



Self-Reliance Institute Newsletter

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Ghost Gunner and Food Storage

This week, I want to let you know about a computer connectable milling machine for do-it-yourself gunsmiths that is getting quite a bit of attention. The reason it's getting scrutiny is because it is another method for creating untraceable guns.

But before I tell you about Ghost Gunner, I want to let you know about a free food storage guide that is now available to all members of the Self-Reliance Institute.

That's right, we have a new guide that is FREE for SRI members. It's called the **Ultimate Guide to Food Storage** and it is essential for anyone prepping for a crisis.

You can download yours right here: <http://www.selfrely.com/thank-you-food-storage/>

Don't worry, the page says that you just purchased it, but your dues to the Self-Reliance Institute cover the cost of the food storage guide, so there is no additional charge.

This is another benefit of being a member of our little community here! We're coming out with a new

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The \$8 Trillion Annual Debt Churn

I know the big news this week continues to be about Ebola – and I'll quickly share the latest – but I want to focus on an important economic reality that is not getting the attention it deserves.

Before I do, here is the [October edition of your free Self-Reliance Institute Newsletter](#) that you can bookmark or download so that you have a permanent copy.

As for the latest information about Ebola, while I continue to believe there will not be a major outbreak in the United States – remember, 36,000 Americans die every year from the flu with very little fanfare – the news this morning that a health care worker who treated the now

deceased Dallas Ebola patient (Thomas Duncan) who came to the U.S. from Liberia is very troubling because of one major factor.

That factor is that, according to Fox News, “the worker was in full protective gear when they provided care to Duncan during his second visit to the hospital.”

Here is the full report from Fox News: [“Health Care Worker at Dallas Hospital Tests Positive for Ebola.”](#)

Obviously, if the health care worker was in “full protective gear” and still caught the disease, there are many necessary and appropriate questions that must be raised about

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Privacy Tips From Citizen Four

L*aura, at this stage I can offer nothing more than my word. I am a senior government employee in the intelligence community. I hope you'll understand that contacting you is extremely high-risk. For now, know that every border you cross, every purchase you make, every call you dial, every cell phone tower you pass, friend you keep, site you visit, and subject line you type, is in the hands of a system whose reach is unlimited, but whose safeguards are not. In the end, if you publish the source material, I will likely be immedi-*

ately implicated. I ask only that you ensure this information makes it home to the American public. Thank you and be careful.
–Citizen Four

With those words, Citizen Four – who we now know is Edward Snowden – reached out to journalist Laura Poitras and initiated the largest expose of the American intelligence community in history. The ramifications of the ongoing disclosures are vast and unfolding.

On October 24, Poitras documentary, “Citizenfour,” will begin airing in theaters around the country. I certainly intend to watch it and I hope

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Is the NSA Corrupt?

I've got a great resource I want to share with you and, best of all, it's free. I always work to find information and resources for members of the Self-Reliance Institute that are strategically effective while also being cost-effective.

This week, I've hit a home run. (I couldn't resist the World Series reference)

But, before I share this resource, I want to bring needed attention to another troubling reality about our government.

Specifically, another troubling issue at the National Security Agency.

An issue that sheds light on a problem I witnessed first-hand for many years when I lived and worked in the belly of the beast – Washington, DC.

That issue is government employees and political appointees who become amazingly wealthy by manipulating their jobs and contacts into a stream of dollars that most folks could never imagine.

The most recent example comes to our attention from Michael Krieger over at the Liberty Blitzkrieg blog. In his long and detailed post, ["It's Not Just Spying – How the NSA Has Turned Into a Giant Profit Center for Corrupt Insiders,"](#) Krieger points out the following.

--"Last week, two very important stories came out; one from Reuters and the other from BuzzFeed. They both zero in on how **current NSA employees are using their expertise and connections to make big money in the private sector while still working at the NSA.**" [emphasis added]

--**Former NSA Chief Keith Alexan-**

der, whose firm is now getting between \$600,000 and \$1,000,000 per month to provide clients with the information he learned as a taxpayer funded government employee, "is now hiring top people still working at the NSA to concurrently work at his cyber-security firm." [emphasis added]

--According to Reuters: "Under the arrangement, which was confirmed by Alexander and current intelligence officials, **NSA's Chief Technical Officer, Patrick Dowd, is allowed to work up to 20 hours a week at IronNet Cybersecurity Inc, the private firm led by Alexander, a retired Army general and his former boss.**" [emphasis added]

--As Krieger states: "So Americans aren't entitled to any privacy because of a trumped up terrorist threat, yet **top NSA employees can moonlight for private businesses involved in the same areas as the NSA with apparently no threat to national security. America has gone completely insane.**" [emphasis added]

Further—

--"Buzzfeed broke a related story recently. It reports how **one of the most powerful individuals at the NSA, Teresa H. Shea, has several intelligence related businesses run from her home.**" [emphasis added]

--"Teresa **Shea is the director of Signals Intelligence, or SIGINT, which refers to all electronic eavesdropping and interception, including the controversial domestic surveillance program that col-**

lects information about Americans' phone use." [emphasis added]

After providing all the details from the BuzzFeed piece, which are mind-blowing, Krieger sums up the outrageous conflicts of interests, self-dealing and potential corruption with two words.

"Utterly shameless."

I agree.

Truthfully, shameless corruption was what I witnessed almost every day as a private detective in Washington, DC.

OK. Let's move on to the new resource I mentioned at the top of this advisory. To be more precise, it's an update to a resource I called your attention to almost a year ago. But it's such a significant upgrade to the previous resource, it looks and feels brand new and it contains a ton of new information on a newly created website.

The resource is [Surveillance Self-Defense](#) and it's a project of the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

Wiggle your way through the website and you'll find a tremendous amount of information including, but not limited to, Overviews, Tutorials, Briefings and Playlists covering a wide-range of privacy and security issues that we discuss on a regular basis here at the Self-Reliance Institute.

Seriously, if you don't bookmark [Surveillance Self-Defense](#) and take some time to look through the site (scroll down the home page and click on the Index or the Playlists

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Debt

whether the disease is more easily transmitted than the government is acknowledging.

I'll continue to monitor reports from Dallas, but if you see something you think I should be aware of you can always email me at Rob@SelfRely.com

Now, let's talk about this important economic reality that's getting almost no attention even as the global economic situation becomes more precarious by the day.

David Stockman – yes, the David Stockman who served as Director of the Office of Management and Budget under President Ronald Reagan – has a blog that I keep an eye on.

{I know what you're thinking. How many blogs and news sources does Rob Douglas read every day? Honestly? Dozens. As a talk radio host and columnist, my colleagues were always amazed at how much material I absorbed in a single day. Frankly, I read more in one day than most commentators do in a month.}

For years, Stockman has been very prescient about the state of our economy. He routinely debunks a lot of the mainstream media's tripe when it comes to fiscal and economic issues.

But this gem of Stockman's really caught my eye.

In a column titled "[Uncle Sam's \\$8 Trillion Annual Debt Churn: Why Washington is Petrified of Honest Interest Rates.](#)" Stockman starts out by stating [all added emphasis is from me]:

"I know that headline sounds com-

*pletely outrageous. But it is actually true. **The U.S. government is borrowing about 8 trillion dollars a year**, and you are about to see the hard numbers that prove this. When discussing the national debt, most people tend to only focus on the amount that it increases each 12 months. And as I wrote about recently, the U.S. national debt has increased by more than a trillion dollars in fiscal year 2014.*

*"But that does not count the huge amounts of U.S. Treasury securities that the federal government must redeem each year. When these debt instruments hit their maturity date, the U.S. government must pay them off. This is done by borrowing more money to pay off the previous debts. **In fiscal year 2013, redemptions of U.S. Treasury securities totaled \$7,546,726,000,000 and new debt totaling \$8,323,949,000,000 was issued. The final numbers for fiscal year 2014 are likely to be significantly higher than that.**"*

Stockman then shares with us why the federal government is behaving this way.

*"Well, in recent years government officials figured out that they could save a lot of money on interest payments by borrowing over shorter time frames. For example, it costs the government far more to borrow money for 10 years than it does for 1 year. So **a strategy was hatched to borrow money for very short periods of time and to keep "rolling it over" again and again and again.***

"This strategy has indeed saved the

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*federal government hundreds of billions of dollars in interest payments, but it has also created a situation where **the federal government must borrow about 8 trillion dollars a year just to keep up with the game.**"*

Then Stockman lowers the boom. He points out the danger that the mainstream media is not talking about.

*"**So what happens when the rest of the world decides that it does not want to loan us 8 trillion dollars a year at ultra-low interest rates?***

*"Well, **the game will be over and we will be in a massive amount of trouble.**"*

After sharing eight years of data to demonstrate how the Debt Churn works (use the link above if you want to see that data), Stockman warns about what I've been telling audiences for years. The American way of life could literally crash overnight.

*"**The only way that this game can continue is if the U.S. government can continue to borrow gigantic piles of money at ridiculously low interest rates.***

*"And **our current standard of living greatly depends on the continuation of this game.***

*"If something comes along and rattles this Ponzi scheme, **life in America could change radically almost overnight.** ...*

*"But the big problem is that **the government is giving out far more money than it is taking in,** so it has*

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Ghost

guide like this every 6 weeks or so, so stay tuned for much, much more!

OK, let me tell you about Ghost Runner.

Better yet, let me provide you a link to a comprehensive article about Ghost Runner and point out some key aspects of the machine.

The article is titled, [“The \\$1,200 Machine That Lets Anyone Make a Metal Gun at Home.”](#) Here are some key pieces of the article:

“When Cody Wilson revealed the world’s first fully 3-D printed gun last year, he showed that the “maker” movement has enabled anyone to create a working, lethal firearm with a click in the privacy of his or her garage. Now he’s moved on to a new form of digital DIY gunsmithing. And this time the results aren’t made of plastic.

“Wilson’s latest radically libertarian project is a PC-connected milling machine he calls the Ghost Gunner.

Like any computer-numerically-controlled (or CNC) mill, the one-foot-cubed black box uses a drill bit mounted on a head that moves in three dimensions to

automatically carve digitally-modeled shapes into polymer, wood or aluminum. But this CNC mill, sold by Wilson’s organization known as Defense Distributed for \$1,200, is designed to create one object in particular: the component of an AR-15 rifle known as its lower receiver.

“That simple chunk of metal has be-

*come the epicenter of a gun control firestorm. A lower receiver is the body of the gun that connects its stock, barrel, magazine and other parts. As such, it’s also the rifle’s most regulated element. Mill your own lower receiver at home, however, and you can order the rest of the parts from online gun shops, creating a semi-automatic weapon with no serial number, obtained with no background check, no waiting period or other regulatory hurdles. Some gun control advocates call it a “ghost gun.” Selling that untraceable gun body is illegal, but **no law prevents you from making one.**” [emphasis added]*

You might ask why Wilson is making this machine available.

According to the article, his reason is *“To show how technology can*

render the entire notion of government obsolete. He’s spent the last two years developing firearms designed to be printed as easily as ink on a page, neutering attempts at gun control. ‘This is a way to jab at the bleeding hearts of these total statists,’ Wilson says. ‘It’s about humiliating the power that wants to humiliate you.’”

Now you may agree or disagree with Wilson’s reasoning, but as members of the Self-Reliance Institute I want you to be aware that

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there are people who are not going to sit back and acquiesce (some would say surrender) while the government slowly destroys the Second Amendment.

But make no mistake, this technology (there are other ways of doing this for far less money) is very controversial. Gun control advocates

hate the fact that there are many ways to create untraceable and unregistered guns.

Still, Wilson isn’t shying away from the con-

troversy. In fact, he’s embracing it.

According to the article, when asked about how he would feel if one of his machines created a gun that was used in a violent and deadly crime:

“Wilson stands by the answer that he’s given to that question when it was asked of his 3-D printed guns: That the potential for violence is part of the price of freedom. ‘I believe it’s in the stable of popular rights afforded to the people, a republican ideal consistent with civil liberties,’ he says.

“You can have an unserialized toothbrush, and you can have an unserialized rifle,” he adds. ‘This is important to me. The untraceable firearm is my stand.’”

Reasonable people can disagree with Wilson, but we should all know that this option exists and that there are many people who feel the same way Wilson does, even if they don’t go as far as building an untraceable gun.

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**No Law
Prevents you
from making one.**

Privacy

you will as well. While I have mixed feelings about the Snowden revelations, I believe as informed and self-reliant citizens we have an obligation to understand what our government is doing.

Given that I live in a very rural part of the country, I don't know when I will be able to see the film. But, when I do, I will share my thoughts with you about what is contained in the film.

In the meantime, Snowden has been doing interviews from time to time and has touched on some issues that I believe are relevant to many of the discussions we have in these advisories. Specifically, the issue of privacy and security when it comes to communications and the use of the Internet.

A little more than a week ago, in a lengthy interview he participated in as part of the New Yorker Festival, Snowden discussed a number of privacy tips that I want to share with you.

The entire video of the interview and the excerpted tips are available in ["Edward Snowden's Privacy Tips: 'Get Rid of Dropbox,' Avoid Facebook and Google"](#) as published by TechCrunch.

For ease of reference, here are a number of the points Snowden made specific to privacy and use of the Internet as presented by TechCrunch.

--"People should seek out encrypted tools and stop using services that are "hostile to privacy.""

--"You should "get rid of Dropbox," because it doesn't support encryption, and you should consider alternatives like SpiderOak.

--"While Facebook and Google have improved their security, they remain "dangerous services" that people should avoid."

--"Don't send unencrypted text messages, but instead use services like RedPhone and Silent Circle."

I am pleased to note that these points are very much in sync with



the advice we have given members of the Self-Reliant Institute over the course of the last year. And, of course, we will continue to update you on methods and services that provide the most privacy and security possible. I am currently testing SpiderOak, so I will have an advisory about that product in the very near future.

Beyond those tips, I encourage you to read the full TechCrunch article linked above and, if you have time, to watch the one-hour interview of Snowden that is available at the end of the TechCrunch piece. Snowden discusses much of his reasoning for doing what he did and shares his thoughts on a range of issues.

Love him or hate him, he has certainly given much thought to his beliefs about our government and he is very articulate in expressing those beliefs.

I would be interested to hear what you think of Snowden. Obviously, he's a very controversial individual.

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Yet, it seems to me, what he has exposed is eye-opening for many Americans.

Also, do you have Internet communication security methods or services that you believe are useful? Have you turned away from DropBox, Facebook, Google and other popular services?

Please share your thoughts by writing me at Rob@SelfRely.com

Be safe, secure and free!

Rob Douglas



NSA Corrupt?

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links for a good starting spot) and make use of the information that is applicable to your needs, I'll be very disappointed. I've had the link for several days and I'm still absorbing the material and comparing it to my own privacy and security practices.

Yes, I will highlight especially important sections of the site in future advisories – with a focus on new techniques and technologies – but, as always, I want you to investigate and evaluate the material for yourself.

That's what we do as self-reliant individuals! That's what makes us different from all the sheeple that inhabit what I sometimes refer to as the United States of Stupid.

Give the site a look and let me know what you think or what questions you might have. As always, I am you can email me at Rob@SelfRely.com

Be safe, secure and free!

Rob Douglas





Ghost

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I'd love to read your thoughts about Ghost Gunner and untraceable Ghost Guns. As always, you can email me at Rob@SelfRely.com

Be safe, secure and free,

Rob Douglas – Former Washington DC Private Detective

PS: I just learned that Wilson's Ghost Gunner machine is so popular, he's already sold more than he expected. So he is staffing up and will create more. See: ["That \\$1,200 Machine for Making Untraceable Guns Just Sold Out in 36 Hours."](#)



Debt

to borrow the difference. As long as we can continue to borrow at super low interest rates, the status quo can continue.

"But a Ponzi scheme like this can only last for so long."

And what happens when the Ponzi scheme collapses. Well, it's quite possible that all hell will break loose.

"It has been said that when the checks stop coming in, chaos will begin in the streets of America."

"The looting that took place when a technical glitch caused the EBT system to go down for a short time in some areas last year and the rioting in the streets of Ferguson, Missouri this year were both small previews of what we will see in the future."

After presenting a series of fiscal obligations the federal government is on the hook for in the coming years (use the link above if you want to see that data), obligations the government almost certainly will

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not be able to meet, Stockman concludes:

"The truth is that another great crisis is rapidly approaching, and we are in far worse shape financially than we were back in 2008."

"Don't get blindsided by what is ahead. Evidence of the coming catastrophe is all around you."

Friends, I completely agree with Stockman. The evidence of the coming economic catastrophe is all around us if we open our eyes and are honest about what we see.

The questions as self-reliant individuals that we need to confront include: Are we ready for the potential of a coming collapse? Have we secured ourselves financially for that potential collapse?

And I want to ask you: Do you believe Stockman? Is America in economic danger?

Share your thoughts by writing me at Rob@SelfRely.com

Be safe, secure and free,



Self-Reliance Institute Newsletter

Privacy:

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Questions or comments?

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