

Obama Kills Again: The Case of HSBC

by Jeffrey and Michele Steinberg

Feb. 15—A novel civil lawsuit, filed recently in the Federal District Court for the Southern District of Texas, holds HSBC responsible for scores of murders, including of U.S. Federal agents and U.S. consular officials, that were carried out by Mexico's violent drug cartels. HSBC, formerly the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was the original British Crown chartered bank for laundering opium proceeds during the time of the Nineteenth Century British Opium Wars against China.

A 2012 U.S. Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee report thoroughly documented the role of HSBC as the number one money-laundering bank for the Mexican and Colombian drug cartels. The civil lawsuit holds HSBC accountable as an integral part of that international drug and murder apparatus.

Were it not for the Obama Administration's policy of "too big to jail," HSBC would have had its charter to do business in the United States cancelled immediately after the release of the Senate investigation, and top executives would have been thrown in jail as part of a narcotics racketeering prosecution. But under a top-down Obama Administration policy, HSBC got away, literally, with murder. Instead of hard jail time for top executives and a loss of all authority to operate in the United States, HSBC got a Deferred Prosecution deal with the Department of Justice, brokered by the current U.S. Attorney General, Loretta Lynch.

Murder, Inc. has been given a free hand to spread

dope, to murder, and to launder the trillions of dollars in profit through Federally chartered banks, like the London-headquartered HSBC. This may be Barack Obama's biggest mass kill of all.

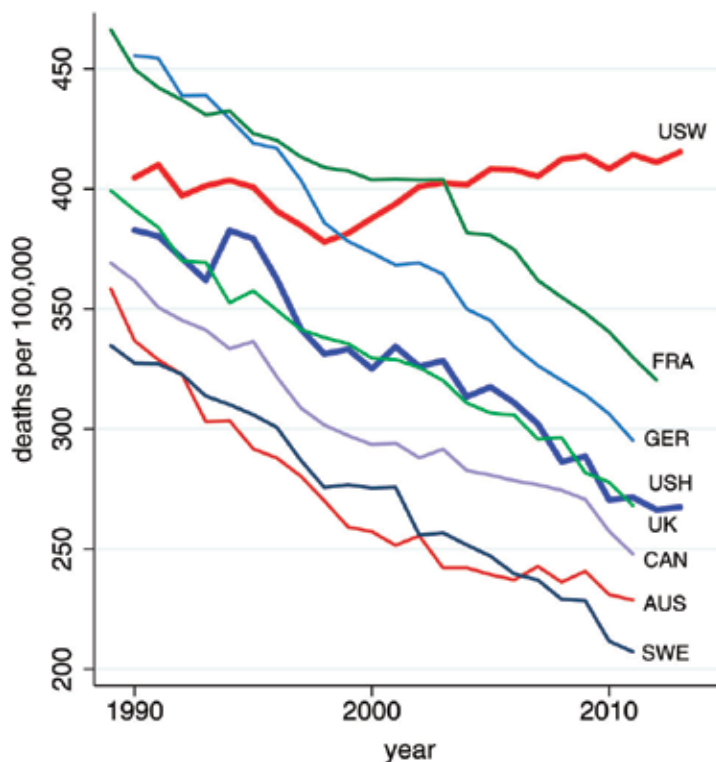
Obama Kills Americans

The United States is in the midst of a heroin epidemic. Every day in 2013, more than 120 Americans—many of them young—died of drug overdoses, which is nothing but a form of suicide borne of despair, desperation, and hopelessness. That's to say that every 12 minutes, one American died needlessly of a self-inflicted overdose, most of them from heroin or pharmaceutical opioids, either prescribed or bought on the black market. Where is the deadly heroin coming from? How is it spread throughout the United States? Who is financing the vast distribution networks that rakes in hundreds of billions of dollars a year?



Official White House Photo by Pete Souza

Notorious British drug-money laundering bank HSBC got a Deferred Prosecution deal with the Obama Department of Justice, brokered by U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch, shown here with Obama.



Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

The shocking rise of mortality rates among U.S. White non-Hispanics (USW), ages 45-54, shown in the study "Rising morbidity and mortality in midlife among white non-Hispanic Americans in the 21st century" by Anne Case and Angus Deaton, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. These rates are compared with U.S. Hispanics (USH), and six comparison countries: France (FRA), Germany (GER), the United Kingdom (UK), Canada (CAN), Australia (AUS), and Sweden (SWE). The full report can be found [here](#).

Those are questions that the American people are not supposed to ask, or to know the answers to. That's where HSBC comes in, and that's why, up to this very moment, the practices of HSBC in violating money-laundering laws are being kept secret by order of the President of the United States and his hand-picked Attorney General, Loretta Lynch, the very U.S. Attorney from the Eastern District of New York who made the deal to give HSBC a free pass for the murders its drug-trafficking clients had carried out.

A late-2015 Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) report on the National Drug Threat Assessment, showed what's been done to the working population of the United States over the course of the Bush and Obama Presidencies. The document reported that drug-related deaths had risen to become the leading cause of injury death in the United States. More than firearms;

more than car accidents. And in 2013 alone, the United States lost 46,470 people to drug overdoses.

In 2013 there were 169,000 new users of heroin; many of them very young. Between 2013 and 2014, the rate of current heroin use—in other words, people who used heroin in the past 30 days rose—by 51%. Between 2007 and 2013—or in other words, during the course of Obama's Presidency—the addiction to heroin rose 150%; and the deaths by overdose of heroin more than tripled. [See EIR, Vol. 43, No. 5, Jan. 29, 2016.](#)

The Civil Suit: A Turning Point

When presented with these developments, Lyndon LaRouche responded by asking: "Why didn't we, as a nation, respond years back, and take action to stop this from happening? How did people get set up to accept the economic policies of destruction of science, of industry, along with endless bail-outs of Wall Street? How were we induced to submit to do this to ourselves?"

If Americans take up LaRouche's challenge to shut down Wall Street, the self-inflicted death of our nation would be reversed.

The HSBC case shows Wall Street is Murder, Inc. It is a cancer that must be removed,

In 2009, just after Obama was inaugurated, Antonio Maria Costa, then head of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, made a statement that been a hallmark of the LaRouche movement since the 1970s when *EIR* first published [Dope, Inc.: Britain's Opium War against America](#). Costa revealed that in the aftermath of the 2008 meltdown of Wall Street and the trans-Atlantic financial system and subsequent bailouts, the only thing that kept the international financial system afloat was the infusion of drug money—the only cash available, from the world's biggest cash business.

And HSBC was the biggest of them all, according to the 2012 Senate investigation and the Deferred Prosecution Agreement itself. Exactly as *Dope, Inc.* had documented, based on studying a century of British Empire opium trade.

Obama did nothing to stop it.

But now, on Feb. 9, a heroic action by victims of the Mexican drug cartels' brutality has opened the door to justice through a civil suit entitled *Zapata vs. HSBC*, filed in U.S. Federal Court in the Southern District of



youtube/USOpenBorders' channel

activities, the HSBC Defendants (collectively HSBC)—a global network of international financial institutions—knowingly provided continuous and systematic material support to the cartels and their acts of terrorism by laundering billions of dollars for them. Over the course of the Twenty-first Century, the Mexican drug cartels ... have risen as the greatest single threat to Mexican national security and one of the greatest threats to the United States. ...

“The ability to conceal the source of their illicit proceeds and gain access to the international financial system is vital

to the existence of the drug cartels and their ability to execute widespread acts of terrorism. Money laundering is the lifeblood of the Mexican drug cartels.”

In reality, the reverse might be more true—drug money laundering may well be lifeblood of the Wall Street financial system.

Nothing New Under the Sun

Since the heyday of the British Opium War against China, the monarchy’s boast has been, “the sun never set on the British Empire.” With its control of Obama and George W. Bush, two presidents in succession, that is all too true.

In 2013, HSBC whistleblower John Cruz, a witness to HSBC’s violations of Federal law, was interviewed by the U.S. Senate which was investigating Obama’s Attorney General nominee Lynch for letting HSBC off the hook. The Senate did nothing.

Again, Lyndon LaRouche is asking you, the citizen, directly, “Why didn’t we, as a nation, respond years back, and take action to stop this from happening?”

In 1977-78, when HSBC, then still using its Opium War official name, the Bank of Hong Kong and Shanghai, petitioned to take over Marine Midland Bank,— a New York State chartered bank. Muriel Siebert, then Superintendent of Banks for the state, opposed the move. She was also a fervent supporter of the bank-separation laws to prevent the merger of saving

Aftermath of a drug cartel shootout in Nogales, Mexico, 2010

Texas, Brownsville Division. The chilling complaint’s Plaintiffs are members of four American families: the Zapata family, the Avila family, the Redelfs family, and the Morales family, who had one or more members murdered, tortured and/or mutilated by the Mexican drug cartels. It lays out the unspeakable crimes and the role of HSBC in detail and demands a jury trial so that the bank, its officers, and its global affiliates don’t escape public scrutiny.

One of the lead attorneys in *Zapata vs. HSBC* is Richard Elias, a former Assistant U.S. Attorney, who is no stranger to the practices of the “too big to fail” banks. He is credited with uncovering some of the fraudulent mortgage securities practices by JP Morgan Chase. Elias drafted the civil suit in a case against that and other banks. The Justice Department settled for more than \$128 billion in fines from the banks—but not a single banker went to jail.

Plaintiffs in *Zapata vs. HSBC* are dealing with even bigger crimes—torture and murder. They hope that Elias’s knowledge will lead to justice and they want a public jury trial. The complaint says:

“This is an action brought by American victims of horrific acts of international terrorism committed by some of the most powerful and ruthless of Mexico’s drug cartels—the Sinaloa, Juárez, and Los Zetas cartels. For the decade leading up to the attacks at issue, and with full knowledge of the drug cartels’ terroristic

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U.S. government accuse HSBC of 'turning a blind eye' to billion dollar drug money laundering as they force bank to pay record £1.2bn settlement

- HSBC accused of ignoring money laundering by Mexican drug cartels
- British bank also breached sanctions against regimes such as Iran and Libya
- Calls for ex-CEO, Trade Minister Lord Green, to explain 'what he know'
- The bank has been forced by U.S. Government to pay a £1.2 billion settlement of the money laundering

By JAMES SALMON FOR THE DAILY MAIL and DANIEL BATES
PUBLISHED: 18:14 EST, 11 December 2012 | UPDATED: 20:35 EST, 11 December 2012

Britain's biggest bank has been attacked by US authorities for 'turning a blind eye' to large-scale money laundering by drug cartels, terrorists and rogue regimes. The US Department of Justice yesterday accused HSBC of an 'astonishing record of dysfunction' in allowing hundreds of millions of illicit dollars through its branches. The bank is said to have had such a 'ringing endorsement' from Mexico drug gangs that it became

United Kingdom Daily Mail

Obama Administration lets HSBC off with a small fine, relative to the amounts laundered.

banks with investment speculators—the Glass Steagall laws.

To get around the New York law and ruling, the U.S. Federal Reserve granted Marine Midland's request for a federal charter. *EIR* and the LaRouche movement fought a pitched political campaign to stop HongShang's move into the United States. The banking move was an "opium war against America," and *EIR* met with the Fed in Washington to stop the deal.

HongShang told the Fed that it had gotten out of the opium trade banking business in the 1940s. A patent lie.

Out of the battle against HongShang came the ground-breaking book, *Dope, Inc.* that proved there can be no drug-trafficking without its engine—laundered money.

The collusion today between British asset Obama and London's HSBC is staggering.

Part of Lynch's sweetheart deal with HSBC was that a Justice Dept. appointed "Monitor" —chosen from a list supplied by HSBC—would oversee bank's strict compliance with anti-money laundering laws. The report is to be kept completely secret—even if violations are found. But, a lawsuit in New York's Eastern District Federal Court brought by an aggrieved mortgage-holder, is demanding that the moni-

tor's report be made public. In January, Federal Judge John Gleeson ordered the release of the report. Immediately, the Justice Department and HSBC joined forces to fight the release and keep the report secret.

No wonder there is such collusion. HSBC's Chief Legal office is Stuart A. Levey, the Bush-Obama Treasury Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence—the first person to ever hold that post, which was created after the 9/11 terrorist attack organized by the British Empire's Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Levey served Obama till 2011. He joined HSBC the next year.

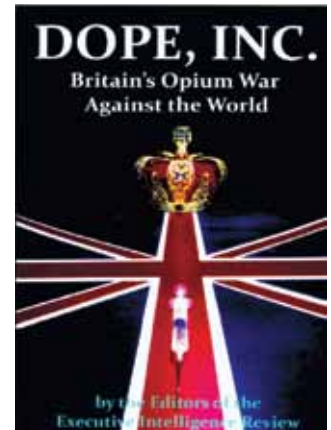
These unprecedented civil lawsuits are an opportunity, only if the American people wake up. This time, listen to LaRouche. Join the battle against Wall Street and fight for the future, for what it really means to be human. It could be the last chance for the human race.

Gretchen Small and George Canning contributed research for this story.

DOPE, INC.

Is Back In Print!

Dope, Inc., first commissioned by Lyndon LaRouche, and the underground bestseller since 1978, is back in print for the first time since 1992. The 320-page paperback, includes reprints from the third edition, and in-depth studies from *EIR*, analyzing the scope and size of the international illegal drug-trafficking empire known as Dope, Inc., including its latest incarnation in the drug wars being waged out of, and against Russia and Europe today.



*This edition, published by Progressive Independent Media, is currently available in limited numbers, so there is no time to waste in buying yours today. The cost is \$25 per book, with \$4 for shipping and handling. It is available through www.larouchepub.com, and *EIR*, at 1-800-278-3135.*