What if nothing you thought you knew about the agency known as “Internal Revenue Service” was actually the truth?

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What if nothing you thought you knew about the agency known as "Internal Revenue Service" was actually the truth? We are researchers on federal and state taxing statutes and regulations, and on the federal judiciary.

One of our articles, written in conjunction with noted attorney and researcher Lowell H. (Larry) Becraft, reveals that no such agency as the alleged "Internal Revenue Service" was ever statutorily created. (IRS is, in statute, essentially an extremely convincing hologram. A hologram that seizes property, ruins lives and imprisons people... but a statutory hologram, nonetheless.)

When we hear legislators going on about "dismantling the IRS" and "pulling the IRS out by its roots," we laugh, because we have not yet been actually able to find such an agency within the statutes. We have looked harder and deeper for an actual agency called "Internal Revenue Service" than anyone we know. And we would bet that, if these self-important, posturing Congressmen were to go looking for the actual documents which created the "IRS", instead of simply blowing hot air around their Congressional chambers, they couldn't find either the documents or the agency in statute either.

If you want to play mind games with your elected representative (and perhaps yourself and your pet tax "expert"), go look in 31 USC Chapter 3, in the list of "Organizations" of the Department of the Treasury (DOT). Curiously absent from this list is an agency called "Internal Revenue Service." Yet, "IRS's" letterhead proclaims: Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service. So where in Treasury are they? We have filed numerous Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to Treasury, trying to locate the documents which would help us find "IRS" within the DOT. So far - nothing. So... is there another Department of the Treasury? Yes, there is - see the definition of "Revenue Agent" below. Is "IRS" in that DOT? Who knows? (Rest assured, dear reader, that although you and your beloved representative and/or tax "expert" may not be able to find "IRS", "IRS" can find you. So don't be taking this information and putting yourself in harm's way by doing foolish or reckless things.)

So if no agency called "IRS" was actually ever statutorily created, nor does any such agency exist within the Department of the Treasury, or, indeed, exist at all, then what authority does this holographic "agency" actually lawfully possess, and over whom? We have some of the answers to that question, and are busy trying to ferret out others. One entity called "Internal Revenue Service" we have uncovered is simply the renaming of a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) official: In the Federal Register of September 15th, 1976, (VOL. 41, NO. 180) is found the following statement: "The term "Director, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division" has been replaced by the term "Internal Revenue Service"." Isn't that a great way to hide something... just rename a person a thing, and then bury the renaming in the zillions of words in the Federal Register?
Speaking of renaming...in a memorandum dated June 18th, 1953, from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to the "Honorable George W. Humphrey", Secretary of the Treasury, is found the following: "The accompanying proposed Treasury Department Order, which is submitted for your signature, has been prepared for the purpose of changing the name of the Bureau of Internal Revenue to the Internal Revenue Service. It seems to me that there is some real practical psychological value to be derived from the substitution of the word "Service" for "Bureau." ("Practical psychological value" ... George Orwell would have loved this Commissioner fellow.

The memo then goes on: "The name 'Bureau of Internal Revenue' is not a name created by statute, but has been adopted by usage..." So here we have a clear admission by the Commissioner admission that the BIR, which he wants to rename "Internal Revenue Service" purely for "practical psychological value," was never actually created by statute. So, knowing full well that the BIR was never a real agency, he nevertheless presses on to urge the renaming of this non-agency as "Internal Revenue Service."

One would think that perhaps the Secretary of the Treasury would object to this attempt at deliberate obfuscation on the part of the Commissioner. But no. The "Honorable" Secretary, Mr. Humphrey, obviously agreed with the Commissioner that renaming an entity which had never actually been created by statute, but which entity the era of Prohibition had clearly made immensely unpopular, to a more "psychologically valuable" name was a perfectly valid move, because a couple of weeks later, on July 9th, 1953, he issued a Department of the Treasury Order Number 150-29, entitled "Designation as Internal Revenue Service", which states: "The Bureau of Internal Revenue shall hereafter be known as the Internal Revenue Service." This TO was confirmed by Treasury Decision (TD) #6038, which states: "reference to the Bureau of Internal Revenue shall be deemed to refer to the Internal Revenue Service." So according to this series of events the present IRS is just a renaming of an entity (BIR) which the Commissioner of Internal Revenue admitted in 1953 was never actually created by statute.

We have recently been informed by the Libertarian Party that Senator Trent Lott is presently pushing for yet another renaming of Internal Revenue Service. His suggestion for the "new, improved" name for "IRS": the "Taxpayer's Protection Agency." Obviously he must think that such a name will have more "practical psychological value" than "Internal Revenue Service." Just as the word "Service" appeared more benevolent back in the 1950's, so the word "Protection" (which word, interestingly enough, we often see associated in today's culture with the concepts of sexually-transmitted disease and condoms) probably makes the good Senator feel positively warm and fuzzy all over. Perhaps someone can inform Senator Lott and other Congressmen that this kind of Orwellian double-speak renaming which he is proposing has already been done in 1953, and that it was done for purely "psychologically valuable" reasons. And that the "agency" called the "Bureau of Internal Revenue", which was then renamed "Internal Revenue Service", and which Senator Lott wants to now rename "Taxpayer's Protection Agency" (TPA) was never actually created by statute. And that they can rename this thing anything they want as many times as they want, but until they actually deal with the reality of its creation, its authority and its behavior, all the renaming in the world won't make it have anymore "practical psychological value" than it has today. Our fondest wish is that some Congressman would truly look at this research, and attempt to discredit it with factual documents, instead of the usual "Oh well, everyone knows there's an IRS..." Any help that anyone can provide in rubbing their noses in the actual, factual mire is much appreciated.
Our latest experience with a Congressional aide was a recent, surreal phone dialogue with a "gentleman" who claimed to be "researching" IRS computer codes, procedures and records. (For the record, this "gentleman" claimed to be an aide of Senator William Roth of Delaware, who is presently chairing the U.S. Senate "investigation" of the "IRS".) When asked to substantiate his allegations concerning Non-Master file, Substitutes for Returns and other technical subjects (all of which allegations we knew, from our perusal of Internal Revenue Manuals and other IRS documents to be completely false) this aide of Senator Roth informed us that everything he had told us was gleaned from talking to people "high up" in IRS (he refused to name them) and that he had been privy to a "confidential brief," which, he told us, we could not see. Obviously we mere mortals were unworthy to gain access to such precious pearls of truth to which this Senatorial aide was privy. We had to content ourselves with statutes, regulations, actual government documents and Internal Revenue Manuals, instead of relying solely on secret conversations with unknown "high-ups" at IRS, and "confidential briefs." We wrote to Senator Roth concerning the false and unfounded allegations concerning "IRS" made to us by his alleged aide, and urged the Senator to contact us concerning his aide's behavior and our research. We have never heard back from him. That is why our reaction to Congressional hearings "investigating" the "IRS" is a resounding yawn.

Want still more excitement? You can go to the Department of the Treasury Order 221 of July 1, 1972, which established BATF, and supposedly transferred to it "the alcohol and functions of the Internal Revenue Service" ... yup - you read it right... "...the functions of the Internal Revenue Service", which means all of the functions of "IRS" were transferred to BATF in 1972, according to 27 USC 201, where we found this nugget. What "functions" were left to "IRS" by this transfer appear, therefore, to be none. More "IRS" holographic hocus-pocus. In the Treasury Order (renumbered now TO 120-01) you will find the term "Director, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division", which term, the TO states is interchangeable with the term "Commissioner of Internal Revenue", which office was established in 1862, and which lackeys from "IRS" have repeated tried to tell us was the agency itself. (If you feel confused and/or nauseated now, we understand. Such information can keep one in a permanent state of wanting to hurl.) However, the head of the "IRS" is known officially as the "Commissioner of Internal Revenue Service", not the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Different words. Different title. Different delegated authority.

Want still more confusion in your life? Try this on: the only definition of the term "Revenue Agent" which can be found anywhere in Title 26 or Title 27 is the following: "Any duly authorized Commonwealth Internal Revenue Agent of the Department of the Treasury of Puerto Rico." (See 27 CFR 250.11). So does that mean that the Revenue Agent who visits you concerning your "income tax" is actually working for the Department of the Treasury of Puerto Rico? The law would indicate so. Is your Congressman going to abolish the Department of the Treasury of Puerto Rico along with the alleged "IRS"?

Does that mean that your Congressman is going to "abolish" the Director, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division, alias "Internal Revenue Service"? Or does it mean that he's going to abolish the "IRS" which is a renaming of a previously abolished "informal" entity that the Commissioner, in 1953, admitted had never actually been created by statute? Does the renaming
of IRS (which used to be BIR) to TPA count as abolishing it? Does that mean that your Congressman is going to restrain Revenue Agents from the Department of the Treasury of Puerto Rico from harassing you? Rest assured, gentle reader, that your Congressman is probably too busy engaging in his version of the old medieval argument about how many angels can dance on the head of a pin, or in preening to his constituents about how he's going to "pull IRS out by the roots" to be able to know where to find "IRS" or its roots - or, sadly, to care about any of these other pesky statutory details. Such research as ours does not provide a good photo-op for a media-whore, and, sadly, most members of Congress seem to fall into that category. If yours is an exception, perhaps you can turn him on to this research.

Within our article on "IRS" is a cite from Title 48 of the United States Code which appears to state that the entire Internal Revenue Code (Title 26) is made up "generally" of "internal revenue laws" which are relevant to the enforcement of something known as Title III of the National Prohibition Act. Much of our research has revealed strange and tangled statutory ties and cross-overs between the BATF and the alleged "IRS", as was revealed in the above cite from the Federal Register, and many others too numerous to cite here. In fact, the seizure statutes which "IRS" uses to seize property state clearly that all property seized under any provision of the Internal Revenue Code is then handed over to an official with the title of "assistant regional commissioner (alcohol, tobacco and firearms taxes)", who then, the statute, goes on to state, "will take charge of the property and arrange for its disposal or retention under the provisions of law and regulations applicable thereto." Check out 26 USC 7321 and 26 CFR 301.7321-1. If you're feeling reckless, take these sections to your Congressman and ask him why someone in charge of alcohol, tobacco and firearms taxes is "taking charge" and "arranging for the disposal or retention" of all the stuff "IRS" seizes from people who have allegedly violated "income tax" laws. (When we raised this issue with Senator Roth's aide (the one privy to secret conversations and confidential briefs), he brushed off the statute and regulation, and simply said, "Oh, that's not what happens." He then told us his version of where the seized property goes, but could not substantiate it with any statutes, regulations or other documentary evidence, except that his precious, unnamed "high-ups" in IRS had told him so. And he refused to deal with what the statute and regulation say. So we can only conclude that, according to him, IRS is operating under secret law, ignoring present law, or that maybe the "high-ups" at IRS fed him a line of bull which he bought. Or maybe they threatened him with a swift kick in his "confidential briefs" if he pursued the kind of research we have been doing. All we know is this: anyone who is talking with a Senatorial or Congressional aide, or with their actual Congressional representative about this kind of research is more than likely to realize that these guys aren't interested in the truth, or even in a properly skeptical investigation of "IRS". So don't get your hopes up if you decide to put this information before them.)

Another juicy nugget which research has revealed: When someone files a Form 1040, "IRS" posts a computer code (called a Transaction Code, or TC) to a file known as the Individual Master File (IMF). The TC 150 which "IRS" posts to the IMF apparently designates that a Virgin Islands return has been filed and a liability assessed, at least according to the Internal Revenue Manual (IRM), which states: "TC 150 (VIRGIN IS)" ("IRS" has confirmed that TC 150 does not designate anything other than and/or in addition to Virgin Islands in a geographic sense.) What this apparently means is that, every time someone files a Form 1040, they have unwittingly filed a Virgin Islands return.
We know this stuff is beyond weird. We can't help that. As researchers, we simply research the laws, regulations and related documents - we don't write them. Congress and their bureaucratic minions do that, which is probably why we are discovering some truly bizarre stuff hidden within the statutes, regulations and the Internal Revenue Manual. We try to remain as neutral and objective as possible. We are also willing to be proven wrong by anyone who can provide hard evidence that we are mistaken in any way. Please feel free to do so, if you can. As researchers, however, we cannot accept the wholly unsubstantiated "everyone knows" evidence which we hear from tax "professionals". Nor can we accept much of the idiocy found in the so-called "patriot" and "tax protest" movements, which, although well-meaning in many ways, have fallen into recycling erroneous "IRS" gossip as gospel. There are far too many do-it-yourself, get-out-of-paying-income-tax books on the market today which contain dangerous mis- and dis-information. We liken those books to books that teach you how to do do-it-yourself brain surgery with a chain saw... and find that they appear to produce the same type of messy and tragic results. However, one basic fact remains: "IRS" really isn't who or what or where most people think it is - at all.

Remember the tale of Galileo Galilei, who claimed that he could prove that the earth was round, and that it revolved around the sun? Remember how the church tortured him, insisting that the earth was flat, and that it, not the sun, was the center of the universe? And remember how you laughed at those ignorant church prelates and the populace of Galileo's time for their superstition and their lack of willingness to examine hard evidence? If you believe that such misconceptions and blind insistence that the earth is flat could not happen today in this oh-so-rational-and-scientific society, then you, too, have been snookered by the "expert" tax prelates of modern times. Please keep in mind that none of the information contained on this Web Page, nor in our articles, is anything more than information for your enjoyment(!) We cannot be responsible if you enjoy torturing yourself with this kind of pretzel research, since we tend to be driven to do likewise. The information on this Web Page is not to be construed as legal advice (we're not lawyers, after all, just lowly research gnomes) - or as advice of any sort.

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We recommend Attorney Larry Becraft's home page, since he is a truly diligent and careful researcher, as well as being a gentleman and a scholar. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Larry Becraft. http://hiwaay.net/~becraft/. Since we are very big on properly done research, we also recommend that you contact Jews For the Preservation of Firearms Ownership (JPFO) at 414-769-0769 and order a copy of their excellent, informative and impeccably-researched comic book "Granpa Jack Says: IT'S COMMON SENSE TO USE OUR BILL OF RIGHTS... OR LOSE THEM". (A comic book with footnotes and case law cites!) Better still, order hundreds, and give them out to every adult and kid you know. JPFO has done a lot of great research, and all of their books and publications are highly recommended. Also visit their Web site at; http://www.mcs.net/~lpyleprn/jpfo.html