Twitter Thread by Timothy Johnson



Timothy Johnson
@timothywjohnson

I'm going to share a timeline below of statements and actions from Alex Jones/Infowars in the days leading up to the failed insurrection at the US Capitol building.

The key takeaways are:
1. Alex Jones says he spent nearly $500,000 organizing the event that culminated in the mob storming the Capitol.
2. Jones says he did this in coordination with the White House.
3. Jones made several speeches in DC where he used very violent rhetoric.

On December 31, Infowars released a promo video for its event. A man says that "liberals think they can just do whatever the fuck they want" because "we sit there and we say we want to talk it out." Jones can then be heard saying "it's 1776 time" in the promo.

During his Jan 2 and Jan 3 broadcasts, Jones again discussed how much money he says he spent to organize the event. He asked people to buy products from the Infowars Store to support his efforts to fund "the second American Revolution."

Jones, Infowars host Owen Shroyer, and other Infowars employees then traveled to D.C. During a daytime Jan 5 speech, Jones again riled up a crowd with a line about "1776."

Meanwhile, Owen Shroyer was speaking at a different event, telling a crowd "Americans are ready to fight. We're not exactly sure what that is going to look like, perhaps, in a couple of weeks if we can't stop this certification of the fraudulent election of Joe Biden."

Shroyer also "saluted" Sens. Ted Cruz and Josh Hawley and told the crowd, "We are the new revolution."

The rhetoric got even hotter that night as Jones and Shroyer joined forces to give speeches. Shroyer said, "Thomas Jefferson once said when the government fears the people, there is freedom. But for too long now the people have feared the government."

He went on to say "I can tell you that the crooked politicians that occupy our Capitol are in fear right now. Do you know how I know this? Because they are scurrying around in secret tunnels to avoid 'we the people.'"

Jones took over the lectern and yelled, "I don’t know how all this is going to end, but if they want a fight, they better believe they’ve got one.”

Jones added that Winston Churchill “gave a famous speech where he said all I can promise you is blood, and pain, and war, and suffering. But the alternative is even worse: total slavery" and led the crowd in a "1776" chant.

The next day, January 6, Jones and Shroyer gave speeches that directly preceded the insurrection. Shroyer said it was "bullshit" that Biden won, before saying, "You want to feed us bullshit? We’re going to bring it right to your front door and you can eat it yourselves."

Shroyer also called Democrats "tyrants" immediately before leading the crowd in a "death to tyrants chant." Jones again used a "1776" line.

Jones and Shroyer did not enter the Capitol (instead retreating to a "secure location") but an Infowars cameraman who the outlet has only been identifying as "Sam" did and was a mob participant.

Based on older Infowars videos posted to Infowars streaming platform Banned(dot)video, "Sam" appears to go by the full name "Sam Montoya." He was just feet away from Ashli Babbitt when she was shot.

More details here, including a more birds-eye view of Jones' escalating violent rhetoric during the Trump presidency: https://t.co/4xOQD2NX97