

I couldn't allow these things to remain inside the system and inside my head

I wanted the American public to know that not everyone in Iraq and Afghanistan are targets that needed to be neutralized, but rather people who were struggling to live in the pressure cooker environment of what we call asymmetric warfare.

Since CHELSEA'S great act of resistance in 2010, people worldwide have been helped by the revelations or inspired by Chelsea herself and what she did. From the **ARAB SPRING**, with its debt to **CABLEGATE**, we trace the roots of **OCCUPY**; members of the armed forces have become **CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS** citing the information about the wars that Chelsea made available; the documents have benefited record keepers & historians such as **IRAQ BODY COUNT** who have found roughly **14,000** more deaths in the Iraq War Logs to add into their tally of civilian deaths from the Iraq War (the US military had previously denied these deaths were ever recorded) and **Andy Worthington**, who has been able to add the **GTMO FILES** info to his own extensive **GUANTANAMO FILES**. Human Rights groups have gained important info

I knew that if I continued to assist the Baghdad Federal Police in identifying the political opponents of PM al-Maliki, those people would be arrested and in the custody of the Special Unit of the Baghdad Federal Police, very likely tortured & not seen again for a very long time, if ever. Instead of assisting the Special Unit of the Baghdad Fed Police, I decided to take the information and expose it to the WLO (WikiLeaks)

As Chelsea's case unfolded, she continued to be a source of inspiration for remaining uncrushed despite all the authorities have done to break her, for her integrity and the focus in her words (more of which you can access on the website below) and for her moving and inspiring testimony in court. She has three times been nominated for the **NOBEL PEACE PRIZE** and won various awards for truth telling & peacemaking. People like **Desmond Tutu** and **Dan Ellsberg** have spoken highly of her and **Edward Snowden** (the whistleblower who revealed the extent of **NSA & GCHQ** spying on us all) has identified **Chelsea** as an inspiration for his own **whistle-blowing**. And those 'worldwide discussions, debates and reforms' that Chelsea hoped would result from her actions in 2010 are still ongoing as the information in the documents is used by reporters, documentary makers etc for **further investigations and reports**

And since her announcement that she now wishes to be publicly recognised as the woman she has always known herself to be, Chelsea is in the forefront of yet another important fight for human rights. As she applies for the hormone therapy Ft Leavenworth have said they do not provide, she is breaking new ground in fighting for the rights of all trans people to receive appropriate treatment whilst in a military prison.

TAKE ACTION IN SUPPORT OF CHELSEA: info at wiseupaction.info (TAKEACTION)

- * Call on Maj Gen Buchanan to FREE Pvt Manning Phone 001 202 685 2900 email jeffrey.s.buchanan@us.army.mil (this appeal has time limit - ends early 2014).
- * Call on Obama for presidential pardon. Call WH Comments:001 202-456-1111 S/B 202-456-1414 email <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments> (no limit)
- * Donate to Defence Fund, Campaign, Welsh Family Visits: <http://wiseupaction.info> (Donate)
- * See also <http://manningfamilyfund.org/> fund to assist Wales based family to visit Chelsea.
- * Demonstrate and spread the word on the streets, take photos, send reports to your local newspaper and also to WISE UpAction [@WISEUpAction](http://wiseupaction) on twitter
- * Part of a group? Connect your group with others in the support network via WISE Up.
- * Subscribe to network group email list for supporters to share resources/info & keep in loop
- * Write to Chelsea *PVT Bradley E Manning 892891300 N Warehouse Rd Ft Leavenworth KS 66027-2304 USA (envelope must be addressed Bradley, but inside write Dear Chelsea)*

WISE Up Action is a solidarity network of groups and individuals active in WALES IRELAND SCOTLAND ENGLAND for **BRADLEY MANNING & JULIAN ASSANGE** [@WISEUpAction](http://wiseupaction.info). More on Chelsea's case & campaign on site.



What would **YOU** do?

*...if you saw terrible things,
awful things...that belong
in the public domain?*

Chelsea (formerly Bradley) Manning is the 25 year old US soldier who, less than a decade ago, was at school in West Wales. She is now in a military prison in the USA, where she has been convicted of the 'crime' of releasing into the public domain evidence of war crimes, widespread human rights abuses, torture, and a culture of horrific brutality within the armed forces in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. In August 2013 she was sentenced to 35yrs for revealing these things to the public via WikiLeaks.

FREE Chelsea Manning!

CHELSEA (formerly Bradley) MANNING acted for the good of humanity...NOW WE NEED TO TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT & SUPPORT HER

We, with many others all over the world, believe that what Chelsea has done is an act of heroism and that we owe a debt of gratitude to her for **standing against the erosion of our humanity and refusing to go along with prevailing injustice at great cost to herself. And it has already changed things** The US withdrew early from Iraq at the end of 2011, when the Iraqi gov, informed by the leaks, refused to grant further immunity from prosecution to US soldiers. According to activists involved in the **Arab Spring** one of the triggers was the information revealed in the State Dept. cables; **hard evidence of the corruption and abuses of oppressive regimes were laid bare for citizens to read.** And in 'western democracies' we have learned **what our governments do in our name.** The Iraq War Logs, Afghan War Diary, Guantanamo Files, 'Collateral Murder' footage and State Dept Cables have proved invaluable to all who seek peace and justice in the world - they have shown us the truth 'from the horse's mouth' so that it is undeniable. **The quotes on the inside of this flyer show Chelsea's honourable intentions** Read them and see for yourself. They are **CHELSEA'S OWN WORDS**, some written in 2010 just before her arrest, and others from a statement given in court on 28th Feb 2013 to explain her actions and take responsibility for the leaks as an act of conscience. These words of Chelsea's pose a question to us all: **'What would YOU do? Would you blow the whistle and risk such reprisals? Chelsea chose what she should do** and made the sacrifice of risking the punishment she has already suffered and more. **It was always impossible for Chelsea to get a fair trial** Against due process and the presumption of innocence, President Obama was videoed calling her 'guilty' in 2011, which also denotes 'unlawful command influence' as Obama is Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Chelsea was tried by. Chelsea was in pretrial imprisonment for over 3 years, 11 months of which were spent enduring abusive treatment under conditions of solitary confinement protested by Amnesty Intl & the UN special rapporteur on torture, as well as other officials, groups & individuals. Her treatment caused outrage all over the world and entirely discredited the judicial process. **Contrary to justice she was not permitted to present a public interest defence at trial despite plainly being a whistleblower.**

IN AUGUST 2013 CHELSEA MANNING WAS SENTENCED TO 35 YEARS IN PRISON

Our demand is that Chelsea, guilty only of exposing crimes against humanity, not committing them, is set free, and the real criminals are prevented from hiding their crimes behind excessive classification

CHELSEA MANNING: IN HER OWN WORDS

“hypothetical question: if you had free reign over classified networks for long periods of time... say, 8 -9 months... **and you saw incredible things, awful things... things that belonged in the public domain**, and not on some server stored in a dark room in Washington DC.. **what would you do?**”

“say..**260,000 state dept. cables** from embassies and consulates all over the world... **explaining how the 1st world exploits the 3rd, in detail, from an internal perspective?**”

crazy, almost criminal political back-dealings... **the non-PR-versions** of world events and crises... everything from the **build up to the Iraq War during Powell**, to what the **actual content of ‘aid packages’** is: For instance, PR that the US is sending aid to Pakistan includes funding for water/food/clothing...that much is true, it includes that but the **other 85% of it is for F-16 fighters and munitions to aid in the Afghanistan effort, so the US can call in Pakistanis to do aerial bombing instead of Americans potentially killing civilians and creating a PR crisis**”

“i had always questioned the way things worked, and investigated to find the truth **but that was a point where i was a *part* of something....i was actively involved in something that i was completely against... but i was a part of it... and completely helpless...**”

“im not so much scared of getting caught and facing consequences at this point as i am of **being misunderstood**”

i cant separate myself from others...i feel connected to everybody like they were distant family

Well, it was forwarded to WL **And god knows what happens now... hopefully worldwide discussions, debates, and reforms..... if not... then we're doomed... as a species...i will officially give up on the society we have if nothing happens**

FREE CHELSEA MANNING!

“i think the thing that got me the most. that made me rethink the world more than anything... **was watching 15 detainees taken by the Iraqi Federal Police... for printing ‘anti-Iraqi literature’** The IFP wouldn't cooperate with US forces, so i was instructed to investigate the matter...”

it turned out, they had printed a **scholarly critique against PM Maliki**...i had an interpreter read it for me. When i found out that it was a **benign political critique titled “Where did the money go?”** and following the **corruption trail within the PM's cabinet**... i immediately took that information and ***ran* to the officer to explain what was going on...**

he didn't want to hear any of it... **he told me to shut up** and explain how we could assist the FPs in finding ***MORE* detainees...everything started slipping after that..i saw things differently**”

“**...it's important that it gets out....i feel, for some bizarre reason....it might actually change something....if it's out in the open... it should do the public good....we're human...and we're killing ourselves....and no-one seems to see that....and it bothers me....i care?....**”

“the reaction to the [Collateral Murder] video **gave me immense hope**... CNN's iReport was overwhelmed... Twitter exploded... people who saw, knew there was something wrong.”

“**i want people to see the truth... regardless of who they are...because without information you cannot make informed decisions as a public**”

ON THE AFGHAN WAR DIARY & IRAQ WAR LOGS

They represented the on the ground reality of both the conflicts in **IRAQ & AFGHANISTAN**. I felt that we were risking so much for people that seemed unwilling to cooperate with us, leading to frustration and anger on both sides. I began to become depressed with the situation that we found ourselves increasingly mired in year after year.

The [logs] documented this in great detail and provide a context of what we were seeing on the ground. **In attempting to conduct counter-terrorism or CT and counter-insurgency COIN operations we became obsessed with capturing and killing human targets on lists** and being suspicious of and avoiding cooperation with our Host Nation partners, and ignoring the second and third order effects of accomplishing short-term goals and missions.

I believed that **if the general public, especially the American public, had access to the information this could spark a domestic debate on the role of the military and our foreign policy in general as it related to Iraq and Afghanistan**. I also believed the detailed analysis of the data over a long period of time by different sectors of society might cause society to reevaluate the need or even the desire to engage in counterterrorism and counterinsurgency operations that ignore the complex dynamics of the people living in the affected environment everyday.

I believed and still do believe that these are two of the most significant documents of our time.

I felt I had accomplished something that allowed me to have a clear conscience based upon what I had seen and read about and knew was happening in both Iraq and Afghanistan every day.

For me it's all a big mess, and I am left wondering what these things mean, and how it all fits together. It burdens me emotionally.

...increasing no. of individuals indefinitely that we believed or knew to be innocent, low level foot soldiers that did not have useful intelligence and would be released if they were still held in theater. **I also recall that in early 2009 the, then newly elected, president ,Barack Obama, stated that he would close Joint Task Force GUANTANAMO**, that the facility compromised our standing over all, and diminished our quote 'moral authority' unquote. **After familiarizing myself with the Detainee Assessment Briefs, I agree.**

....ultimately, I felt that the right thing to do was to release them.

The most alarming aspect of the video to me, however, was the **seemingly delightful bloodlust** they appeared to have. They dehumanized the individuals they were engaging and seemed to not value human life by referring to them as **quote “dead bastards” unquote and congratulating each other on the ability to kill in large numbers**. At one point in the video there is an individual on the ground attempting to crawl to safety. The individual is seriously wounded. Instead of calling for medical attention to the location, one of the aerial weapons team crew members verbally asks for the wounded person to pick up a weapon so that he can have a reason to engage. **For me, this seems similar to a child torturing ants with a magnifying glass**. While saddened by the aerial weapons team crew's lack of concern about human life, I was disturbed by the response to the discovery of injured children at the scene. An Infantry unit arrives at the scene. Within minutes, the aerial weapons team crew learns that children were in the van and despite the injuries the crew exhibits no remorse. Instead, they downplay the significance of their actions, saying **quote “Well, it's their fault for bringing their kid's into a battle” unquote**. Later in a particularly disturbing manner, the aerial weapons team verbalizes enjoyment at the sight of one of the ground vehicles driving over a body– or one of the bodies.

ON 'COLLATERAL MURDER' APACHE .VIDEO

..possibly one of the more significant documents of our time, removing the fog of war and revealing the true nature of twenty first century asymmetric warfare.