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Seymour Hersh and the men who want him committed

A venerable publication launches a ridicule campaign against one of America's top investigative journalists

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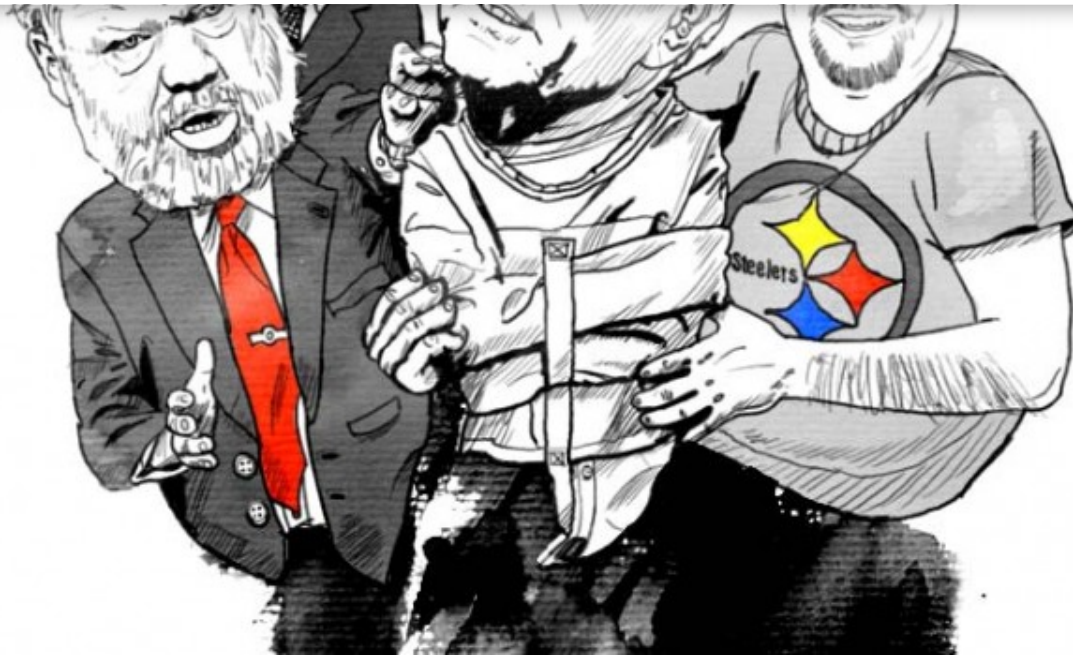
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Tom Ricks of Foreign Policy magazine and The Washington Post, along with fellow FP editors Joshua Keating and Blake Hounshell all rushed to discredit Seymour Hersh and the contents of his January 17, 2011 speech.

It seems unusual for a staid, respected publication (one that has received three National Magazine Awards in just this past decade) to start treating a celebrated journalist (who himself has won two National Magazine Awards in just this past decade) as if he were nothing more than a paranoid crank.

It seems unusual, but it's exactly what the staff of Foreign Policy has done to Seymour Hersh, following a lecture the venerated reporter gave at Georgetown University's campus in Doha, Qatar. You may know Hersh as the dogged investigator who exposed the My Lai

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secret assassination squad right out of the vice president's office. (In truth, the squad was and is a bipartisan affair, initiated under Clinton and still operative under Obama.)

Yet, given the Foreign Policy staff's derisive commentary on Seymour's Jan. 17 [talk](#), you would think he was some credulous rube midway through his first Dan Brown novel.

Hersh "delivered a rambling, conspiracy-laden diatribe here Monday," Blake Hounshell reported on the magazine's [Passport blog](#). His delusional fantasia: The existence of ties between the U.S. Military's Joint Special Operations Command and a secretive Catholic order called the Knights of Malta. As Hounshell elaborates:

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