

**Snowden (00:55:00~) Economic and social control by the American Empire**

*Why did you go back to the NSA [National Security Agency]?*

Because of the money, and because I wanted to live in Japan. And because of Obama, actually. You know, I thought things were going to get better with him. I was wrong.

*What was it like there?*

Well, the first part of my day, I was building this round-the-clock backup system called Epic Shelter. So if there were some catastrophe, say, terrorists burned down every embassy and NSA post in the Middle East, this program would ensure we wouldn't lose any of that data. But then I would have to put it aside when visitors showed up. The NSA wanted to impress the Japanese, show them our reach. They loved the live drone feeds... They were not as thrilled to learn that we wanted them to help us spy on the Japanese population. They said it was against their laws. Of course, we tapped the entire country anyway. And we didn't stop there. Once we owned their communication systems, we started going after the physical infrastructure. We had slipped these little sleeper programs into power grids, dams, hospitals. And the idea was that if the day came when Japan was no longer an ally, it would be lights out. And it wasn't just the Japanese. We were planting malware in Mexico, Germany, Brazil, Austria. I mean, China I could understand. Or Russia or Iran. Venezuela, OK. But, Austria? You're also being ordered to follow most world leaders and heads of industry. You know, you're tracking trade deals, sex scandals, diplomatic cables, to give the U.S. an advantage in negotiations at the G8, or leverage over Brazilian oil companies. Or helping to oust some third world leader who's not playing ball. And ultimately the truth sinks in that no matter what justification you're selling yourself, this is not about terrorism. Terrorism is the excuse. This is about economic and social control. And the only thing you're really protecting is the supremacy of your government.

### **Drone Operators (1:30:20~)**

We were in Vegas, looking at Afghanistan, so we were working late hours. This blurry object came wandering into the strike zone. We all knew that it was a kid. Poof, he was gone. We called in for clarification, and the report came back: It was a dog. Okay, fine. The shift's long. Day and night. The same village two or three days later. We saw the funeral. We knew it was the kid they buried. Moms and dads were wailing. And then the order came down, pretty clear. Hit them. Poof. And they are gone in a cloud of dust. I mean all of them—the whole family. But the crazy thing is that you come home after work, kiss your wife and kids, go back to work the next day. Pretty soon, you know, it just all becomes routine.

You make it sound criminal, man. It's war, it's a job.

I don't know, man. Do you think jobs can't be criminal?

No, not if you're working for the government.

Did you ever hear about the Nuremberg trials, Trev? They weren't that long ago.

Yeah. And we hung the Nazi bigshots, right?

Yeah. Well, the bigshots were the first trial, but then the next trial were just the judges, and lawyers, and police men, guards—ordinary people just doing their jobs, following orders. That's where we got the Nuremberg Principles, which then the UN made into international law, just in case ordinary jobs become criminal again. I'm just saying.