

Red tie and furious face; photo of Trump booked in Georgia jail released

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Body

Donald Trump, former president of the United States, traveled Thursday from New Jersey to Georgia, where he turned himself in to be booked by the judicial authorities in connection with his fourth criminal indictment.

The Fulton County Sheriff's Office released the picture of the tycoon after being booked, as it has done during this Thursday with the rest of his collaborators who appeared in court.

A furious Trump, in red tie, appears in the image. Trump has already made history as the first former president in the history of the United States to be indicted. Today he makes it again by being booked.

Donald Trump is free on 200,000 dollars bail

Trump's lawyers agreed with the prosecution the payment of 200 thousand dollars bail, so once he was fingerprinted and photographed, he was released. The 19 defendants have until noon on Friday to appear before the authorities. They are expected to return to court the week of Sept. 5, presumably to announce whether or not they will plead guilty.

Upon leaving the Fulton County Jail, just 20 minutes after he entered, Trump spoke to reporters at the Atlanta airport. "It's a very sad day for America," he said. He assured that he was in every right to "contest" the elections that, he considers -without evidence- that "were stolen". He accused that the accusations against him constitute "electoral interference" and insisted that "we have done nothing wrong".

Prosecutor Fani Willis intends for the trial to take place in March 2024, but it is complicated given the complexity of the case.

According to the accusations, Trump would have tried to reverse the results of the presidential election in that state in 2020, where the current president Joe Biden won.

Yesterday, Trump gave an interview to Tucker Carlson.... Today he appeared before the authorities

Just a day ago, Donald Trump had offered an interview to Tucker Carlson, political commentator and Fox News network host, while the first Republican debate for 2024 was taking place, in which the former president refused to participate.

The eight candidates in Milwaukee - seven men, including Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and one woman, former ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley - engaged in tense discussions, at times about Trump, particularly about whether they would continue to support the former president if he were convicted. Six of them said yes.

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Today, however, Trump appears before authorities in Georgia, where he faces racketeering and conspiracy charges, as do several of his allies, including his former adviser and former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani. All of the defendants have been indicted under an organized crime law that provides for prison sentences ranging from five to 20 years.

Trump is the subject of four criminal charges: two at the federal level, in Washington and Florida (southeast); one in the state of New York; and one in Georgia. However, these processes bring him millions of dollars in donations, contributed by supporters convinced that he is the victim of a "witch hunt".

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Skipping Debate, Trump Attacks Republican Rivals, Biden In X Interview

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Body

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Donald Trump attacked his rivals for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination and Democrat Joe Biden in an interview aired on Wednesday as counter-programming to his party's first primary debate.

Trump skipped the debate in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and opted instead to do an interview with Tucker Carlson, a conservative former Fox News talk show host.

During the rambling pre-recorded interview, which aired on X, formerly known as Twitter, at the same time as the debate, Trump said it did not make sense for him to take part while he was leading his rivals by "50 to 60 points" in the polls.

"Do I sit there for an hour or two hours, whatever it's going to be, and get harassed by people that shouldn't even be running for president?" he said.

Trump dismissed Florida Governor Ron DeSantis as a "lost cause," said he was "very disappointed" by his former vice president Mike Pence and called former New Jersey governor Chris Christie a "lunatic."

Trump touched on a wide range of subjects during the 45-minute interview which took place in a wood-paneled room at his Bedminster golf club in New Jersey, including being asked whether he thought Jeffrey Epstein, the US financier arrested for sex crimes, had killed himself.

"I think he probably committed suicide," Trump said.

Trump called Biden the "worst president in the history of our country" and suggested that the 80-year-old may not be the Democratic candidate come election day in November 2024.

"I don't think he's going to make it to the gate but you never know," Trump said. "I think he's worse mentally than he is physically and physically he's not exactly a triathlete."

"In many ways I'd love to run against him because his record's so bad."

Trump also dismissed his four criminal indictments calling them "trivia, nonsense, bullshit."

Skipping Debate, Trump Attacks Republican Rivals, Biden In X Interview

Trump has been indicted in New York on charges of paying hush money to a porn star, in Florida for mishandling top secret government documents and in Washington on charges of conspiring to upend his 2020 election loss.

The 77-year-old Trump is set to surrender to the authorities in Atlanta on Thursday to face racketeering charges for his efforts to overturn the 2020 election in the southern state.

Asked by Carlson what his priority would be if he wins re-election, Trump said "the first thing I would do is I would seal up the border good and tight except for people that want to come in legally."

Trump was also asked by Carlson about the possibility of civil war or open conflict in the United States.

"I don't know," he said. "I can say this. There's a level of passion that I've never seen. There's a level of hatred that I've never seen, and that's probably a bad combination."

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America's true birth defect; What is the government hiding about the secret world order? Who is really responsible for the 2001 terrorist attacks? And what hidd....

America's true birth defect; What is the government hiding about the secret world order? Who is really responsible for the 2001 terrorist attacks? And what hidden networks do the elites operate? In America, such questions are part of everyday life. But there, conspiracy theories are also the legacy of the Enlightenment

Die Welt (English)

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Body

In the late 1960s, when the world was still round and meshuga, two journalists named Robert Shea and Robert Anton Wilson had a brilliant idea. The two worked for "Playboy" magazine, where they had to edit letters to the editor before they were published. What, Shea and Wilson wondered, if all the conspiracy theories readers told us about - really all of them, even the most absurd ones - were true? If, that is, the Illuminati and the Freemasons and the Jesuits and the CIA and the alien monsters of H. P. Lovecraft and lunatic Satanists controlled the destinies of the planet and consequently had to be fought by noble anarchists in a golden submarine?

The result was an insanely funny trilogy of novels entitled "Illuminatus!" in which numerous plot lines get hopelessly tangled up in each other and the little word "I" can mean about 23 different things as the narrative perspective hops amusingly from paragraph to paragraph. In between, there are graphic sex scenes. Soon, the volumes were indispensable for left-wing apartment-sharing ebookshelves.

However, the "Illuminatus!" trilogy was based on a basic assumption that is nowhere stated - that the conspiracy theories that are satirically dragged through the cocoa of a political thriller here are believed only by a minority. What if it were otherwise? What if conspiracy mania were the normal state of affairs, at least in the United States, and millions of people believed completely crude stuff?

Here are a few figures: 47 percent of Americans agree that their government is hiding "something about the Illuminati or/and the New World Order," 23 percent think that the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001, was perpetrated not by al-Qaeda but by an American intelligence agency, 15 percent of Americans suspect that the American government, media and financial markets are controlled by pedophiles who worship Satan and systematically traffic in children in a worldwide network.

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Colin Dickey, in his book "Under The Eye of Power," therefore concludes that conspiracy madness does not form the basement vault of the American republic, but is one of the pillars that have supported and upheld it since its founding. The only thing that has changed, really, is who the conspiracy believers fear in each case - sometimes it's Catholics, sometimes it's Communists, sometimes it's crocodile people.

Perhaps it could not be otherwise in a polity that owes its existence to a group that has always been known for its secrecy - the Freemasons. George Washington was a Freemason. Thomas Jefferson was a Mason. Benjamin Franklin was a Freemason - surprising only to someone who does not know that the United States is a product of the Enlightenment and that Masonic lodges were actually the only places in the 18th century where Enlightenment ideas could be freely spoken about.

However, the eye on the top of the pyramid, which is depicted on the American dollar bill and is believed by conspiracy believers on five continents to be a Masonic symbol, was precisely not made by the lodge brethren: It symbolizes God's providence and was not picked up by the Freemasons until years after the founding of the American state.

However, from the very beginning, North America was home not only to light reason, but also to the darkest madness. Many people today know about the witch trials held by the Puritans in Salem in 1692 - not least because Arthur Miller wrote a penetratingly pedagogical play about it, which English teachers have been torturing their students with ever since. Nineteen people were hanged at Salem. Nearly fifty years later, 34 innocent people were executed in New York, accused of belonging to a conspiracy to set the city on fire; many of them were burned, and no one wrote a play about them, which may have been because nearly all the victims were black slaves.

The greatest witchcraft panic in American history did not take place in prehistory at all, but in the 1980s: at that time, educators in many American states were accused of not only raping children, but also forcing them to participate in fantastic satanic orgies - human sacrifice and cannibalism included.

The American suburbs, with their well-behaved single-family homes and basketball hoops on the garage doors, suddenly seemed to be full of horrific secrets. The charges were based on a psychological bullshit called "recovered-memory therapy "; with the help of hypnosis and suggestive questions, children were talked into nightmarish make-believe memories. In the early 1990s, those falsely accused were released from prison, and the episode was erased from memory in a fit of shameful collective amnesia.

But of course the fuel rods of madness continued to glow in secret, and today millions of people, all of whom have electric lights and eat with knives and forks, are convinced that Jewish elites are sucking the blood of children in underground dungeons. We should finally stop talking so badly about the Middle Ages - the medieval popes Innocent IV and Gregory X, after all, published bulls opposing anti-Semitic hatred.

So is it actually business as usual, is the level of insanity as high or as low as it usually is in American history? No, writes Colin Dickey in his Conspiracy Breviary, "He observes that the conspiracy narratives in America have begun to run into each other like colors in a watercolor box. So people today believe that the lizard people and the Illuminati and the Wise Men of Zion and the Satanic Disciples are working together, more so that they are basically one and the same group.

Unlike the fun "Illuminatus!" novels, this doesn't cause the plot threads to get tangled; on the contrary, a solidly twisted unity plot emerges. Unfortunately, the people who resist the crocodile Illuminati are not charming anarchists in a "Yellow Submarine" either, but dogged fighters with assault rifles who find small and larger massacres in the service of the good cause perfectly okay.

But why are there so many conspiracy theories in the first place? And why have they smeared across the North American map in particular like ketchup sauce? Colin Dickey provides the explanation in a subordinate clause: conspiracy theories reassure, he writes. Those who believe the world is ruled by evil forces lurking in the shadows, after all, understand them. He doesn't have to deal with the disturbing fact that the history of our species is dominated by stupid coincidences and mishaps, and real conspiracies actually always blow up, either because

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someone can't keep his mouth shut (see: Gunpowder Plot, London, 1605), or because a table leg gets in the way at the crucial moment (see: Assassination of Adolf Hitler, Wolf's Lair, 1944).

The United States is therefore particularly susceptible to conspiracy theories because this country has never actually come to rest, because its self-definition has had to be constantly renegotiated: was the American republic to be a democracy ruled by the unwashed masses? Could anyone become an American, or only a person whose ancestors did not include a single black person? Were Native Americans wards of the American republic or savages or members of independent nations? Was the welfare state un-American? Who was allowed to immigrate? What were the limits to free speech? Did it have limits at all?

Sometimes the United States is like a ship on a stormy sea, where it is not entirely clear that the ship even exists - perhaps the passengers and crew only dreamed it along the way.

Many currently foresee a civil war that will tear the United States apart: Trump supporters and residents of urban centers, they say, are too different; a violent clash is almost inevitable. If it really, God forbid, comes to that, conspiracy theories will play a fatal role in it. But should the United States manage to avoid civil war, American conspiracy narratives will give us many more entertaining Netflix evenings.

Colin Dickey, "Under the Eye of Power. How Fear of Secret Societies Shapes American Democracy," Viking, New York. 368 S., 23,70 \$

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Graphic

Detail of a one-dollar banknote

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