

Political Corruption

A Collection of Links on politics and political corruption in relation to financial scandals.

See *Money in* *History of*
also *Fiction* *Money*

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International Sources

The Internet Center for Corruption Research

A Joint Initiative of Transparency International and the University of Passau, the Center publishes an annual ranking of countries by the extent of perceived corruption in public administration, the Corruption Perceptions Index.

Suharto, Marcos and Mobuto head corruption table with \$50bn scams

A list of the top 10 most corrupt politicians of the past two decades compiled by Transparency International. The Guardian, 26 March 2004.

Global Corruption Report 2003

The 2003 edition of the Global Corruption Report focuses on the need for greater access to information in the struggle against corruption. It explores how civil society, the public and private sectors and the media use and control information to combat - or conceal - corruption. The report is also available in French.

+ The Economics of Corruption

A series of lectures to be given by Professor Johann Graf Lambsdorff at the University of Passau in October 2004.

Opacity Index

A ranking countries by their *opacity*, i.e. "the lack of clear, accurate, formal, easily-discernible and widely accepted practices".

Corruption, the legal system and enforcement, economic policies, accounting guidelines, and regulatory frameworks are all taken into account in judging opacity. This was originally a PriceWaterhouseCoopers project but is now a product of the Kurtzman Group.

British Official Organizations, Political Parties and Companies

Jowell finances furore heats up NEW

Pressure continues to mount on Culture Secretary Tessa Jowell whose husband David Mills has repeatedly denied using an alleged £344,000 bribe from Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi to pay off the couple's joint mortgage. BBC, 1 March 2006.

David Blunkett

Articles from the Scotsman about the career of one of Britain's most remarkable politicians who resigned from the cabinet a second time after controversy over share dealings.

A brief history of sleaze

An overview of the history of sleaze in the British parliament by Kevin Boone.

Hewitt caves in on corruption rules

Patricia Hewitt, the trade secretary, has been forced to retract her decision to water down official rules against company corruption. Rob Evans, the Guardian, January 14, 2005.

Corner House Double Victory on UK Government Department's Anti-Bribery Rules and Public Interest Litigation

Corner House Research claimed a double victory in the public interest after settling a High Court action and winning fresh consultations with the Government's Export Credits Guarantee Department. 25 January 2005.

New Labour Lord handed party £500,000

The Prime Minister made Paul Drayson a lord in May, six weeks before he gave the party £505,000, Electoral Commission accounts reveal. Daily Mirror, August 25, 2004.

Reid blocked freedom of information on Powderject, says watchdog

The parliamentary ombudsman has expressed deep disappointment at the failure of John Reid, the health secretary, to comply with her rulings on freedom of information. For two years John Reid's department has refused to give information about the award of a £32m contract, without normal competitive tendering, to Powderject for smallpox vaccine shortly after Powderject's owner donated £100,000 to Labour. Guardian, May 25, 2004.

BAE chairman named in 'slush fund' files

Sir Dick Evans, the retiring chairman of BAE has been named in

allegations concerning the arms firm's £60m "slush fund". Documents previously seized by MoD police detail £17m of alleged payments to a Saudi responsible for arms purchases from Britain, Prince Turki bin Nasser. The Guardian, May 5, 2004.

Iain Duncan Smith in the clear

The former Conservative Leader has been officially cleared of claims that he used taxpayers' money to pay his wife Betsy for work she did not do. 30 March 2004.

Galloway may face serious fraud office investigation

George Galloway faces the prospect of a criminal investigation into his activities by the serious fraud office, which has collected evidence relating to the oil-for-food corruption scandal in Iraq. The Guardian, January 25, 2006.

George Galloway MP

An unofficial website.

George Galloway challenges American Senate to charge him with perjury

George Galloway has challenged American Senators to charge him with perjury after they accused him of lying under oath in Washington earlier this year. Scotland Today, 25 October 2005.

Galloway turns tables on Washington

US, British press describe how Britain's "Street fighter" humiliated his accusers on Iraq. Middle East Online, 18 May 2005.

Galloway claims victory over U.S. in oil-for-food storm

A triumphant George Galloway arrived back in the UK confident he won the showdown with US senators who have accused him of profiting from Iraq's oil-for-food scandal. Glasgow Evening Times, 18 May 2005.

Galloway wins libel case against Telegraph

Former Labour MP George Galloway has won £150,000 in damages in his libel action against the Telegraph. The Guardian, December 2, 2004.

Galloway wins damages for Saddam slur

A US newspaper has apologised and will pay damages to MP George Galloway over wrongful allegations that he was paid millions of pounds by former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. Guardian, March 19, 2004.

Galloway row: Claims and rebuttal

Labour MP George Galloway has denied claims by the Daily Telegraph newspaper that Iraqi intelligence documents show he took money from Saddam Hussein's regime. BBC, 23 April 2003.

UK Treasury Annual Fraud Reports

An analysis of reported fraud in Government Departments.

Blair faces new 'Steelgate' row

Tony Blair is accused of undermining the British steel industry by his support for Mittal. BBC, 6 March 2002.

The mercantilist fallacy that traps Tony Blair

An article by Samuel Brittan on the lessons of the Mittal affair and similar controversies. Financial Times, 28 February 2002.

Sorry end for headline-grabbing Dame Shirley

The unanimous ruling against Dame Shirley Porter by the law lords marks the official end of the longest running and biggest local government corruption scandal in Britain.

The Guardian, December 14, 2001.

Commons reopens row over Hinduja passport

A Commons committee is to re-open the row over the Hinduja passport application by summoning two Whitehall permanent secretaries to answer allegations that they obstructed an investigation by parliament's independent ombudsman, Sir Michael Buckley. Guardian, June 11, 2002.

On the Hinduja trail

An account, from an Indian magazine, of the allegations that the Hinduja brothers were involved in bribery in connection with defence contracts and applied for British passports in order to try and avoid extradition to India.

Mandelson - Hinduja Affair Timeline

An outline of the developments that led to Peter Mandelson's second resignation from the British government.

Ex-minister banned for three weeks

Geoffrey Robinson, the controversial former minister, was facing a three-week suspension yesterday from the House of Commons for misleading MPs over a £200,000 payment from a company owned by disgraced Labour tycoon, Robert Maxwell. The Guardian, October 25, 2001.

Keith Vaz and Geoffrey Robinson

Within a week of publishing a report into alleged links between Europe minister Keith Vaz and the Hinduja brothers, Elizabeth Filkin, the Commons standards commissioner, has announced two fresh inquiries - another one into Vaz and one into the former paymaster general, Geoffrey Robinson. The Guardian, March 22, 2001.

Second term snub for MPs' anti-sleaze watchdog

Elizabeth Filkin, the tenacious official who investigates allegations of misconduct against MPs, has been denied reappointment for a second term after falling foul of the parliamentary establishment at Westminster. The Guardian, October 19, 2001.

MI6 Spied on the Bundesbank

A former British secret agent, Richard Tomlinson, has alleged that

MI6 had a spy in the Bundesbank code-named Orcada, who provided inside information on Germany's proposed interest rate movements - *a claim that could almost have come straight from the pages of Nest of Vipers!*

Russian Spies Unmasked in London Financial System

Reports that the KGB and its successor the SVR have spied on financial institutions.

BA Gough Equipment Ltd - A Victim of a Cover-Up

Alleges that the British government has acted to conceal and maintain a £1.3 billion fraud against the BA Gough Equipment company.

My experiences, the Scott Inquiry, the British Legal System

An account by the former chairman of Astra Holdings, Gerald Reaveley James, of the inquiry into the arms for Iraq affair.

The case of British Tory Treasurer Michael Ashcroft: wealth, patronage and parliamentary politics

An account of the controversy over reports on his business dealings in Belize, including allegations involving money laundering that caused Michael Ashcroft to issue a libel writ against the Times. By Tony Hyland 4 August 1999.

The Times and Michael Ashcroft

The Times confirmed that it had no evidence that Mr Ashcroft or any of his companies have ever been suspected of money laundering or drug-related crimes. December 9 1999.

The European Union and Member States

EU official denied redress

Dorte Schmidt-Brown, the whistleblower who helped expose fraud at Eurostat, the EU data office, has been denied redress for the difficulties she suffered after helping expose the £3m looting of funds. Alex Hawkes, Accountancy Age 06 July 2005.

Auditors reject EU accounts again

For the eleventh year in a row, the European Union's annual accounts have failed to gain a seal of approval from the EU's own auditors. BBC, 15 November 2005.

EC's 'sordid accounting' damned in email from top auditor

The European Commission has a "chronically sordid" accounting system and is still unable to keep track of the EU's £73billion budget after a decade of financial scandals, according to a top EU insider, Jules Muis, who also defended Marta Andreasen who was sacked after criticising the EU's lack of effective action on preventing fraud. Daily Telegraph, 15 March 2005.

Sacked EU whistleblower defiant

The European Commission's former chief accountant, who claimed

there were holes in the EU budget system, says she will fight against her sacking. BBC, 14 October 2004.

For E.U. Critics, a Cautionary Tale

Police raided the home of Hans-Martin Tillack, an investigative reporter for the German newsweekly Stern in what is seen as retaliation for a story exposing fraud and waste inside the European Union. Glenn Frankel, Washington Post, August 15, 2004.

Profile: Marta Andreasen, Personality of the Year

Marta Andreasen. Here, she tells Michelle Perry why she blew the whistle and why she would do it again. Financial Directory, 27 November 2003.

EU whistleblower hung out to dry

Neil Kinnock, the European Commission vice-president, is to be questioned by MEPs about an alleged cover-up of mismanagement and cronyism by the EU's statistics body, Eurostat, after Dorte Schmidt-Brown, a "whistle-blowing" employee, were ignored. The Daily Telegraph, 21 July 2002.

EU accounting worse than Enron, says whistleblower

The European Commission is embroiled in a furious row with its suspended chief accountant, Marta Andreasen, who claimed its \$US98 billion budget was "massively open to fraud" because it lacked even Enron's accountancy safeguards. August 3 2002.

The Sprout

A publication and website dedicated to revealing to Europe's 400 million citizens the truth about what is going on behind their backs and with their money.

Auditing Euro-Court corruption: the inside story from Luxembourg

'Whistleblower' Robert Dougal Watt speaks out. A world exclusive article from Just Response.

Final report on Eurostat fraud scandal highlights failings

The findings confirm those of the interim report which claimed that a "total lack of audit trail" at Eurostat enabled millions of euros to go missing in suspicious deals with outside contractors.

Court drops Cresson fraud charges

A Belgian court has dropped fraud charges against former French Prime Minister Edith Cresson for lack of evidence. The embezzlement charges related to a scandal that brought down the entire European Commission five years ago. BBC, 30 June 2004.

MEPs fight Euro election on fraud

Fierce criticism of the European Commission's financial reforms by its own former chief internal auditor has been seized on by the Conservatives to boost their election campaign. Accountancy Age, 27 May 2004.

Just Response - Europe

Corruption in European countries. From Just Response, a non-commercial online journal which provides an honest space for independent news coverage, analysis, investigation and opinion relating to all forms of injustice throughout the world.

New scandal hits EC over insider trading

The European Commission was embroiled in a fresh scandal after police raided its agriculture fiefdom in Brussels over alleged insider trading on the grain markets. Daily Telegraph, 17 October 2003.

Berlusconi Backlash: Court Deems Immunity Law Unconstitutional

Italy's highest court has annulled a controversial legal immunity law that had shielded top officials from prosecution while in office. Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi could now once again face bribery charges. 14 January 2004.

Is the Corruption Crusade Over?

Across Europe, high-profile cases are coming to naught. Business Week, November 26, 2001

An Italian story

Silvio Berlusconi, Italy's richest businessman, is expected to become prime minister again, although his companies have used money from untraceable sources and he faces allegations of links to the Mafia. The Economist, 26 April 2001.

Questions and Answers on Corruption and Fraud in the European Union Labour Euro-Safeguards Campaign Bulletin, May 1999.

The EU Fight Against Fraud Annual Reports

Press releases are available as well as the full text of the annual reports.

EU in Turmoil after Executive Commission Resigns

Stunned by allegations of cronyism and fraud in their ranks, the European Union's commissioners have resigned.

The Paul van Buitenen Report: How the European Commission deals with its internal irregularities and fraud

The full text of the report that the EU Commission tried to suppress.

The Paul van Buitenen Report

How the European Commission deals with its internal irregularities and fraud Paul van Buitenen Report wrote a book, *Fight for Europe*, after his report on fraud was ignored by the EU.

EU Fraud - a Billion-Dollar Bill

A European Commission report which says the European Union lost a billion dollars in 1998 because of fraud and fiscal irregularities. November 19, 1999

Psychology of Risk, Speculation and Fraud

by Linda Davies. How will financial speculators react to European Monetary Union? A novelist who is a former banker imagines the

outcome.

Former French PM found guilty of corruption

Former French prime minister Alain Juppé has been found guilty of corruption and barred from holding public office for a decade. The Guardian, January 30, 2004.

Iskandar Safa and the French Hostage Scandal

French President Jacques Chirac allegedly ordered the payment of \$3 million to obtain the release of 5 French nationals held hostage by Hezbollah. The illicit ransom payments were apparently intended to bolster Chirac's chances of defeating the late François Mitterrand in the 1988 presidential elections. Middle East Intelligence Bulletin. March 12, 2002.

French ex-minister on trial for forgery

Ex-finance minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn is facing charges of forgery, two years after he was forced to resign from the government when the allegations surfaced. BBC, 1 October 2001.

Chirac judge claims sabotage

The French investigating magistrate who led the main investigation into allegations of corruption against President Chirac has announced he's retiring, saying that his work was sabotaged. BBC, 14 January, 2002.

Video confession claims Chirac ordered cover-up

An investigating judge seized video tapes containing the confessions of the late Jean-Claude Méry that he had been told to lie to save the presidential campaign of the Gaullist leader. September 2000.

Scandals Français

A site devoted to exposing official corruption in France.

Managers Sentenced to Jail in Elf Corruption Trial

In France's biggest corporate crime trial, a judge sentenced two former Elf Aquitaine executives to five years in prison for using company money as bribes. 13 November 2003.

French court blocks corruption book

A French court has blocked the publication of a book by Eva Joly, a former investigating magistrate who exposed corruption at the Elf oil company. BBC, 19 June 2003.

Elf Corruption Trial Reaches French Courts

The biggest trial in postwar French history opens in Paris as 37 suspects face charges of profiting from corruption and illegal kickbacks in the early 1990s in conjunction with the French oil company Elf-Aquitaine. Deutsche Welle, 18 March 2003.

Elf's former top managers stand trial for embezzling millions in the 1990s

One of France's biggest ever corruption trials has opened in Paris. Thirty-seven people face charges of embezzling hundreds of

millions of dollars from the formerly state-owned oil company Elf, as part of a vast network of government-sponsored sleaze. The Scotsman, 18 March 2003.

Former French foreign minister acquitted in Elf corruption case

The Paris appeals court has acquitted former French foreign minister Roland Dumas on charges stemming from a corruption scandal at the formerly state-owned oil group Elf. 29 January 2003.

French elite hit by sleaze claims

The disgraced French former Foreign Minister, Roland Dumas, has accused ministers in the current government of involvement in a corruption scandal surrounding the former state-owned oil giant, Elf. BBC, 18 June 2001.

French ex-minister spared jail term

The prosecution asked for a suspended sentence for Roland Dumas. For his former mistress, Christine Deviers-Joncour, the prosecutors demanded six months, for Loik Le Floch-Prigent, former head of the Elf oil company, 22 months, and for his deputy Alfred Sirven, 30 months suspended. BBC 19 November 2002.

All over bar the tears in France's sleaze trial

The trial of former French foreign minister Roland Dumas ended on March 21 but the verdict is not expected until May. He is facing two years in jail and a multimillion-franc fine if he is found guilty of misusing funds from the oil company Elf-Aquitaine. The Guardian, March 22, 2001

Dumas on trial over sleaze claims

The former French foreign minister, Roland Dumas, and his ex-mistress have gone on trial in Paris accused of misappropriating funds from the former state-owned oil company, Elf. The BBC, 22 January, 2001.

Financial Scandal Threatens to Engulf French Presidency

An article on the World Socialist Web Site by By Gerard Naville, 16 September 1998, on allegations against Alain Juppé and Jacques Chirac.

Election blow to Schröder as minister is fired over sleaze claim

Rudolf Scharping, Germany's defence minister, was replaced after it was reported that he had taken payments from a PR consultant with links to the arms industry. The Guardian, July 19, 2002.

Kohl's legacy: Burnished or tarnished?

The decision of a Bonn court to lift the threat of prosecution against Helmut Kohl for breaking the law on party funding has boosted his attempt to save his long-term reputation as the chancellor of German unification. BBC, 2 March, 2001.

Greasing the Wheels

Allegations of high-level international influence peddling have shattered Germany's complacency. Time magazine February 7,

2000.

Silence Is Not Always Golden

Swiss banks' "ask-no-questions" policy has become a major liability because of bad publicity resulting from their use as a haven for money looted by dictators. Time magazine, February 7, 2000.

Heads roll in Spanish finance scam

The Gescartera brokerage house collapsed, and its main shareholder was jailed, in July after \$100m (£68m) in clients' money was found to have disappeared. As the investigation into Gescartera proceeded, links between Gescartera and senior politicians become clearer. BBC 21 September, 2001.

Tudo em Familia

Information in Portuguese, English and French about a book on political-financial scandals in Portugal. The legal system, politicians and some banks are all accused.

One mistake too many

The political future of Lithuanian President Rolandas Paksas hangs by a thread. President Paksas has been accused of links with Russian criminal groups. Radio Netherlands, 19 February 2004.

The Holocaust

Business and the Holocaust

Information about links between major companies, including banks, and the Nazi regime.

Holocaust Assets

Information from the Simon Wiesenthal Centre about the banks and the assets of Jewish victims of the Nazis.

Nazi Gold and other Holocaust Assets

Official US source on Allied attempts to recover gold and other assets stolen or hidden by Germany during World War II.

Holocaust-Era Assets Bibliography: Banking

An annotated bibliography with some links. Part of the Holocaust-Era Assets website.

US Political & Financial Scandals in General

Lobbyist Jack Abramoff pleads guilty and Washington trembles ^{NEW}

A portrait of political corruption that rivals any other in US history. 10 January 2006.

DeLay relinquishes Congress post ^{NEW}

Republican politician Tom DeLay who has been accused of laundering corporate contributions for use in political campaigns has given up his attempt to reclaim his post as majority leader of

the US House of Representatives. BBC, 7 January 2006.

The Tom DeLay Scandals

A scorecard. Slate, April 7, 2005.

Cheney papers to be kept secret

The US Supreme Court has refused to order Vice President Dick Cheney to release secret papers detailing the administration's energy policy. Environmental groups think the documents would prove that the Bush administration was too close to Enron. BBC, 24 June 2004.

Cheney Coordinated Halliburton Iraq Contract: Report

A Pentagon e-mail said Vice President Dick Cheney coordinated a huge Halliburton government contract for Iraq, despite Cheney's denial of interest in the company he ran until 2000. Agence France Presse, May 31, 2004.

The Axis of Corporate Evil

Charts the links between the President Bush and Vice President Cheney and various corporations.

Federal Memo Says Torricelli Took Bribes for Political Favors

New and potentially damaging questions have surfaced after a federal appeals court ordered the release of a secret memorandum in which federal prosecutors probing Sen. Robert Torricelli's relationship with a Korean businessman, David Chang. September 2002.

Who is James A. Traficant, Jr. of Ohio?

The home page of the former member of the House of Representatives who was jailed for bribery.

Free Traficant

The web site of campaigners to free the jailed American politician.

The Short Seller and the FBI

The FBI suffered yet another humiliation with the indictment of its own informant, short seller Anthony Elgindy, whom, it was claimed, manipulated stocks after being fed secret FBI information.

FBI: Elgindy May Have Known About 9/11 Attacks

An Egyptian-born financial analyst charged in a nationwide stock swindle may have known about the September 11 terrorist attacks and tried to profit from them, a federal prosecutor claimed, May 24, 2002.

Enron scandal: the threat to Bush

How far is the White House entwined in the biggest bankruptcy in US history? The Observer, 13 January 2002. See also [Classic Financial Scandals](#) for more details of the Enron case.

Anti-corruption group sues Cheney

US Vice-President Dick Cheney is to be sued by the anti-corruption

pressure group Judicial Watch for alleged fraudulent accounting practices while he was a director of the oil company Halliburton in the 1990s. BBC, 10 July 2002.

Bush's Insider Connections Preceded Huge Profit On Stock Deal

Allegations of insider trading by George Bush when he was governor of Texas.

The Bush-Cheney Drug Empire

Allegations of links between the US president and vice president, the CIA, and drug traffickers and money launderers.

A field guide to the Enron scandal

Information from *Common Cause* about donations to politicians.

Global Crossing Scandal

A website about links between the bankrupt telecommunications company and the Democratic Party and its supporters.

Investigators Follow the Money Trail in Clinton Pardon

A House committee is following the money trail involved in former President Clinton's pardon of fugitive financier Marc Rich. February 13, 2001.

Rich's '\$450,000' for Clinton library

More on the controversial pardon for Marc Rich. BBC, 10 February, 2001.

Clinton's Rogues Gallery

Discusses allegations of links with CDFI and BCCI.

When Uncle Sam was a drugs runner

An article in the Times, Monday 19 February 2001, by William Rees Mogg on the Meana airport scandal. The article attacks the failure of the American press to investigate what Rees Mogg calls "the biggest scandal of modern American history."

Investigation of Illegal or Improper Activities in Connection with 1996 Federal Election Campaigns

Final Report of the Committee on Government Affairs, Senate Rept. 105-167, March 10, 1998.

Defrauding America by Rodney Stich

A website devoted to a book which alleges that the CIA, DEA and other agencies of the US government have carried out covert operations in connection with corrupt financial institutions.

The Arming of Iraq

Evidence of the involvement of the Atlanta branch of Banca Nazionale del Lavoro and the testimony of its manager Christopher Drogoul before the House Banking Committee.

The Great Texas Bank Job

Allegations regarding campaign finance corruption and the looting

of Savings & Loans and banks in Texas.

List of Public Corruption Cases in the US by Larry Becraft

Very brief details of cases involving congressmen, judges and other senior officials.

Driver's license scandal inching toward Illinois governor

It is alleged that truck driver's licences were sold to raise money for Governor George Ryan's campaign fund.

Credit Mobilier scandal

Financial scandals are nothing new. The Credit Mobilier scandal of 1872-1873, during President Ulysses S. Grant's administration, damaged the careers of several Gilded Age politicians.

Whitewater Scandal

Widespread but unsubstantiated allegations dogged Bill and Hillary Clinton throughout his presidency.

Untangling Whitewater

An archive of coverage and related background information on the Whitewater investigations from the Washington Post.

The Whitewater Scandal timeline

A chronology of from CNN.

Allegations Regarding Vince Foster, the NSA, and Banking Transactions Spying

Claims that Whitewater is part of a much wider scandal. Part of J. Orlin Grabbe's website dealing with issues such as privacy, money laundering and espionage.

Japan

Scandal-hit Japanese politician testifies

Muneo Suzuki denied in sworn testimony before parliament that he had rigged bids for overseas construction projects. BBC, 11 March 2002.

Mori apologizes, but faces no confidence vote

The then Japanese prime minister apologised after Masakuni Murakami, the former Labour Minister, was arrested on suspicion of accepting bribes worth about \$615,000 from the KSD foundation.

Nukaga quits

Fukushiro Nukaga, state minister for the economy, industry and information technology resigned to take responsibility for an influence-peddling scandal. Mainichi Daily News, January 24, 2001.

Japanese financial regulation enters new phase

Japan's top financial regulatory body suffered another blow to its

reputation July 30, 2000 when Financial Reconstruction Minister Kimitaka Kuze resigned under a cloud of suspicion that the benefits and the fees that he had received over seven years from Mitsubishi Trust & Banking Corp. and in 1991 from condominium builder Daikyo Inc. had influenced his judgment.

Japanese Cabinet minister resigns over financial scandal

Kimitaka Kuze, head of the Financial Reconstruction Commission, was forced to step down following revelations he received nearly \$2.1 million from Mitsubishi Trust and Banking Corp. between 1989 and 1994. CNN August 1, 2000.

The Fall of the Mighty MOF? Lack of Accountability in the Japanese Bureaucracy

An article criticising the Japanese Ministry of Finance for failing to prevent various scandals.

Hanky Panky at the MoF in Tokyo

A review of various scandals involving Japanese banks and the Ministry of Finance, by Andrew Horvat.

Who got Yakuza into our banking system?

An article on the relationship between the Yakuza and the banks, by Takano Hajime.

Yakuza: Past and Present

By Adam Johnson.

The Yakuza

An outline of the history of the Yakuza and links to other sources of information about it - from the Japan, Incorporated web site.

The Social Contradictions of Japanese Capitalism

An article by Murray Sayle in the *Atlantic Monthly*, June 1998, in which he discusses Japan's financial problems, including the arrest of a high official of the Bank of Japan on a charge of bribery - the first-ever arrest in the Japanese central bank's 116-year history.

Japan's Financial Scandal Reaches to New Heights

Bank of Japan Governor Yasuo Matsushita tendered his resignation to Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto after the arrest of a senior bank official on bribery charges. Christian Science Monitor, Friday March 13, 1998.

What Next Japan?

The fall of the central bank chief, who took responsibility for alleged wrongdoing at the bank following the arrest of an official there on bribery charges, damages the bureaucrats and boosts the power of politicians

Gangsters, Yen, and Corrupt Bankers Hit the Big Screen

An article from the Christian Science Monitor, November 8 1999, about the impact of the film *Cursed-The Financially Corrupt Islands*, based on a 1997 scandal surrounding a bank that made illegal

loans to racketeers, which is focussing attention on links between bureaucracy, business and gangsters.

Other Countries and Cases involving Several Countries

Kenyans want to know why we're feeding corruption NEW

Why are the World Bank and British government conspiring in top-level fraud, spelled out in a whistleblower's dossier? Michela Wrong, the Guardian January 30, 2006.

Kenya campaigner "could return" NEW

John Githongo, Kenya's former anti-corruption czar is considering returning home to testify to parliament, nearly a year after fleeing to the UK in fear of his life. BBC 28 January 2006.

Q&A: Brazil corruption claims

Mounting claims of corruption within Brazil's ruling Workers Party (PT) are threatening to snowball into an extremely damaging scandal. BBC, 12 July 2005.

Asset freeze as Pinochet turns 89

Gen Pinochet is being sued by Chile's authorities for tax fraud and faces a money-laundering inquiry. He also he faces possible charges in connection with Operation Condor - a conspiracy by six South American regimes in the 1970s to hunt down and kill their left-wing opponents. BBC, 25 November, 2004.

Pinochet's Daughter Claims Standard Life Connection

The authorities in Chile are investigating alleged ties between Standard Life and Pinochet.

Fatah begins hunt for Arafat's missing millions

Fatah, the leading faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, has begun a hunt for millions of dollars in assets hidden by Yassir Arafat, its late leader. Financial Times, February 6 2005.

Story of Arafat's hidden billions

Yasser Arafat personally controlled billions of dollars with which he ran the Palestinian Authority but no one knows their whereabouts, Palestinian and Israeli officials said. Times of India, November 12, 2004.

Revenue Watch

Natural resources, instead of being a blessing for poor countries, have more often contributed to poverty violent conflict, corruption, and repression. Revenue Watch, founded by the Open Society, aims to generate and publicize research, information, and advocacy on how revenues are being invested and disbursed and how governments and extraction companies respond to civic demands for accountability.

Oil for Food Inquiry

Information from the UN News Centre concerning the investigation

by an independent panel of the scandal of the handling by the United Nations of the Iraqi oil for food programme.

What Happened to Iraq's Missing \$1 Billion?

One billion dollars has been plundered from Iraq's defence ministry in one of the largest thefts in history, leaving the country's army to fight a savage insurgency with museum-piece weapons. CounterPunch, September 20, 2005.

Fraud and corruption: the UN and the USA

Forget the UN. The US occupation regime helped itself to \$8.8 bn of mostly Iraqi money in just 14 months. George Monbiot, the Guardian, February 8, 2005.

Fuelling suspicion: the coalition and Iraq's oil billions

The US-controlled coalition in Baghdad is handing over power to an Iraqi government without having properly accounted for what it has done with some \$20 billion of Iraq's own money, says a new report published by Christian Aid. 28 June 2004.

Investigate the United Nations Oil-for-Food Fraud

There is mounting evidence that the United Nations Oil-for-Food program, originally conceived as a means of providing humanitarian aid to the Iraqi people, was subverted by Saddam Hussein's regime and manipulated to help prop up the Iraqi dictator. Nile Gardiner and James Phillips, the Heritage Foundation. April 21, 2004.

Austria accuses North Korean bank of spying

North Korea's only bank in Europe, the Golden Star Bank in Vienna, is being used as a base for North Korean secret services, according to a report by the Austrian authorities. Daily Telegraph, 23 July 2003.

Arafat's Stolen Riches

An audit of the Palestinian Authority revealed that President Yasser Arafat diverted \$900 million in public funds to a special bank account he controlled, an International Monetary Fund official said. Front Page Magazine.com, September 23, 2003.

Saddam 'took \$1bn from bank'

Saddam Hussein ordered his son to take about \$1bn in cash from the Iraqi Central Bank just hours before the first bombs fell on Baghdad, the United States has said. BBC, 6 May 2003.

Winnie Mandela jailed

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, the ex-wife of South Africa's former president, has been given a five-year jail term for a string of fraud and theft offences. The Guardian, April 25, 2003.

Financial scandal claims hang over leader in waiting

Ahmad Chalabi, the man favoured by the Pentagon to succeed Saddam Hussein was tried in his absence and sentenced by a Jordanian court to 22 years' jail on 31 charges of embezzlement,

theft, misuse of depositor funds and currency speculation in connection with the collapse of his Petra Bank. The Guardian, April 14, 2003.

Paper apologises to Gaddafi's son

The son of Libyan leader Colonel Gaddafi has accepted a public apology from the Sunday Telegraph over an allegation he was involved in a multi-million dollar plot to flood Iraq with fake currency. The Guardian, April 19th, 2002.

Pentagon kills 'terror futures market'

A controversial plan to set up a "futures market" to use market forces to help predict political upheaval in the Middle East has been scrapped. July 29, 2003.

Terrorism in the USA: Inquiry into short selling before attacks

Stock market regulators in Europe and Japan have launched investigations into "short selling" of the shares of some companies in the days before the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. There has been speculation that associates of the terrorist may have profited from the transactions. Financial Times, 18 September 2001.

Crusaders Against Corruption

An article about two heroines, the French judge Eva Joly and the Colombia politician, Ingrid Betancourt, and their fight against corruption in their own countries. By David Ignatius, March 4, 2001.

Ex-banker and publisher Koskotas freed after 12 years

Former banker George Koskotas who had been convicted in 1994 of embezzling 33-billion drachmas (\$87,8m at today's rate) from the Bank of Crete, was freed after serving more than half of his 25-year sentence. He was the prosecution's main witness in the trial of the late prime minister Andreas Papandreu who was cleared of involvement in a scheme to embezzle state funds deposited in the Bank of Crete. Business Day, March 15 2001.

Deep Black Lies

David Guyatt's website which contains information based on his book about what happened to the gold plundered during World War II that now forms the basis of the "black" gold market that does not officially exist but which trades spectacular quantities of bullion on a secret and private basis.

Milosevic's Secret Overseas Hoard 'worth over £70m'

Slobodan Milosevic remains the boss of bosses at the apex of a criminal organisation and has salted away more than \$100m (£70m), according to an investigation conducted by the German Federal Intelligence Service (BND). The Independent, 17 October 2000.

Nigeria's corruption totals \$400 billion

In the four decades since independence from Britain, Nigeria's rulers have rulers stole or misused some \$400 billion, equivalent to

the total amount of all western aid to Africa in the last 40 years, the chairman of Nigeria's Economic and Financial Crimes Commission revealed. 25 June 2005.

Dictator's cash hidden in UK, says Nigeria

The British government has been accused yesterday of refusing to cooperate with Nigerian authorities in their attempts to recover £307m stolen by the late dictator General Sani Abacha, and believed to be deposited in London banks. The Guardian, January 26, 2001.

Swiss Banks Criticised over Nigerian Funds

Switzerland's banking regulator has found serious problems at six Swiss banks that held hundreds of millions of dollars in assets related to the late Nigerian dictator General Sani Abacha who is accused of systematically pillaging the Nigeria's central bank.

China Jails Tycoon for Life for Fraud

Mou Qizhong, a flamboyant tycoon once billed as China's richest man was sentenced to life in prison. Mou had illegally obtained state assets worth \$75 million and caused losses of state funds worth \$30.06 million, state television said. May 31, 2000.

China Tycoon's Prison Term Upheld

Mou Qizhong lost his appeal against life imprisonment for bank fraud. August 23, 2000.

The Bank of China's Black Hole

How \$480 million disappeared from one of the country's biggest banks. Wang Xuebing, a former president of the Bank of China, is being investigated in connection with China's missing foreign exchange reserves. Business Week, February 4, 2002.

Sharon may face corruption charge

Prosecutors in Israel are considering charging Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his deputy in connection with a bribery scandal. BBC, 21 January, 2004.

Corruption Charges Enrage Israel's Sharon

Ariel Sharon, the Israeli prime minister, is under police investigation for a \$1.5 million loan from a South Africa-based businessman. Find Law, January 10, 2003.

Netanyahu Charges Dropped

Corruption charges filed against Israel's former Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, have been dropped because there is insufficient evidence to bring him to court. BBC, 27 September, 2000.

A Gift in the Hand is Worth...

The Israeli President Ezer Weizman confirmed a report by investigative journalist Yoav Yitzhak that he received nearly half a million dollars from a French Jewish tycoon, Edouard Seroussi, while serving as a legislator and minister in the '80s. The Jewish

Journal, January 7, 2000.

The Rise and Fall of Alberto Fujimori

How the man who saved Peru from terrorism and hyperinflation became an exile in Japan after his right hand man was implicated in bribery, drug trafficking, arms dealing and money laundering scandals, and accused of abuses of human rights.

Alberto Fujimori - Official Site

The former Peruvian president's trilingual website (in English, Spanish and Japanese) created to defend his reputation.

Peru gets most wanted fugitive

Latin America's most wanted fugitive, the former Peruvian spy chief Vladimiro Montesinos, has been arrested in Venezuela and sent back to Peru to face trial.

Before Montesinos was disgraced the involvement of the Peruvian intelligence agency SIN, and its spy chief, in money laundering was the subject of the novel, Into the Fire.

The Video that Shocked Peru

After Vladimiro Montesinos, the boss of SIN (Servicio de Inteligencia Nacional) was caught on film offering a bribe to an opposition politician President Fujimori announced his intention to step down next year and to deactivate SIN.

Peru: Bush, the Rainforest and a Gas Pipeline to Enrich his Friends

President George Bush is seeking funds for a project that would enrich some of his closest corporate campaign contributors while risking the destruction of rainforest, threatening its indigenous peoples and endangering rare species on the coast.

Argentina fails to persuade Swiss in Menem case

Switzerland says Argentina has again failed to provide evidence to support bribery allegations against former president, Carlos Menem. Argentina claims that the former president accepted \$10 million from Iran for covering up an alleged Iranian role in the 1994 bombing of a Jewish centre in Buenos Aires.

Lawmakers hail arrest in IBM bribe case

The ex-president of Argentina's largest bank, Aldo Dadone, was arrested on charges of "illicit association" in connection with a high-profile 1993 corruption case involving IBM. Reuters Feb 9, 2001.

Swiss Banks Turn Over Millions to Argentina in IBM Bribery Scandal

Swiss banks turned over \$4.5 million to Buenos Aires authorities. These funds were traced to accounts held by several local central bank officials who admitted to accepting bribes from IBM-Argentina in 1995 in connection with a \$250 million contract awarded to IBM Argentina by the state-owned Banco Nación for a computerized information system.

Argentine Judge Says Four IBM U.S. Execs Are Suspects

IBM Argentina has been accused of paying bribes to win a \$249 million contract in 1994 to computerize state-owned Banco Nación, the country's largest bank.

Suspicious death adds to IBM scandal

Marcelo Cattaneo - an entrepreneur involved in the IBM bribe scandal was found hanged. October 1998.

Carlos Cabal : One man's fight for justice in the labyrinths of extradition law

A defence of Carlos Cabal, the Mexican banker fighting extradition from Australia.

The Man from Tabasco: The Story of Carlos Cabal Peniche

The fugitive Mexican banker claims he is being persecuted for political reasons. 17 October 1999.

Fugitive: Zedillo Knew I Gave to Campaign

Banker Carlos Cabal Peniche, in prison in Australia, has admitted huge and potentially illegal contributions to the 1994 election campaign of President Ernesto Zedillo. Miami Herald, 9 June 1999.

The Mexican Reality

A website devoted to the subject of corruption in Mexico.

The Honduran Republic of Chiquita

A newsletter claiming to reveal extensive lawbreaking, chicanery and deception by the US banana company Chiquita in Honduras, Guatemala and Costa Rica as a matter of preference rather than necessity. There is additional material about Chiquita available via the home page of the Council On Hemispheric Affairs

Monsanto Accused of Attempt to Bribe Health Canada

Health Canada researchers accuse Monsanto of bribery in bid to get approval for use of bovine growth hormone.

Arroyo opponents protest after impeachment fails

Thousands of people took a campaign to oust Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to the streets after Congress rejected an attempt to impeach her over election fraud and graft allegations. Reuters, 6 September 2005.

Imelda Admits To Huge Marcos Fortune

A two-part article about the missing billions that the former Philippines president is alleged to have stolen.

Estrada faces state plunder inquiry

Prosecutors in the Philippines have launched a criminal investigation into the allegations of massive corruption which led to the downfall of President Joseph Estrada. BBC, 22 January 2001.

Albania under the Shadow of the Pyramids

An account of the pyramid lending scandal by Carlos Elbirt.

Angry crowds take to streets in Albania

Houston Chronicle News Services 26 January 1997. Many Albanians lose their life savings in pyramid lending schemes.

World Bank discusses plans to respond to crisis in Albania

The World Bank discussed its plans on 23 April 1997 to respond to the crisis in Albania, triggered by the collapse of the country's pyramid investment schemes.

Russia's Road to Corruption

A large website devoted to arguments that the Clinton government in the US must share the responsibility for the rise in corruption in Russia.

Russia's Great Criminal Revolution: The Role of the Security Services

by J. Michael Waller and Victor J. Yasmann. This article examines the involvement of the Russian law enforcement agencies, security organs, and intelligence services in organized crime and corruption.

High-Level Fraud Prevalent In Russia, Former Soviet Bloc

Askold Krushelnycky looks at some of the biggest money-making schemes devised in the post-Communist countries.

Russian Financial Crimes Crisis

Detailed reports on various scandals including money-laundering, insider-trading and political corruption.

Following the Trail of Rubles

by Louise I. Shelley New York Times February 28, 1999. Russia's Attorney General, Yuri Skuratov, revealed that from 1993 to 1997, billions of dollars from the Central Bank had been transferred to an offshore company on the isle of Jersey. Russian news reports suggested that the money has been generating interest and management fees for the benefit of high-level officials, who have resisted outside scrutiny of the account.

Russia: Central Bank Under Scrutiny For Hiding Assets

Russia's Central Bank is under close scrutiny following allegations that it channeled some \$50 billion of hard currency reserves to a tiny, offshore company Financial Management Co. (FIMACO) based in Jersey, from 1993 to 1997.

Capitalism in the New Russia

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991-1992, and the end of the centrally controlled "command economy," a new class of wealthy private capitalists with close government connections has emerged in Russia. Hence corruption is a growing problem.

Russian Mafia: Organized Crime Is Big Business for the KGB

by William F. Jasper. An article in the *New American*.

Russia receives valuables taken away by Golden ADA to US

A series of articles on efforts to combat illegal sales of diamonds, jewellery, gold etc. which have been exported to the US with the alleged involvement of Russian politicians and those close to them .

The Looting of Russia

An FBI agent and an honest Moscow cop stop the plundering of the national treasury. More on the smuggling of diamonds, jewelry, silver, and gold.

'Rasputin-like' minister detains four Britons investigating fraud in Brunei

Four Britons helping to investigate the tangled financial affairs of the oil-rich state of Brunei are being held in the country on the orders of a "Rasputin-like" minister. The Independent, 27 May 2002.

Brunei's Battle Royal

After Amedeo, a company controlled by Prince Jefri Bolkiah, collapsed blowing a sizeable hole in the national budget, the government of Brunei has been involved in a dispute with the prince. BusinessWeek, April 3 2000.

Lenders Halt Indonesia Loans Over Bank Bali Scandal

The World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) decided to withhold any new loans to Indonesia until the controversy surrounding \$63 million stolen from Bank Bali by Indonesia's economic and political elite was cleared up.

Indonesia Court Rules on Bank Case

The Supreme Court ruled on Tuesday 19 October 1999 that an independent report about the Bank Bali corruption scandal must be given to Parliament, a move that could persuade international donors to lift their suspension of billions of dollars in loans to Indonesia.

Financial Warfare

By Michel Chossudovsky, Professor of Economics, University of Ottawa. The actions of speculators in the foreign exchange market have destabilised national economies, thereby creating the preconditions for the subsequent plunder of the Asian countries' productive assets by so-called "vulture foreign investors."

Tehelka Tapes Scandal

A series of articles by the investigative website that exposed corruption in the Indian Ministry of Defence.

Swiss question Pakistan's former PM over money laundering allegations

Swiss investigators have questioned Pakistan's former prime minister Benazir Bhutto over allegations she used bank accounts in Switzerland to launder millions of dollars in kickbacks. CBC News, 1 July 2004.

Diamond necklace exposed Bhutto money-laundering trail

A £117,000 diamond necklace led to the former Pakistani prime

minister Benazir Bhutto and her husband being convicted of money laundering by a Swiss court. The Guardian, August 8, 2003.

Politicians' Bank Accounts Frozen in Start of Corruption Crackdown

Pakistan's state bank moved to freeze the accounts of thousands of politicians, including those of the ousted prime minister and his family. The Guardian, October 16, 1999.

Diamond Scandals

Dangerous Diamonds : Scandals Behind the Sparkle of the World's Most Desirable Gems

Diamonds, the most romantic of gems, have been fought over by armies, gangsters, criminals, secret agents of intelligence services, and the world's longest-lived cartel.

Fatal Transactions: an investigation into the illicit diamond trade

The Financial Times uncovers the global network of arms traffickers and corrupt governments behind the 'conflict diamond' trade.

Glitter and Greed : The Diamond Investigation

An detailed account of the dark side of the diamond industry, including its political influence, by Janine Farrell-Roberts.

For a treatment of the relationships between the diamond industry, arms dealing and finance in fiction see Wilderness of Mirrors.

Al Qaeda Cash Tied to Diamond Trade

The terrorist network led by Osama bin Laden has reaped millions of dollars in the past three years from the illicit sale of diamonds mined by rebels in Sierra Leone. The Washington Post, November 1, 2001.

International Sporting Organisations

Timeline: Olympics corruption scandal

A chronology of alleged corruption in both the winter and summer olympics. The BBC, March 15, 1999.

Big business demands a corporate Olympics

As the IOC changed from being a small, nominally non-profit organisation, into a multi-million dollar enterprise the dangers of corruption have increased.

Blatter faces revolt over FIFA's major money crisis

The £278 million collapse of International Sport and Leisure, FIFA's marketing partner, represented a massive shock for Blatter and he has been fighting a desperate campaign to prevent the full facts from emerging. 1 March 2002.

Indicted Blatter crony to audit Fifa finances

One of the key men appointed to audit Fifa's finances is under investigation in Brazil for corruption and embezzlement. The Guardian, March 12, 2002.

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