Florian Galler

Psychonomic Newsletter, Jun 7, 2011

Mar 11 - Jun 3

Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA), Dec 3 2010 to Jun 3 2011



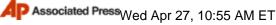
In short

- The current newsletter as an attempt to study the role of **Unconsciously Abusive Communities'' (UAC's)**
- Risks in stock markets and economy after the U.S Bin Laden raid stem from the persistence of UAC's in the fields of international politics (conflict between Israel and Palestine) and domestic U.S. politics (taxation of the wealthy).

I had always regarded neoliberalism and neoconservatism as masspsychological phenomenona unconsciously designed to promote suffering and meaninglessness in the world. I wonder whether it would be helpful to call people being part in such self-destructive group processes as "Unconsciously Abusive Communities" (in German language: "unbewusste Taetergemeinschaften"). The reason for the existence of these is the defense of traumatic feelings of rage, anxiety, guilt and shame stemming from traumatic experiences in the early lifetime of the group members by the mechanism of the unconscious identification with the aggressor. So neoliberal deregulation opened the way for the abuse of power by the rich and powerful. Let me point in the context of UAC's also to the Asch conformity experiment where a proband joins a pre-existant group. Every participant has to say which out of 3 given lines is the longest one. All participants of the pre-existing group deliberately point to the shortest line. Under such conditions only very few probands are able to point to the correct line. I think the reason for UAC's is similar to the mechanism behind the Asch experiment. I suppose UAC's to be omnipresent in our lives.

During the reporting interval our reasonable personality parts had made important points. For one thing the position of president Obama as their main representative has improved. First the certainty among the American population that he is really an American increased after he had published the long form of his birth certificate on Apr 27:





This handout image provided by the White House shows a copy of the long form of President Barack Obama's birth certificate from Hawaii. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

After the killing of Bin Laden on May 1 Obama's image got another boost as he became favorite for the 2012 presidential elections:

Osama Bin Laden Dead: Obama Speech Video And Transcript (VIDEO)

On Sunday night, President Barack Obama announced in a live address to the nation that Osama **bin Laden** is **dead**. Video and the transcript of his remarks are below.

The Huffington Post - May 01 10:48pm

• Most voters say "no" to Palin or Trump in 2012

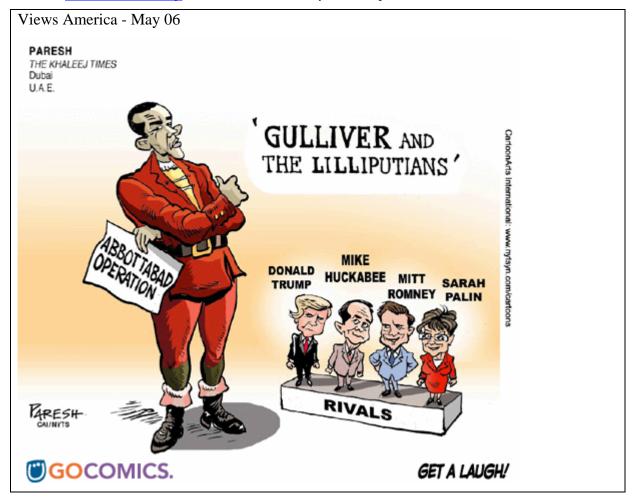
Reuters – Thu May 4



Reuters

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Nearly 60 percent of Americans would never support a Republican presidential bid by former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin or real estate mogul and reality TV star Donald Trump, according to a new poll on Wednesday. Full Story »

• Obama's approval jumps six points in Gallup Poll, but overall numbers suggest 2012 still won't be easy *The Ticket – Thu May 5*, 2:40 pm ET



<mark>Obama way ahead of Republicans for 2012 election</mark> Reuters — Wed May 11

The reputation of the Tea Party movement decreased accordingly and acceptance for democratic politics were on the rise:

Tea Party's Increasing Unpopularity -- Nobody Likes to Be Threatened

ContributorNetwork - Sun May 1, 12:38 pm ET

A recent poll conducted by USA Today/Gallup indicates the tea party movement could be headed for a bit of trouble in the coming months. Full Story »

Republicans Rethink the Politics of the Ryan Plan *The Atlantic Wire – Sat May 7, 7:11 am ET*

... After facing town halls full of angry voters over the proposed Medicare changes--even Donald Trump wouldn't mess with the program--Republicans are backing down from the proposal...

May 10

Town halls, polls reveal Americans' deep reticence over moves to tackle deficit

Exclusive to Yahoo! News - Tue May 10, 9:13 am ET

... Raucous town halls during the Easter recess and conflicting polls made one thing abundantly clear:

Despite a general desire to get the deficit under control, Americans are not interested in most of the specific proposals Congress or the White House say would be needed to accomplish the task, particularly trimming Medicare. Only two steps tend to attract broad support: eliminating subsidies to oil companies and raising taxes on the wealthy. Yet those are opposed by most Republicans.

...

Is the GOP's Medicare-slashing plan dead? The Week – Wed May 11, 12:57 pm ET

On the other hand Obama surely is not a reliable partner - for our alter egos! Whereas Rumsfeld was not able to give the military enough support to catch Bin Laden in Tora Bora the current administration obviously is more steadfast in pursuing its reasonable goals. The Bin Laden success has strenghtened the position of Obama. He probably will be reelected in 2012. The success bears in it opportunities, namely overcoming unproductive social arrangements (UAC's) as well as dangers connected with this from a so-called growth panic which could lead to a **political backlash** and a blockade of the politic process of solving problems.

Should Bush get more credit for bin Laden's death?

The Week – Tue May 3, 8:49 am ET

New York - President Obama ordered the mission that nailed Osama bin Laden. But some say Obama's predecessor deserves praise, too

•••

Obama succeeded where Bush failed: Bush ignored intelligence warnings about al Qaeda before 9/11, says Paul Kelly in *The Australian*, and botched his chance to send his military, in force, to get bin Laden at Tora Bora early in the Afghan war. By contrast, Obama rejected a safer bombing operation in favor of a dangerous raid "filled with military traps and potential political humiliation for him," to be sure the job got done. That's why "the demise of bin Laden has come on Obama's watch, not George W. Bush's."

...

Why was Obama disrespected so much until May 1? Was it because he is black only? Was Condoleeza Rice ever disrespected the way Obama was? No, because she is not a liberal but a neoconservative politician relentless in her strife of doing harm to the real existential needs of the population. Our alter egos appreciated this and she was respected for it and not bothered by people's racist contempt towards her.

There is a lot of ambiguity in the relationship between Al-Quaeda and authorities/population in Pakistan. On the one hand military and secret services are fighting terrrorists, on the other hand it looks like as parts of these institutions had been protecting Bin Laden. The ambuigity can be explained if we take into consideration that people have different personality parts. One part of their personality is striving for an improvement of real existential conditions according to our explicit and conscious value systems. Another part, namely our alter egos, is

not. This part is striving for war and self-destruction. One part of our political leaders who call themselves "**realistic**" politicians trust in them and faithfully expect that they will find electoral support for politics in the service of the alter ego again and again.

As an illustration I want to point to the anger and the "violent backlash" among the population in Pakistan after the U.S. Bin Laden raid had made it obvious that a powerful UAC existed. This very existence was endangered by the disclosure and so was the defense of traumatic feelings among the population:

Why Pakistan is Bin Laden's Lone Success Story

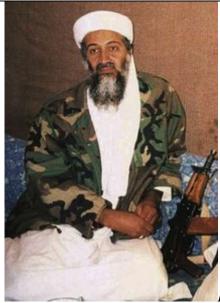
Time.com - May 3

Which world leader has the biggest headache caused by the death of Osama bin-Laden? That would have to be **General Ashfaq Kayani**, commander of Pakistan's military and, as such, the most powerful man in the country where al-Qaeda's fugitive leader had been hiding in plain sight.

..

Still, cooling U.S. outrage over any Pakistani coddling of bin Laden is only half of Kayani's problem: The other half will be the fact that it will be the violent backlash by Bin Laden's supporters and allies inside Pakistan, who assume that the Pakistani authorities were complicit in the Bin Laden U.S. raid, just as they assume Pakistani complicity in the ongoing drone wars in Waziristan. Reports suggest that local militants in the tribal areas are planning to break various cease-fire agreements and rekindle a domestic insurgency that draws the Army into fighting a civil war. ...

Pakistan then threatened the U.S. on corporation:



Reuters

Pakistan threatens U.S. on cooperation if more raids

Reuters – 1 hr 2 mins ago

ABBOTTABAD/NEW YORK (Reuters) – Pakistan's army threatened on Thursday to reconsider its crucial cooperation with the United States if Washington carried out another unilateral attack like the killing of Osama bin Laden. Full Story »

When the far right Santorums say that the U.S. "security" is threatened by this, I do understand "security" as the absence of overwhelming inner traumatic feelings (and "god" as alter ego). And if the U.S. would tolerate that Pakistan indirectly fights against NATO in

Afghanistan by giving support to the Taliban in Afghanistan then this from the instinctive perception of our alter ego would not be un-patriotic or un-American, on the contrary. I suppose that from the view of the alter ego it is patriotic to nourish the causes for wars and dubious to do the contrary.

<u>Karen Santorum: 2012 Is a 'Battlefield' for 'Defending God's Truth'</u> *The Atlantic Wire – Tue May 3, 5:01 pm ET*

Karen Santorum says the 2012 presidential race, in which her husband, Rick, is a likely Republican candidate, is "not just another political race. It's about going on to the battlefield and defending God's truth in the world." The Santorums talked to Christian Broadcasting Network's David Brody, and Ms. Santorum explained what "God's truth" means:

Defending the sacredness of marriage. Defending the sanctity of life. So I see it a little differently because I know **it's going to be literally on a battlefield**, and it's going to be really hard. So there is a lot of reservation. But it really boils down to God's will. What is it that God wants?

She says the couple has "prayed a lot about the decision" and the former senator's **decision**--apparently she's referring to his <u>forming</u> a presidential exploratory committee--"is **what God wants.**"

For his part, Rick Santorum didn't wait long after the killing of Osama bin Laden to criticize

President Obama's foreign policy. The raid was "well orchestrated," Santorum said, but "That's one isolated area as opposed to the president's foreign policy and how it's affecting our security. The president's foreign policy with respect to our security is to make our allies less confident in us and has resulted in them distancing themselves from us," he said Monday night to the Family Leader presidential series, a Christian event, according to the Des Moines Register's Jennifer Jacobs. "And our enemies, those who have engaged us and are battling us, I think they are less fearful and less respectful of us."

Mark Sageman is an expert on Al Qaeda and related terrorist organizations. He has consulted with various branches of the U.S. government, including the National Security Council, the Department of Defense, the Combatant Commanders, the National Laboratories, the Department of Homeland Security etc. He thinks the sources of terrorism (or the legitimation for it among the population) stem from a "disillusionment because legal protests have no effect" (Tages Anzeiger, Zurich, Switzerland, May 31 2022). In a transmission of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation on Dec 3, 2009 radical Isreali settlers in the West Bank were heard saying "God gave us the land" and "the Palestinians have no rights". This is an expression of utter contempt for the rights of the Palestinians and be at the roots of the disillusionment mentioned above. . In 2010 Petraeus, Mullen and Biden had found out that Israel's politics towards the Palestinians was dangerous for American lives and money and for regional peace in Mideast, Afghanistan and Pakistan.¹

On May 20 Nertanyahu said "the United States 'does not understand **reality'**" as (he) arrived in Washington on Friday after President Barack Obama endorsed a longstanding Palestinian demand on borders of a future state." ("Netanyahu: U.S. 'does not understand reality" - Reuters - May 20 2011). On May 23 when he addressed a joint session of the U.S. Congress Netanyahu said "You have to understand this: In Judea and Samaria, **the Jewish people are not foreign occupiers**," Netanyahu said. "We're not the British in India. We're not the Belgians in the Congo. **This is the land of our forefathers**." That Netanyahu received dozens of standing ovations for this and similar bellicosities certainly would not have appeased Arab feelings of powerlessness.

¹Foreign Policy, Mar 13, 2010: "The Petraeus briefing: Biden's embarrassment is not the whole story"

Israeli Prime Minister Gets 29 Standing Ovations in Congress, Sends Message to White House*

May 24, 2011 12:59 PM

ABC's Jonathan Karl (@jonkarl) reports:

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's **speech before a joint meeting of Congress** had all trappings of a State of the Union address by a president with sky-high approval ratings.

After the imperial politics of the G.W. Bush administration restoring international stability certainly was a major task of the reasonable Obama administration. On May 19, 2011 Obama gave a so-called "Middle East Speech" in Washington. According to Charles Freeman whose appointment as chairman of the U.S. National Intelligence Council was defeated by the Israel Lobby in 2009 the main message of Obama in this speech was that he revealed that his administration and his country would not be able to play such an important part as he had imagined before in this topic. In my eyes this will impair the international part of normalisation after G.W. Bush and this is among the important reasons for the pressure on stock prices of the last month.

The other reason is connected with U.S. debt and taxes:

• U.S. hits debt ceiling at Politico – Mon May 16

Social imbalances in the U.S. society after 30 years of neoliberalism and the need to preserve the social systems would urgently require that the rich pay more taxes. As we have seen above people also sometimes support "eliminating subsidies to oil companies and raising taxes on the wealthy". Nevertheless it does not seem to be possible to raise taxes and when it is discussed in parliament such plans are defamed as "un-American":

• Big Oil CEO says ending tax breaks "un-American." Exclusive to Yahoo!

News – May 12

Who knew a congressional hearing on oil and gas tax breaks could be so patriotic?

Two Senate Democrats made sure it would be after ConocoPhillips CEO James Mulva released a news release Wednesday that derided Democratic legislation repealing oil and gas tax breaks as "un-American."

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English Proofreading by Rudy Weiler (www.rweiler.ch)