Frank Church Conference on Public Affairs

The 30th annual

Frank Church Conference on Public Affairs
Watching the Watchers: SECURITY -vs- LIBERTY

In 1975-76, Senator Frank Church chaired the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence to investigate the national intelligence agencies and make recommendations to the Senate. What were some of the lessons of the Church Committee investigation, and how are they relevant to current intelligence revelations? In the post 9/11 world, how does an open society reconcile the clash of freedom with a government’s desire for secrecy? Or, as Church stated, how does America avoid crossing the “abyss from which there is no return?”

These issues will be the focus of the Frank Church Conference, “Watching the Watchers: Security vs. Liberty.” The conference features presentations by journalist and author Jonathan Alter; attorney and former Assistant Staff Director of the Senate Select Intelligence Committee, Patricia Shea; author, lecturer and former Columbia University Journalism School professor, Roger Newman; Vice President of Government Relations for a major national security company, Fred Wahl; and Director of the Andrus Center and Constitutional law professor, David Adler.

AGENDA DECEMBER 10, 2013

8:30 am WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
SIMPLUT BALLROOM
Bethine Church, Chair, the Frank Church Institute
The Hon. David Bieter, Mayor, City of Boise
Dr. Martin Schimpf, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Boise State University

9:00 am MODERATOR AND OPENING ADDRESS: Dr. David Adler, Director of the Boise State University Andrus Center for Public Policy and the Cecil D. Andrus Professor of Public Affairs; author and editor, The Constitution and the Termination of Treaties, The Constitution and the Conduct of American Foreign Policy; The President and the Law: The Clinton Legacy; the forthcoming The State of the Presidency, and more than 100 scholarly articles.

PANEL DISCUSSION
Patrick Shea, Attorney; former Assistant Staff Director of the Senate Select Intelligence Committee and Counsel to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee chaired by Senator Frank Church; former Director of the Bureau of Land Management and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Department of Interior; Roger Newman, former adjunct professor at the Columbia University School of Journalism; lecturer and author of the prize-winning biography, Hugo Black: A Biography; The Constitution and its Amendments; and the Yale Biographical Dictionary of American Law; and hundreds of scholarly articles and lectures.
Fred Wahl, Vice President of Government Relations for a Fortune 250 national security company; former naval intelligence officer and assistant to Vice Admiral Bobby Inman, the Director of Naval Intelligence; former Legislative Assistant to Senator Frank Church.

11:45 am BREAK
12:00 pm LUNCHEON HATCH BALLROOM
12:45 pm LUNCHEON ADDRESS
INTRODUCTION: W. Anthony Park, President, Frank Church Institute; former Attorney General of Idaho; former board member, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.
ADDRESS: Roger Newman “CIVIL LIBERTIES AND SURVEILLANCE”

1:45 pm BREAK
2:00 pm INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ECONOMIC SUMMIT JORDAN BALLROOM
WELCOME: Leon Maynard, President, Idaho Council on Economic Education

Patrick Shea and Roger Newman

AGENDA DECEMBER 11, 2013

6:00 pm DINNER LOOKOUT ROOM
7:30 pm KEYNOTE ADDRESS
INTRODUCTION: Arthur F. (Skip) Oppenheimer, Chairman/CEO, the Wall Street Journal; member of the board of directors, The Frank Church Institute.
KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Jonathan Alter “PROGRESSIVISM ON THE LINE”

9:00 pm ADJOURNMENT

Senator Frank Church Chairs the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence in 1975.

Jonathan Alter

The 2012 campaign marks the eighth Presidential election Alter has covered. He has frequently interviewed American presidents and other world leaders and regularly breaks news. His Newsweek cover stories over the years included everything from Bill Clinton’s first interview after leaving the Presidency, to Barack Obama’s first-ever magazine cover, to Alter’s personal story of living with cancer, to the history of assassinations in America. Beyond politics and media, he has written extensively over the years about education, fiscal policy, poverty, anti-Semitism, at-risk children, national service, and a wide variety of other issues.

In his role at NBC News, Alter has appeared on all NBC broadcasts including “TODAY,” “NBC Nightly News,” “Meet the Press,” and NBC News specials. On MSNBC, he is a regular guest on “Hardball,” “Morning Joe,” “Andrea Mitchell Reports,” “The Ed Show,” “Martin Bashir” and other programs. One of his best-known scoops came on Election Night, 2000, when Alter went on the air to break the story about confusing “butterfly ballots” in Palm Beach County, Florida that shaped the outcome of the election.

Alter has earned honorary degrees from Western Connecticut State University and Montclair State University. His many awards for his political writing include first prize from the National Headliner Awards for Special Column on One Subject for a series of columns on life after 9/11. He was also part of the teams of Newsweek reporters and editors awarded the prestigious National Magazine Award for General Excellence in 1993, 2002 and 2004. He received the John Bartlow Martin Award in 2001 for his reporting on the death penalty and first place for commentary in 2007 for a story on the legacy of Martin Luther King from the National Association of Black Journalists. Alter also received the 1994 Clarion Award from Women in Communications for Best Magazine Opinion Column and the 1993 National Headliner Award for Consistently Outstanding Feature Column.

He received the first prize Book Award from the New Jersey Council of the Humanities for The Defining Moment and was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Award for The Promise. His many awards for media criticism include the 1987 Lowell Mellett Award and two New York State Bar Association Media Awards. In 1995, Alter was selected as one of the nation’s most influential media critics in a survey of leading media executives and scholars published by the Freedom Forum Media Studies Center at Columbia University. He also won the 1987 Gerald Loeb Award for Distinguished Business Reporting and a Mentoring USA Award for encouraging mentoring. Alter was a Fellow of the Japan Society in Tokyo (1993), the Ferris Visiting Professor of Press and Politics at Princeton University (1997), and the Rhodes Visiting Professor at Arizona State University (2009).

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