

‘400,000 dead, and you’re arresting us instead?’

America’s newest export:
Students who protest genocide

Linda Pentz Gunter

It begins, “First they came for” – a quote that has become almost a cliché, such is its fill-in-the-gap ubiquity in Trump’s America. It was originated by the German Protestant pastor, Martin Niemöller, an expression of his remorse for not speaking up right away when the Nazis rose to power in 1930s Germany.

Today, as you wind your way through the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC, Niemöller’s famous quote is one of the last things you see as you complete the tour. A final warning, and a deep irony, because they are coming, now, and in some cases, they are being sent by Jewish Zionists.

So first they came for Mahmoud Khalil, a Palestinian graduate student at Columbia University, who had served as a liaison between the pro-Palestine Columbia student encampment last year and university authorities. Khalil, a green card holder, was snatched on March 8 from his home on the Columbia campus, leaving behind his wife, Noor Abdulla, a US citizen, who was eight months pregnant at the time.

Khalil suspected they were coming and had sought protection from then interim university president, Katrina Armstrong, writing to her that attacks from Zionist students and even a faculty member, far-right Israeli assistant professor Shai Davidai, had prompted him to fear for his safety and even his life.

Khalil warned Armstrong in an email seen later that the attacks against him included “calls for my deportation and death threats ... I urgently need legal support and I urge you to intervene.” But far from protecting its own students and censuring those persecuting them, Columbia’s response then and since has placed the university firmly in the camp of Trump administration collaborator.

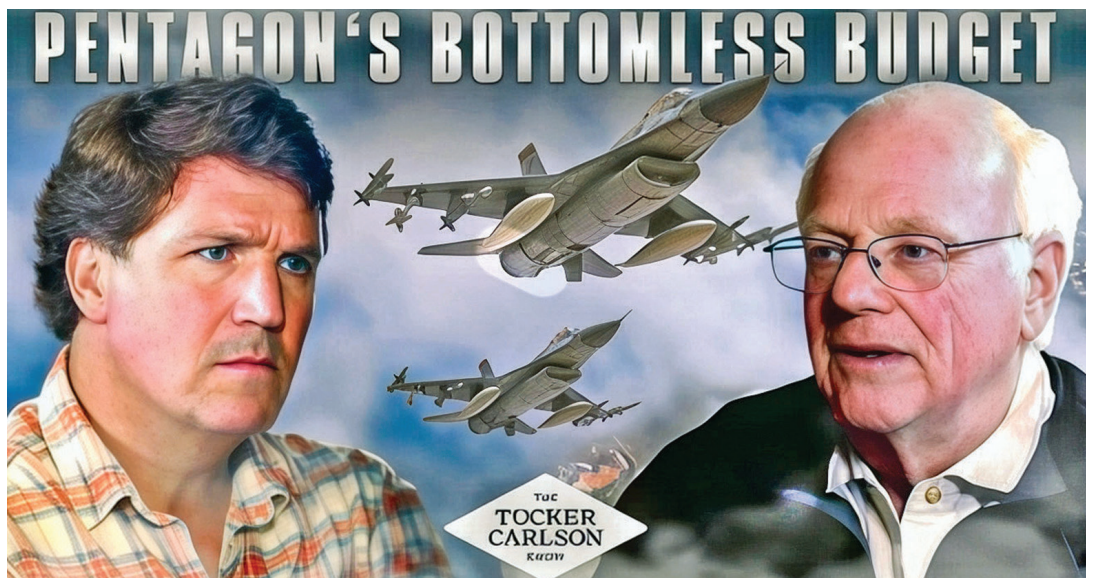
One day after his appeal to

Armstrong, Khalil was seized by ICE officials, then disappeared for at least 24 hours, before resurfacing in a notoriously harsh immigration detention center in Louisiana. As the first to endure this, Khalil drew widespread attention, including from members of Congress. “Trump’s attempt to deport Khalil is authoritarian and an attack on the First Amendment,” said Maryland Democrat, Congressman Jamie Raskin, a professor of constitutional law. “We won’t sit quietly as his administration tries to dismantle free speech.”

Facing threats by the Trump administration that it would be stripped of \$400 million in federal funding, Columbia began handing over more of its overseas students for detention and deportation. Trump canceled the \$400 million anyway. By mid-March, Columbia had even expelled student and Student Workers union president, Grant Miner, who is Jewish and a US born citizen, stripping him of his union position.

By late April, hundreds of students were back on the Columbia campus, protesting the genocide in Gaza and demanding the release of the disappeared students and teachers. A Jewish alumnus tried to set up a tent and was promptly arrested

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Ben Cohen on Tucker Carlson Show, May 5, 2025

War is a racket

Bomb Iran? MAGA split Carlson and Cohen say No

By Citizen Staff

Eleven years ago, Ralph Nader wrote a book titled – *Unstoppable: The Emerging Left-Right Alliance to Dismantle the Corporate State* (Nation Books, 2014).

Today, in 2025, that alliance has yet to emerge.

Instead, there is bitter rivalry.

But in a glimmer of the promise of that unstoppable left-right alliance, in early May 2025,

Tucker Carlson invited anti-war activist Ben Cohen (founder of Ben & Jerry’s ice cream) to his studio in rural Maine for a one hour conversation.

Cohen brought with him a copy of a book.

“You brought a book – *War is a Racket* – by Smedley Darlington Butler, the most decorated Marine in World War I, he’s a Marine General, he won two Medals of Honor,” Carlson said. “And for some reason, it’s

not the most famous book ever written in English, but it probably should be. What is that and why did you bring it?”

Cohen said Butler “encapsulates what’s been going on in terms of how our military has been used.”

“All these refugees, immigrants – why are they trying to get through the United States? A lot of times it’s because the US at some point in history overthrew

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Pardon me? Trump lets the corporate criminals off the hook

By Russell Mokhiber

Donald Trump is shutting down law enforcement across the country.

His first move was to put all foreign bribery law enforcement on hold.

Then he started shutting down the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) and firing almost all of its staff.

Then Trump offered \$50,000 to all staff at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), perhaps the premiere corporate law enforcement agency, to retire early. About 600 SEC employees, twelve percent of the 4,400 staff, took him up on the offer.

“With growing concern, we fear that we are watching the SEC face a death by a thousand cuts,” the Shadow SEC, a group

of prominent securities law professors said in a statement last week. “No, we do not mean that the SEC is likely to be abolished by either executive or legislative action. Rather, we mean that the SEC is on the verge of being shrunk by both budget cuts and mandated staff reductions, while it is losing its traditional independence – as an Executive Order now requires any

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