1633

00:46:47,430 --> 00:46:45,200

on prior to 911

1634

00:46:49,349 --> 00:46:47,440

yeah 100 agree on financial fraud i

1635

00:46:52,950 --> 00:46:49,359

think that is the real enemy

1636

00:46:55,109 --> 00:46:52,960

of today it is just so unfortunate

1637

00:46:56,550 --> 00:46:55,119

and it's hard for people to really

1638

00:46:58,630 --> 00:46:56,560

understand

1639

00:47:00,630 --> 00:46:58,640

to what degree terrorism is a danger

1640

00:47:02,470 --> 00:47:00,640

with all the manufactured

1641

00:47:03,750 --> 00:47:02,480

stories coming out like it's it's just

1642

00:47:06,710 --> 00:47:03,760

hard to know

1643

00:47:07,430 --> 00:47:06,720

of course there is some guy somewhere

1644

00:47:09,829 --> 00:47:07,440

who

1645

00:47:11,270 --> 00:47:09,839

will want to bomb something but i mean

1646

00:47:13,510 --> 00:47:11,280

do we really need

1647

00:47:14,630 --> 00:47:13,520

to grope everyone who goes through an

1648

00:47:16,950 --> 00:47:14,640

airport

1649

00:47:17,829 --> 00:47:16,960

because that could happen sometime

1650

00:47:19,430 --> 00:47:17,839

somewhere i mean

1651

00:47:21,349 --> 00:47:19,440

you're more likely to get in a car

1652

00:47:23,910 --> 00:47:21,359

accident on the way to the airport

1653

00:47:25,750 --> 00:47:23,920

you know yeah i mean in so many ways our

1654

00:47:27,430 --> 00:47:25,760

counterterrorism policy that security

1655

00:47:28,870 --> 00:47:27,440

measures have really just been

1656

00:47:30,069 --> 00:47:28,880

reactionary right you know after the

1657

00:47:31,109 --> 00:47:30,079

shoe bomber everybody had to take off

1658

00:47:32,549 --> 00:47:31,119

their shoes and

1659

00:47:34,069 --> 00:47:32,559

after the underwear bomber we limited

1660

00:47:35,270 --> 00:47:34,079

the amount of uh liquids that could be

1661

00:47:37,430 --> 00:47:35,280

brought onto

1662

00:47:38,390 --> 00:47:37,440

an airplane and how much of that is

1663

00:47:40,870 --> 00:47:38,400

really effective

1664

00:47:42,790 --> 00:47:40,880

you know i i don't know i mean i think i

1665

00:47:44,470 --> 00:47:42,800

i think that is that's a real question

1666

00:47:45,990 --> 00:47:44,480

and but i also think the fbi has been

1667

00:47:48,069 --> 00:47:46,000

very good at

1668

00:47:50,150 --> 00:47:48,079

you know dialing up the fear novel

1669

00:47:51,910 --> 00:47:50,160

they're dialing up the fear a little bit

1670

00:47:53,349 --> 00:47:51,920

yeah the way it works these sting

1671

00:47:54,950 --> 00:47:53,359

operations you know when it works a

1672

00:47:57,750 --> 00:47:54,960

sting operation it could go for

1673

00:47:58,790 --> 00:47:57,760

a a not very ambitious plot you know

1674

00:48:00,950 --> 00:47:58,800

something simple

1675

00:48:02,710 --> 00:48:00,960

um instead they have you know their

1676
00:48:04,150 --> 00:48:02,720
targets go for extraordinary plots like

1677
00:48:06,069 --> 00:48:04,160
bombing skyscrapers or

1678
00:48:07,829 --> 00:48:06,079
bombing transit systems you know things

1679
00:48:10,069 --> 00:48:07,839
that are are horrific and

1680
00:48:11,510 --> 00:48:10,079
awful if they were to really occur um

1681
00:48:12,549 --> 00:48:11,520
but i also think it's worth pointing out

1682
00:48:14,309 --> 00:48:12,559
that

1683
00:48:15,670 --> 00:48:14,319
you know just it's actually quite easy

1684
00:48:17,030 --> 00:48:15,680
to commit an act of terrorism in the

1685
00:48:18,150 --> 00:48:17,040
united states you know i mean if you

1686
00:48:18,470 --> 00:48:18,160
wanted to commit something horrific i

1687
00:48:20,230 --> 00:48:18,480
mean

1688
00:48:21,829 --> 00:48:20,240

look at newtown connecticut right this

1689

00:48:23,589 --> 00:48:21,839

it's one guy with a

1690

00:48:25,190 --> 00:48:23,599

gun an assault rifle and some

1691

00:48:27,190 --> 00:48:25,200

high-capacity magazines and

1692

00:48:28,710 --> 00:48:27,200

he commits a horrific crime he kills 20

1693

00:48:30,309 --> 00:48:28,720

school children but

1694

00:48:32,069 --> 00:48:30,319

you know the truth is in the last decade

1695

00:48:33,910 --> 00:48:32,079

we've seen more people killed through

1696

00:48:35,270 --> 00:48:33,920

that alone gunman with that kind of gun

1697

00:48:37,510 --> 00:48:35,280

violence than we have

1698

00:48:39,030 --> 00:48:37,520

through you know so-called lone wolves

1699

00:48:40,309 --> 00:48:39,040

with al-qaeda sympathies you know the

1700

00:48:42,390 --> 00:48:40,319

truth is that we're not seeing

1701

00:48:43,990 --> 00:48:42,400

the death toll with you know these

1702

00:48:45,430 --> 00:48:44,000

so-called al-qaeda terrorists and the

1703

00:48:48,150 --> 00:48:45,440

wolves that we're seeing with just you

1704

00:48:50,630 --> 00:48:48,160

know random gunmen who pick up arms

1705

00:48:51,589 --> 00:48:50,640

right i mean we're kind of getting down

1706

00:48:53,349 --> 00:48:51,599

to uh

1707

00:48:54,870 --> 00:48:53,359

the end of the show now but you know you

1708

00:48:55,510 --> 00:48:54,880

bring up sandy hook and my opinion of

1709

00:48:57,270 --> 00:48:55,520

government

1710

00:48:59,670 --> 00:48:57,280

is that the conspiracy and the outright

1711

00:49:02,390 --> 00:48:59,680

criminality they go far deeper than

1712

00:49:04,630 --> 00:49:02,400

even your work but at times it's it

1713

00:49:06,549 --> 00:49:04,640

often hinges on anecdotal evidence or

1714

00:49:08,309 --> 00:49:06,559

sketchy witness testimony so

1715

00:49:10,150 --> 00:49:08,319

it is good to step out of that once in a

1716

00:49:10,950 --> 00:49:10,160

while and focus on some good

1717

00:49:13,190 --> 00:49:10,960

old-fashioned

1718

00:49:14,870 --> 00:49:13,200

obvious and well-researched corruption i

1719

00:49:16,230 --> 00:49:14,880

i love the book i thought the stories in

1720

00:49:17,670 --> 00:49:16,240

it were fascinating

1721

00:49:19,589 --> 00:49:17,680

thanks very much i appreciate it of

1722

00:49:21,270 --> 00:49:19,599

course well trevor anderson thanks so

1723

00:49:23,030 --> 00:49:21,280

much for being on the show this is such

1724

00:49:24,390 --> 00:49:23,040

important information to get out there

1725

00:49:26,390 --> 00:49:24,400

it's great that you've been brave and

1726

00:49:28,710 --> 00:49:26,400

dedicated enough to do it

1727

00:49:30,230 --> 00:49:28,720

um is there any new or deeper direction

1728

00:49:33,030 --> 00:49:30,240

your research is going to

1729

00:49:34,150 --> 00:49:33,040

be taking you next no actually we kind

1730

00:49:35,990 --> 00:49:34,160

of hinted on that i mean

1731

00:49:37,589 --> 00:49:36,000

the next project i'd like to do if i can

1732

00:49:39,349 --> 00:49:37,599

if i can turn it into a book is to

1733

00:49:41,589 --> 00:49:39,359

to look at how a lot of this money

1734

00:49:43,270 --> 00:49:41,599

that's been spent on counterterrorism

1735

00:49:44,950 --> 00:49:43,280

and surveillance for counter-terrorism

1736

00:49:45,829 --> 00:49:44,960

efforts is is really being turned

1737

00:49:47,510 --> 00:49:45,839

against people

1738

00:49:49,270 --> 00:49:47,520

and invading their privacy you know i

1739

00:49:49,750 --> 00:49:49,280

think this is the next question for us

1740

00:49:51,430 --> 00:49:49,760

like

1741

00:49:52,790 --> 00:49:51,440

what what is the future of privacy in an

1742

00:49:53,910 --> 00:49:52,800

age of terrorism and i think that's

1743

00:49:54,710 --> 00:49:53,920

really something i'd like to look at

1744

00:49:56,870 --> 00:49:54,720

right

1745

00:49:58,069 --> 00:49:56,880

i mean that's a real concern because it

1746

00:49:59,910 --> 00:49:58,079

just seems like

1747

00:50:01,589 --> 00:49:59,920

problems we have like can't you know

1748

00:50:02,870 --> 00:50:01,599

liquids on airplanes and taking your

1749

00:50:04,790 --> 00:50:02,880

shoes off

1750

00:50:06,710 --> 00:50:04,800

when do these go away these happen

1751
00:50:07,510 --> 00:50:06,720
because one guy over the course of all

1752
00:50:09,510 --> 00:50:07,520
history

1753
00:50:11,030 --> 00:50:09,520
tried to do something and didn't get it

1754
00:50:13,109 --> 00:50:11,040
done you know

1755
00:50:14,230 --> 00:50:13,119
it does seem a little ridiculous right

1756
00:50:15,670 --> 00:50:14,240
yeah there's definitely i think so much

1757
00:50:17,349 --> 00:50:15,680
of the policy we've seen

1758
00:50:18,710 --> 00:50:17,359
for counter-terrorism and so much of the

1759
00:50:21,030 --> 00:50:18,720
policy that ultimately

1760
00:50:22,950 --> 00:50:21,040
creates programs that invade our privacy

1761
00:50:24,549 --> 00:50:22,960
um are just reactionary it's kind of a

1762
00:50:26,230 --> 00:50:24,559
knee-jerk reaction to

1763
00:50:28,069 --> 00:50:26,240

uh some kind of threat as opposed to

1764

00:50:30,150 --> 00:50:28,079

being a really reason to look at

1765

00:50:32,150 --> 00:50:30,160

what would keep us safer and how can we

1766

00:50:33,990 --> 00:50:32,160

balance civil liberties with concerns

1767

00:50:35,910 --> 00:50:34,000

about national security

1768

00:50:37,190 --> 00:50:35,920

well trevor where can people keep up

1769

00:50:38,230 --> 00:50:37,200

with you um do you want to give them

1770

00:50:40,630 --> 00:50:38,240

your website

1771

00:50:42,549 --> 00:50:40,640

yeah my website is trevor aaronson.com

1772

00:50:43,109 --> 00:50:42,559

and my last name is spelled with two a's

1773

00:50:46,870 --> 00:50:43,119

so it's

1774

00:50:47,270 --> 00:50:46,880

trevor t r e v o r a r o n s o n a a r o n s o

1775

00:50:50,870 --> 00:50:47,280

n

1776

00:50:52,230 --> 00:50:50,880

with the episode too

1777

00:50:54,069 --> 00:50:52,240

uh well that does it for me you know

1778

00:50:55,589 --> 00:50:54,079

thanks again the book is terror factory

1779

00:50:57,589 --> 00:50:55,599

pick it up and learn something

1780

00:50:59,349 --> 00:50:57,599

keep up the good work man great thanks

1781

00:51:00,470 --> 00:50:59,359

so much for having me anytime have a

1782

00:51:03,990 --> 00:51:00,480

good day

1783

00:51:05,670 --> 00:51:04,000

bye well there it is another

1784

00:51:07,750 --> 00:51:05,680

higher side chats in the bank i

1785

00:51:08,069 --> 00:51:07,760

personally see terrafactory as a great

1786

00:51:10,870 --> 00:51:08,079

way

1787

00:51:13,589 --> 00:51:10,880

to reach someone who won't or can't go

1788

00:51:15,030 --> 00:51:13,599

quite as deep as we usually do on the

1789

00:51:16,790 --> 00:51:15,040

you really don't have to look that far

1790

00:51:18,710 --> 00:51:16,800

to see there's a real [h__h] problem

1791

00:51:20,230 --> 00:51:18,720

and that really is the point i think

1792

00:51:22,390 --> 00:51:20,240

terrafactory is just

1793

00:51:23,990 --> 00:51:22,400

perfect imagery to describe what we have

1794

00:51:25,349 --> 00:51:24,000

going on in our government

1795

00:51:27,670 --> 00:51:25,359

and with that said thank you for

1796

00:51:29,109 --> 00:51:27,680

allowing me such an intimate place in

1797

00:51:31,190 --> 00:51:29,119

your life for the past hour

1798

00:51:32,950 --> 00:51:31,200

hope we can do it again please continue

1799

00:51:34,309 --> 00:51:32,960

to share the show leave me reviews

1800

00:51:35,990 --> 00:51:34,319

donate if you can

1801
00:51:37,990 --> 00:51:36,000
read some of the blogs by my upcoming

1802
00:51:38,790 --> 00:51:38,000
co-host and myself that will be dropping

1803
00:51:41,270 --> 00:51:38,800
this week

1804
00:51:43,430 --> 00:51:41,280
and check out the high quality and bold

1805
00:51:43,829 --> 00:51:43,440
t-shirt designs i've come up with thus

1806
00:51:46,790 --> 00:51:43,839
far

1807
00:51:48,950 --> 00:51:46,800
at conspiratees.net here's a little dose

1808
00:51:49,589 --> 00:51:48,960
of anti-flag to get the blood flowing

1809
00:51:51,430 --> 00:51:49,599
again

1810
00:51:53,990 --> 00:51:51,440
and i'll see you on the sabbath people

1811
00:51:54,950 --> 00:51:54,000
you're gonna die gonna die gotta die for

1812
00:51:57,589 --> 00:51:54,960
your government

1813
00:52:00,230 --> 00:51:57,599

die for your country that [\h__\h] you're

1814

00:52:00,950 --> 00:52:00,240

gonna die gonna die gonna die for your

1815

00:52:44,829 --> 00:52:00,960

government

1816

00:52:44,839 --> 00:53:12,829

sickness

1817

00:53:12,839 --> 00:53:26,829

[\h__\h]

1818

00:53:26,839 --> 00:53:36,829

slaughtered

1819

00:53:36,839 --> 00:54:07,270

radiation agent orange

1820

00:54:07,280 --> 00:54:23,190

tell me what to do

1821

00:54:28,309 --> 00:54:25,910

gonna die gonna die for your government

1822

00:54:31,109 --> 00:54:28,319

die for your country that [\h__\h]

1823

00:54:32,069 --> 00:54:31,119

you're gonna die gonna die gonna die for

1824

00:54:34,790 --> 00:54:32,079

your government

1825

00:55:04,829 --> 00:54:34,800

die for your country that [\h__\h] you're

