

SDNY CALLS DOJ'S DEFINITION OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT AN "ACADEMIC INTEREST"

SDNY says that it's merely academic to a journalist whether the government might prosecute her under the Espionage Act for sharing already published information.

SUPPORTING THOSE WHO MAKE GOOD TROUBLE

There are lots of folks who work to fight injustice, making the kind of "Good Trouble" that John Lewis embraced, who need our support. Here are a few, and you can add your own in the comments.

ON THE SHODDY JOURNALISTIC DEFENSE OF "WIKLEAKS"

It took a little old emptywheel to point out to some of the world's leading newspapers that they hadn't fact-checked a letter purporting to defend the principles of journalism.

WELCOME TO THE JIM JORDAN AND JAMES COMER LOOK THE OTHER WAY COMMITTEES, BROUGHT TO YOU BY ACCESS JOURNALISM

As the DC press corps scrambles to cover the press conference today at which Jim Jordan and James Comer will announce that Hunter Biden will be their first order of business, we're about to find out how few DC journalists have the self-respect to cover what a waste all this is.

IN THE WAKE OF TRUMP'S THIRD ELECTORAL FAILURE, NYTIMES BOASTS OF HIRING A THIRD TRUMP- WHISPERER

As they did in 2020, voters gave democracy another lifeline. They voted, affirmatively, for democracy. But it's not clear the press view protecting democracy, as opposed to protecting access, with anywhere near the same urgency.

AILEEN CANNON IS STIFF-ARMING THE PRESS

Aileen Cannon is stiff-arming the same press outlets that are reporting so credulously about her latest intervention.

THE GASLIGHTER'S PSYCHIATRIST: MY RESPONSE TO DAN DREZNER

Dan Drezner's defense of Maggie Haberman makes a great case that endless stories of Trump's tantrums are one of the reasons we never held Trump politically accountable for his failures.

WHAT FAMILY RIFTS AT FUNERALS CAN TEACH US ABOUT PARDONING PRESIDENTS

The House of Windsor is learning that healing a broken family takes honesty and hard work. We could learn from them in dealing with Trump.

THE REDACTED MAR-A-LAGO AFFIDAVIT DOJ SHOULD SUBMIT

As you may know, DOJ is ordered by Magistrate Judge Bruce Reinhart to submit a “suggested” redacted version of the warrant

affidavit for the Mar-a-Lago search executed on August 8, 2022.



The federal magistrate judge who authorized the warrant to search Donald Trump’s Mar-a-Lago estate emphasized Monday that he “carefully reviewed” the FBI’s sworn evidence before signing off and considers the facts contained in an accompanying affidavit to be “reliable.”

Magistrate Judge Bruce Reinhart offered his assessment in a 13-page order memorializing his decision to consider whether to unseal portions of the affidavit, which describe the evidence the bureau relied on to justify the search of the former president’s home.

“I was – and am – satisfied that the facts sworn by the affiant are reliable,” Reinhart said in the order.

Reinhart ruled last week that he would

consider unsealing portions of the affidavit after conferring with the Justice Department and determining whether proposed redactions would be sufficient to protect the ongoing criminal investigation connected to the search. But in his order, Reinhart emphasized that he may ultimately agree with prosecutors that any redactions would be so extensive that they would render the document useless.

The last sentence of that quote is the key. Unless DOJ is going to capitulate to the clicks and reads voyeurism of the overly exuberant political press, nothing whatsoever should be released unless and until charges are filed against some defendant, whether it be Trump or otherwise. Why? Because that is how it is done, and properly so.

Reinhart has received abuse and threats. Is his willingness to even entertain a “redacted version” sound under such threat? His decision will yield the answer to that question.

In the meantime, I have a proposed example of what DOJ should submit to Reinhart. Yes, this example is from CAND, not SDFL, but it is exactly what ought to be handed over to Reinhart. And if Reinhart grants any “redacted version”, DOJ should appeal immediately and fully. Leave the affidavit sealed. The voyeuristic public, and press, thinks they have an interest because Trump. But they really do not. Do it the right and normal way.

ALL REPUBLICAN GANG OF EIGHT MEMBERS

CONDONE LARGE-SCALE THEFT OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION, PRESS YAWNS

The lazy-ass press has mainstreamed claims from three Republican Gang of Eight members minimizing the theft of highly classified information without calling out the hypocrisy of such claims, much less noting the way these men put party over America's national security.