

Twitter Thread by Fionna O'Leary, ■■■■



Fionna O'Leary, ■■■■

@fascinatorfun



Absolutely fascinating thread as @jsralton & others track down the identity of key players in the Capitol Hill breach.

Including highly decorated ex-members of the military.

The double wrist ties, tasers, discarded weapons all show an intention to go much further than they got

BREAKING I can now confirm Male #2 w/ restraints is highly decorated combat vet & @AF_Academy graduate Lt. Colonel. Ret. Larry Brock of Texas.

Releasing his name now after 24h of collaboration w/@RonanFarrow & his investigations team to confirm.<https://t.co/nog9HI7DzX> pic.twitter.com/CIHlmsFucM

— John Scott-Railton (@jsrailton) January 9, 2021

Seems so ordinary, becoming Lieutenant Commander Brock in the US Airforce ...yet the conversion from the ordinary into the extremist will make a fascinating study for psychologists @RichardBentall



Brock, a fifty-three-year-old father of three who lives in an affluent suburb of Dallas, graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1989, with a major in international relations and affairs. In a LinkedIn profile that Brock recently deleted, he described himself as having served as a chief operations inspector and flight commander with the 706th Fighter Squadron, at one point leading more than two dozen pilots. Brock told me that he served in Afghanistan and, in a non-combat capacity, in Iraq, and that for his service he received three Meritorious Service Medals, six Air Medals, and three Aerial Achievement Medals. In a statement, Ann Stefanek, an Air Force spokesperson, said, “This individual is no longer serving in the Air Force Reserve. He retired in 2014. As a private citizen, the Air Force no longer has jurisdiction over him.” Brock now works for Hillwood Airways, a Texas-based private aviation company.

Brock’s family members and his friend said that his service in the Air Force was central to his identity. Several of Brock’s e-mail addresses and social-media accounts featured his call sign and military nickname, Torch. One family member said that Brock derived “this weird sense of power” from his time as a military pilot, along with a Manichean world view. “He used to tell me that I only saw the world in shades of gray, and that the world was black and white,” the other family member said. “He doesn’t understand the fallout and the people he’s hurting. And I can’t imagine what he was doing there with zip ties, or what he thought he was going to accomplish.”

The F.B.I. has identified and charged thirteen individuals involved in the attack on the Capitol. Some of them have been identified by the crowd-sourced online movement. “There’s tons of people taking shots of individual faces and putting them into tweets, which has been extremely helpful,” said Michael Sheldon, an associate at the Atlantic Council’s Digital Forensic Research Lab, who, like Scott-Railton, used facial-recognition software to identify Brock. “We reach out to each other if we see

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His claim that he picked up the wrist ties “someone” had dropped so he could hand them into police is laughable.

And when you think about it rather cowardly. Can't even take responsibility for what he has done.

Who else were involved in the planning? Which mates of his?

The attention to detail in making the links is impressive.

There's going to be a lot more doors knocked in in the next few weeks.

How high and how deep into the Trump establishment does it go.?



As insurrectionists stormed the U.S. Capitol this week, a few figures stood out. One man, clad in a combat helmet, body armor, and other tactical gear, was among the group that made it to the inner reaches of the building. Carrying zip-tie handcuffs, he was captured in photographs and videos on the Senate floor and with a group that descended on Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office suite. In a video shot by ITV News, he is seen standing against a wall adjacent to Pelosi's office, his face covered by a bandana. At another point, he appears to exit the suite, face exposed, pushing his way through the crowds of demonstrators.

A day after the riots, John Scott-Railton, a senior researcher at Citizen Lab, at the University of Toronto's Munk School, notified the F.B.I. that he suspected the man was retired Lieutenant Colonel Larry Rendall Brock, Jr., a Texas-based Air Force Academy graduate and combat veteran. Scott-Railton had been trying to identify various people involved in the attack. "I used a number of techniques to hone in on his identity, including facial recognition and image enhancement, as well as seeking contextual clues from his military paraphernalia," Scott-Railton told me. Brock was wearing several patches on his combat helmet and body armor, including one bearing a yellow fleur de lis, the insignia of the 706th Fighter Squadron. He also wore several symbols suggesting that he lived in Texas, including a vinyl tag of the Texas flag overlaid on the skull logo of the Punisher, the Marvel comic-book character. The Punisher has been adopted by police and Army groups and, more recently, by white supremacists and followers of QAnon. Scott-Railton also found a recently deleted Twitter account associated with Brock, with a Crusader as its avatar. "All those things together, it's like looking at a person's C.V.," Scott-Railton said.

Two family members and a longtime friend said that Brock's political views had grown increasingly radical in recent years. Bill Leake, who flew with Brock in the Air Force for a decade, said that he had distanced himself from Brock. "I don't contact him anymore 'cause he's gotten extreme," Leake told me. In recent years, Brock had

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If the people involved in this insurrection succeeded where would the establishment face of the movement be?

I suspect not making the denouncements they are now that it failed.

<https://t.co/rEXtrmnPYk>

Brock (& others)



More identifications under way (there seems to be more than 1 wrist ties men)



Yet many in the GOP continue to endorse Trump ignoring his and his dissolute side kicks' (such as Hawley, Cruz, Giuliani) incitement to the very people who breached Capitol Hill earlier this week.

These are the facilitators and no less responsible.

<https://t.co/jjPWaiPPZD>

One thing we can do is make sure we know who they are and WHAT they are.

Is Tommy Hicks any relation to Hope Hicks does anyone know?

2020

[Election Results: Biden Wins](#)[Electoral College Votes](#)[Congress Defies Mob](#)[Georgia Runoff Results](#)By [Jonathan Martin](#)

Jan. 8, 2021

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. — In Washington, Republicans were dealing with a burgeoning crisis in their ranks, with high-profile resignations and bitter infighting over how to deal with an erratic and isolated president. But at the Republican National Committee's winter meeting on Friday, most party members were operating in a parallel universe.

In a chandelier-adorned ballroom at the seaside Ritz-Carlton here, there was no mention of President Trump's disruption of the coronavirus relief package or his phone call to the Georgia secretary of state demanding that he help steal the election, both of which contributed to Republicans' losing control of the Senate.

And while the R.N.C. chair, Ronna McDaniel, condemned the attack on the Capitol, neither she nor any other speaker so much as publicly hinted at Mr. Trump's role in inciting a mob assault on America's seat of government.

Even as the president faces a possible second impeachment proceeding, this collective exercise in gaze aversion was not the most striking part of the meeting. More revealing was the reason for the silence from the stage: Party members, one after another, said in interviews that the president did not bear any blame for the violence at the Capitol and indicated that they wanted him to continue to play a leading role in the party.

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More about Ashley Babbitt, the protester shot as she tried to force her way into the Speaker's gallery

H/T @aw_what got the @bellingcat link <https://t.co/8T7n3JQWny>

This is also a fascinating study of the woman that was sadly killed at the Capitol. <https://t.co/YycwLSI7Nv>

— Paul (@Aw_what) [January 9, 2021](#)

And Hawley continuing to feed baseless conspiracy theories even after five deaths.

These people in the smart suits, respectable hair cuts, and political positions are RESPONSIBLE for feeding the storylines and decay that led to this act of sedition. <https://t.co/x6gm0d7RHo>

Even after five deaths, Missouri senator feeds baseless conspiracy theories. <https://t.co/AXRc7pWLpl>

— Omaha World-Herald (@OWHnews) [January 8, 2021](#)

This thread and article from @prospect_clark is on the money. <https://t.co/6zKn9e8Vfx>

1.

Trump is today disowned as an aberration

In truth he is the culmination of how the US Right has been going for years <https://t.co/nw8fy7qDyH>

— Tom Clark (@prospect_clark) [January 7, 2021](#)

Interesting snippet about Babbitt under her previous name McEntree <https://t.co/EGxgrQodAG>

When George Floyd was murdered by police, the media highlighted his criminal record

When Ashli Babbitt was murdered by the police, the media highlighted her status as a Air Force veteran

... & largely ignored her property destruction charges & 3 restraining orders

— Zach \U0001f3f3\u200d\U0001f308 (@zachtoseptember) [January 8, 2021](#)

This MSNBC 5 minute video shows some really frightening scenes.

Peaceful process my arse.

The Capitol staff must have been terrified..and the clear intention to incite sedition by Trump et al just before it is also shown.

And 45% of Republican voters polled thought it was OK <https://t.co/PqaAtKZ1ZM>

Was planning to stay off Twitter today but have just been sent this MSNBC clip with things - as they say - much worse than I've seen.

Must-see new video shows Capitol riot was way worse than we thought <https://t.co/gMlpkEDb7E> via [@msnbc](#)

— Jo Wolff (@JoWolffBSG) [January 9, 2021](#)