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## **Conspiracy Theory 101**

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If it looks like a duck, walks like a duck and quacks like a duck - it sure as hell ain't a hippopotamus.

The attacks against Donald Trump have been ascribed to everything and everybody from Establishment Republicans, disgruntled Democrats, the corporate media, Hillary Clinton, the Obama Administration or the Deep State - or some combination of any or all of the above.

Well, if even part of the above is true, it would be improbable that there is not some entity acting as a nexus lurking in the shadows, somehow aiding disparate people and organizations working to discredit Donald Trump, stopping his agenda, or at least damaging his reputation beyond repair before the next Presidential election.

A quote by author Ian Fleming, an experienced British Naval Intelligence Officer during WW2, very familiar with covert operations, might give us some perspective on this unimpeded disinformation campaign against Trump, "Once is happenstance, twice is coincidence - three times is enemy action."

One may look at the events and attribute their cause to individuals who haven't accepted Donald Trump as President. Or, one might justifiably question if what is being described as "fake news" is really one aspect of disinformation on an organized scale.

Credence must be given to some form of organized force behind this relentless campaign against Trump, because the attacks have come <u>from within the government</u> as well as from without. The disruption has been fueled by leaks of classified information from every level of government and the administration itself. Additionally, disloyalty that until recently would have appeared inconceivable was evidenced by acting AG Sally Yates' refusal to implement Trump's travel ban, and the support <u>she received from Andrew Weissman</u> a member of Mueller's investigating team.

The only collusion uncovered in the ongoing DOJ investigation into possible Russia collusion was committed by the Clinton election team, who funded a British agent working with Russian sources to get dirt on Trump, which, while largely suspect, was most probably used as the basis for the FBI to obtain a FISA warrant to spy on Trump.

Steve Bannon, a former White House insider, unexpectedly was quoted in a recent book, severely disparaging the President and his family. Many of the allegations have proven false. The damage, though, was done. A while ago, NBC, a major corporate entity, reported that the American ambassador to Panama resigned, quoting him as saying he could no longer work with the Trump administration. In fact, the ambassador's notice of resignation was given to the State Department on December 27th, and his resignation was not related to Trump's supposed "Shit hole" remarks. The remarks themselves were reported by Dick Durbin, who has on more than one occasion been caught lying about statements made at private meetings. But, again, the public's perception of Trump was damaged.

These few episodes are part of a larger, lengthy continuing repetitive pattern, wherein each Trump success is immediately followed by some news story that Trump did something outrageous, which overshadows whatever Trump did that

was positive. The book and the "shit hole" remarks followed immediately on the heels of good news due to the corporate tax reduction, that the corporations were bringing manufacturing back to the US and giving employees raises and bonuses.

There doesn't appear to be a moment when something good accomplished by the Trump Administration can get decent exposure in the media. This highly predictable repetition takes it out of the arena of happenstance or even coincidence and places it squarely into the arena of enemy action.

At the center of this reputation killing, organization and interpersonal disruption are personnel from the FBI, and their superiors at Justice. For example, FBI investigator <a href="Peter Strzok was dismissed">Peter Strzok was dismissed</a> after he sent anti-Trump text messages. This followed a more questionable event, a meeting of <a href="FBI counterintelligence">FBI counterintelligence</a> officials discussing the frightening possibility of a Trump presidency.

Taking political sides is not an uncommon practice for the FBI.

Over a period spanning many administrations, the FBI was run by J. Edgar Hoover, who controlled politicians through the use of illegally created potentially compromising dossiers. If it happened once, it could happen again - or it may never have stopped.

The most singularly infamous program created by the FBI was <u>COINTELPRO</u> that operated between 1956 and ostensibly ended in 1971. The name is an acronym for Counter Intelligence Program. One of the main goals of Counter Intelligence operations is disruption of enemy capabilities and assets.

The program was aimed at maintaining the status quo. Notable among the targets at the time was The Black Panthers. The operations were covert and consisted of many unconstitutional procedures. But, they were effective.

Common to the program were operations aimed at publicly discrediting activists and destroying their interpersonal relationships. They used surveillance, <u>infiltration</u>, discrediting of individuals, and disruption of political organizations.

These tactics closely track what has been happening to Trump, which makes the FBI Counter Intelligence Officials' meeting in acting Director McCabe's office discussing the horror of a Trump Presidency much more corroborative of a concerted FBI effort.

The following is a documented quote from Wikipedia:

"COINTELPRO tactics ... have been alleged to include discrediting targets through psychological warfare; smearing individuals and groups using forged documents and by planting false reports in the media; harassment; wrongful imprisonment; and illegal violence, including assassination.[7] [8][9][10] The FBI's stated motivation was "... maintaining the existing social and political order.[sic.]"[11]"

Once outsider Donald Trump became a viable candidate, his rallies were disrupted and his supporters were quickly blamed for the violence. The blame was later attributed to Hillary Clinton and the Democrat Party. But, Clinton has many strong political connections and ties to the government. There is no reason not to believe that the agency that shielded Clinton from prosecution for the security breach is the same agency that is orchestrating the attacks on Trump.

Of course, one could always believe that a hippopotamus is behind everything.