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The WikiLeaks Truth War

By Jane Bryant

The One Click Group

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Over the last few days together with millions from around the world, I have been totally transfixed by the wonderful work of whistle-blowing website WikiLeaks.

The One Click international advocacy pressure group is no late-comer to the work of WikiLeaks. We have been following the doings of this spectacular organisation and publishing its material with a combination of fascination and complete admiration since its inception in 2006. Information is power and WikiLeaks has been uniquely designed to deliver such information that exposes many governments and powerful corporations for what they are – vested interest tellers of lies and misinformation.

Today I pen a personal account of events that have taken place for the last few days for opinion former readers of One Click from around the world. I respectfully ask you to give further of your moral support and money to ensure that WikiLeaks thrives for ourselves and for future generations to come. The work of WikiLeaks is entirely historic and without precedent. Please donate [HERE](#)

WikiLeaks Press Conference – The Origins Of This War Are Lying To the Public

Julian Assange, WikiLeaks Editor-In-Chief: *“Iraq was a bloodbath on every corner of that country.... The Pentagon is attempting to fool the world press.”*

At 5pm EST on Friday 22 October 2010, WikiLeaks released the largest military leak in history - 391,832 reports referred to as The Iraq War Logs that document the war and occupation in Iraq. This monumental leak was covered by prior agreement with traditional media outlets such as Al Jazeera, The Guardian, Le Monde, Der Spiegel and the New York Times.

The next day, Saturday 23 October, WikiLeaks held a press conference in London at the Park Plaza Hotel, directly opposite the British Houses of Parliament on the other side of the river.

I had to get up very early that Saturday morning in the cold London dark to register at the WikiLeaks press conference at around 8.30am. It was very much worth the effort, history in the making. As the room filled up the tension was palpable, the interest intense. Journalists and camera crews from all over the world were present, including those representatives from the Rupert Murdoch media, organisations that appear to make it their life's work to play fast and loose with the truth, often electing to misinform the general public on a gargantuan scale for profit.

As the speakers filed into the press conference including Julian Assange, WikiLeaks Editor-In-Chief, Kristinn Hrafnsson of WikiLeaks, John Sloboda from Iraq Body Count, Phil Shiner from Public Interest Lawyers and Gavin MacFadyen from the Centre of Investigative Journalism, they were mobbed at the table by camera crews from all over the world.



WikiLeaks Press Conference, London, Saturday 23 October 2010

For viewing of the WikiLeaks press conference video, click [HERE](#)

The Iraq War Logs revealed 109,000 deaths. Just how many 9/11s is that I ask? 66,000 of the dead were civilians (two-thirds), 176,000 people were wounded and 180,000 Iraqis imprisoned. Thanks to WikiLeaks, the names of the dead now form part of the public record, four years after the event.

The news of how Iraqi citizens were tortured with the complicity and knowledge of the Americans and British is now all over the media in print and video worldwide. The torture carried out in Iraq completely undermines any justification for invasion. It is extremely ironic that the strength of Al Qaeda has been precisely created as a direct result of the invasion.



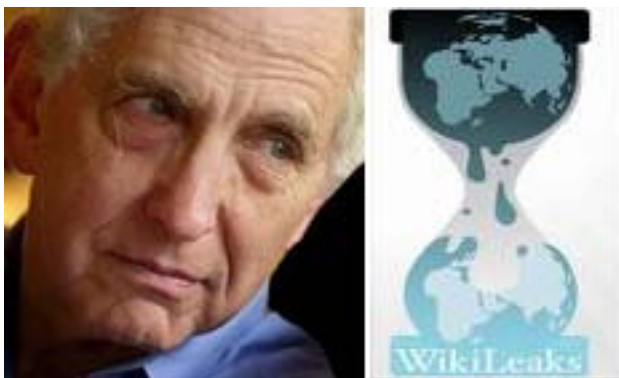
Julian Assange at the WikiLeaks Press Conference, London

This cavalier use of force against Iraqi citizens is simply intolerable. This is the country that Britain and the USA are supposedly leaving behind. Where is the freedom that we are supposed to have brought them?

For edited highlights of the Channel 4 Dispatches programme, Iraq's Secret War Files - Wikileaks Special, click [HERE](#). This video is extremely informative.

Also at the WikiLeaks press conference and addressing the assembled media was Daniel Ellsberg, one of my all-time favourite heroes who released the famous Pentagon Papers in 1971 revealing top-secret decision making regarding the Vietnam War.

The combination of Julian Assange and Daniel Ellsberg with their dedication to revealing the truth to benefit others is the ultimate dream team for me and for many. Both individually and now collectively they have and will continue to move mountains.



Daniel Ellsberg supports WikiLeaks

During and after the WikiLeaks press conference, Daniel Ellsberg had this to say:

"We left a country [the USA] that is holding an election campaign where there is zero discussion of the two wars that they are involved in. This may be hard for people over here [Britain] to even believe.

"What this Wikileaks disclosure may do, if nothing else, it puts the war back on the TV news and the front pages before the election. Not enough Americans are getting killed for us to pay attention, especially our middle-class sons and daughters. Just volunteers who are doing it to get a college education."

"There is great emphasis on lowering U.S. casualties, on keeping the war out of people's minds. There has been a trend ever since the Gulf War to absolutely minimise the casualties in war and to keep the American public from feeling involved. So of course the Gulf War was stopped with very few American casualties.

"WikiLeaks will help. Whatever raises the issue of civilian casualties, WikiLeaks will help, but will they [the government] act to change it?"

"After 9/11 Obama is making an experiment on this issue. The origins of this war are lying to the public."

"I've been waiting for this for 40 years. Julian Assange is the most dangerous man in the world."

No matter how many protested and how much, our western governments did this war in our name

Kill The Messenger, Julian Assange

WikiLeaks Editor-In-Chief Julian Assange is a very brave man indeed. Assange is trailblazing at great personal cost where others have failed and feared to tread. He is in fear for his life. It is a sad day when the only possible countries that may be prepared to host such a courageous truth-telling individual as Julian Assange are the likes of Russia and Cuba. This says a great deal about our lack of civil liberty society today, none of it good.

Although much of the traditional media behaved very well and did their collective job properly upon the WikiLeaks information release of the Iraq War Logs last Friday with 15,000 articles published at that time, this is in stark contrast with dirty tricks of the few. And filthy they were.

Coming in for particular opprobrium from me and many others is sleaze-bag reporter John F Burns from the New York Times who behaved disgracefully in his hatchet piece on Julian Assange that is riddled with falsehoods from top to bottom. With correspondence reactions from Harvard, Yale, MIT et al, Burns has had his metaphorical head kicked in over his article that seeks to ignore the killing of 109,000 people, promoting innuendo instead. See [The Nixonian henchmen of today: at the NYT by Glenn Greenwald, Salon](#).

Other media such as CNN and Larry King Live have joined this disgraced bandwagon preferring to quiz Assange over spurious claims on his private life rather than deal with the human rights abuse, killing and torture of multiple thousands of people, many of them children, whose country we invaded illegally on the pretext of Weapons Of Mass Destruction that our respective governments knew did not exist.

Of course, the traditional media have on their hands a problem of gargantuan proportions. Outflanked and outgunned by the internet at every turn, they are losing money hand over fist as people go to the World Wide Web to obtain their information, completely for free with reputable sources available with every mouse click. How the traditional media elect to handle this threat will dictate their survival (or not). As Daniel Ellsberg so rightly commented at the Frontline Club talk in London: *"I've leant an awful lot more from the internet than the New York Times."*

Julian Assange & Daniel Ellsberg At The Frontline Club, London

Far better and more informative to my mind than any press conference was the talk hosted by the Frontline Club last Monday, the hottest ticket in London town that night.

Hosted by Elizabeth Palmer from CBS News, the talk with Julian Assange and Daniel Ellsberg was rammed to the rafters.



From left: Julian Assange, Elizabeth Palmer & Daniel Ellsberg at the Frontline Club

See the video of Julian Assange & Daniel Ellsberg at the Frontline Club [HERE](#). My question to Julian Assange over the John Burns/New York Times article is first on the list. Assange's answer is very informative indeed.

One Click provided a live Twitter feed for this event and interestingly, as soon as I posted Daniel Ellsberg's comment that he had been informed that British Prime Minister David Cameron was refusing to investigate the abuse, torture and killing of the Iraqis, Twitter went down. Twitter has always been notorious for terrible crash timing. See One Click Twitter live reporting of this event below and online at [@OneClickGroup](#). Some of the sound bites selected for coverage are prophetic.

Although the Iraq war is officially 'over', there are 50,000 troops still resident in this country that we illegally invaded. As Julian Assange said: *"For the Iraqis, this war is active."* Daniel Ellsberg so pertinently commented: *"I think that we will have bases indefinitely in Iraq until the oil runs out I see these wars - Afghanistan & Iraq - continuing indefinitely with these military bases."*

WikiLeaks set out to open up the most corrupt societies. The whole world is connected economically when revealing serious abuses

WikiLeaks has support that cuts across every nation no matter what colour, creed or religion of its citizens. Truth is your most particular tool in the long haul.

Long live WikiLeaks, Julian Assange, Daniel Ellsberg and all truth-tellers of their ilk. Respect.

Please donate to WikiLeaks [HERE](#)

Jane Bryant

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FRONTLINE

CHAMPIONING INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM

<http://frontlineclub.com/>

Monday 25 October 2010

**Discussion chaired by Elizabeth Palmer, CBS
In conversation with Julian Assange of WikiLeaks
and Daniel Ellsberg of Pentagon Papers fame**

[Event Live Twitter Reporting From One Click](#)



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Arrived at Frontline Club for [#wikileaks](#) Julian Assange, Daniel Ellsberg talk and a very pleasant club it is too



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Setting scene for Assange, Ellsberg talk..... <http://plixi.com/p/52861275>



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Hottest ticket in town (London) and now we start.....



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Daniel Ellsberg: my wife would appreciate it if you didn't call me a leaker! lol!



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Daniel Ellsberg: The Pentagon Papers did not affect Nixon's policy. I don't see that big a difference in the Obama administration



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DE: It's called disconnect



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DE: The major thing that affected the Vietnam war was Nixon resigning. He feared that I would put out info about his administration



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DE: they tried to blackmail me into silence



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Julian Assange: It's been an aggressive response by the Pentagon. Still 50,000 troops in Iraq. For the Iraqis, this war is active



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Julian Assange: The Pentagon lies and lies frequently. Military orgs like Pentagon cannot be trusted.



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JA: We have support that cuts across every institution



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JA: From question posed by One Click: disgusting NYT (New York Times) article on Bradley Manning & unsurprised that he (Julian) was treated similarly



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Daniel Ellsberg: I've learnt an awful lot more from the internet than the NYT



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DE: I think that we will have bases indefinitely in Iraq until the oil runs out



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#assange #ellsberg in action [#frontlineclub http://plixi.com/p/52868781](#)



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#assange: in the latest release, there is a lot of information about Iran. There was serious attempt under Cheney to get up a war with Iran



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Daniel #ellsberg: going back, I've been saying in some ways, the public has been prepared for a war on Iran from NYT et al.



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#ellsberg: If I'd put out the documents sooner, I believe I could have averted Vietnam war



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#ellsberg: my personal feeling, I see these wars - Afghanistan & Iraq - continuing indefinitely with these military bases



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From the floor: how do you want this war to end?



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#assange: We are committed to justice & truth that some organisations have disparaged, in particular the Murdoch press



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#assange: truth is your most particular and important tool in the long haul



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#assange: we hope that truth is a good firm foundation to build truth on because that is all we've got



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#assange: it is always a privilege to speak and have people listen



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#assange: WikiLeaks set out to open up the most corrupt societies. The whole world is connected economically when revealing serious abuses



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#assange: we have to publish first the material that is likely to have the most significant impact



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#ellsberg: torture- Obama has been violating those international obligations. Does our Department of Justice believe in the rule of law?



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#ellsberg: I would like to see people become accountable so that the process will change



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#ellsberg: I have been told that David Cameron, British Prime Minister, says there will be no investigation



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Daniel [#Ellsberg](#) saying British Prime Minister David Cameron refusing to investigate.



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[#assange](#): we will not be threatened.



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End of talk. Simply excellent