

# Another Unmerry Whistleblower Christmas; MSPB's Cathy A. Harris Stars as The Grinch

(In 2024 the world's oldest democracy risks showing George Orwell's dystopian and cautionary 1984 is nothing if not just ahead of its time when published 75 years ago.)

By Martin Edwin Andersen

Washington, D.C. — The day before Christmas Eve, the *Government Executive* reported on the 10 federal agencies that saw the worst declines in employee morale since last year. In second place in the aberrational plummet was the U.S. Merit System Protection Board headed by the hapless, if self-promoting, Cathy A. Harris.

“Only 18 agencies with at least 100 employees across the federal government saw declines in their employees’ reported job satisfaction, as measured by OPM’s Global Satisfaction Index,” it noted. At the same time, “Government-wide, the measure ticked up two points out of 100 compared with last year, landing at 64 out of 100.”

## Ho! Ho! Ho!

The 10 federal agencies that saw the worst declines in employee morale since last year are:

- 1) Export-Import Bank: 13.5 point decrease
- 2) Merit Systems Protection Board: 11 point decrease
- 3) ...

[Here are the agencies that saw the biggest shifts in employee morale in 2023](#)



Here are the agencies that saw the biggest shifts in employee morale in ...

As the federal government regained its footing on employee engagement and job satisfaction, some agencies saw bi...

The report singling out the 11-point MSPB decrease in employee morale under Harris mirrored growing whistleblower disgust with current leadership in the federal agency that supposedly protects federal government truth-tellers.

“Shame on her, for running the clock on my life by doing absolutely nothing and to the others who were also impacted by her pathetic performance!!” wrote one already vindicated whistleblower who nonetheless was shown the door by Harris.

## **MORALE VERSUS MORALS**

The *Government Executive* report came just weeks after another case Harris sought to crush resulted in a former National Defense University professor, Jaime Garcia Covarrubias, being sentenced to life imprisonment after being convicted in a civilian court for his role in the torture and murder of nine unarmed detainees, including four university students, in three separate cases.

“Those executed were students of the Universidad Técnica del Estado de Temuco Juan Antonio Chávez Rivas, Pedro Juan Mardones Jofré, Amador Francisco Montero Mosquera and Juan Carlos Ruiz Mancilla, as well as Florentino Alberto Molina Ruiz, the aide Víctor Hugo Valenzuela Velásquez and the farmworker Carlos Aillañir Huenchual.”


<https://araucaniadiario.cl/amp/21715/condenan-a-presidio-perpetuo-a-presuntos-asesinos-en-el-falso-asalto-al-polvorin>

<https://araucaniadiario.cl/download/multimedia.archivo.bdd4ff64153e2253.U2VudGVuY2lhIEZhbHNvIEFzYWxobyBhbCBQb2x2b3IucGRm.pdf>

The cases in which Garcia Covarrubias was involved included phony “terrorist attacks” by already detained captives. After participating in the murder of nine dissidents, Garcia Covarrubias became a senior official in a clandestine agency that committed real terrorist attacks of a neo-Nazi stripe internationally, including in Washington, D.C.

[https://www.academia.edu/60299692/Case\\_Study\\_on\\_Neo\\_Nazi\\_Infiltration\\_The\\_Pentagons\\_National\\_Defense\\_University\\_and\\_Vichy\\_Ann\\_Rondeau\\_et\\_al](https://www.academia.edu/60299692/Case_Study_on_Neo_Nazi_Infiltration_The_Pentagons_National_Defense_University_and_Vichy_Ann_Rondeau_et_al)

[https://www.academia.edu/108235018/Academic\\_search\\_Replacing\\_vice\\_ADM\\_Ann\\_E\\_Rondeau\\_at\\_the\\_Naval\\_Postgraduate\\_School\\_SNAFU](https://www.academia.edu/108235018/Academic_search_Replacing_vice_ADM_Ann_E_Rondeau_at_the_Naval_Postgraduate_School_SNAFU)




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Request to make a U.S. Office of Special Counsel Intelligence Disclosure  
Re: Cathy A. Harris et. al under 5 USC 1213(j)

February 2023  
Conference: Pro se request to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel

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*Interestingly, the inoperative OSC chief, Henry J. Kerner, offered no response for this legally mandated request made by the OSC's first-ever national security whistleblower to win its "Public Service Award" (2001) ; perhaps related to his July 3, 2023 nomination to join Harris as a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board?*

## **DISEÑO LEGAL: ¿Y CÓMO VAMOS EN CASA?**

Guilty of more than just dishonorable common crimes and false federal statements, an already decorated human rights and national security truth teller blew the whistle on vice Admiral and then NDU President Ann E. Rondeau's minions (several, like her, veterans of the Defense Intelligence Agency /DIA) who trivialized, justified and even participated in those crimes, diluted the moral awfulness of clandestine death camps, and engaged in other barbarousness and corruption, including the reprehensible promoting of neo-Nazis, coup mongers, palpable traitors and narcotics traffickers.

As a private attorney in a Washington, D.C. law firm Harris served as the chair of the firm's Sexual Harassment and LGBT Practice sections. As Acting Chair of the MSPB, she refuses to honestly address anti-LGBTQIA2S+ hate at the NDU and the DSCA.

A sample: A whistleblowing petitioner asked the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit (itself unbalanced with Trump appointees) to compare Harris et. al's tendentious MSPB 11/17/2022 "Nonprecedential ... Final Order", which left unaddressed the scope and purpose of Petitioner's persistent whistleblowing against the repugnant and systemic bias against LGBTQIA2S+ people at the National Defense University / Defense Security Cooperation Agency (NDU/DSCA), efforts which helped cost his own family much heartache and many missed opportunities.

The homophobia in particular got so bad at NDU/DSCA that Col. (ret.) Richard D. Downie, a West Point Academy graduate, actually prohibited the Petitioner, both an assistant professor as well as a chief for strategic communications, from using light red (ie: pink) in any promotional material.

If only that was an outlier. ...

Nowhere do the NDU/DSCA and MSPB renditions on the Petitioner's telling truth to power include an email, "Morale at CHDS/John Thompson," sent on Tuesday, February 06, 2007 1:37 PM to NDU/DSCA serial wrongdoer Kenneth LaPlante.

In it, the Petitioner reported about the grossly homophobic behavior of far-right Gen. (ret.) John Thompson, the person Col. (ret.) Downie put in charge to respond to any of the Petitioner's 2011 public disclosures and a constant purveyor of hate speech and someone who gave aid and support for the illegal 2009 military coup in Honduras.

[https://www.academia.edu/98760357/Cathy\\_A\\_Harris\\_military\\_LGBTQIA2S\\_people\\_and\\_the\\_U\\_S\\_Merit\\_less\\_Systems\\_Protection\\_Board\\_MSPB\\_](https://www.academia.edu/98760357/Cathy_A_Harris_military_LGBTQIA2S_people_and_the_U_S_Merit_less_Systems_Protection_Board_MSPB_)

[https://www.academia.edu/95489658/Secret\\_Wars\\_and\\_vice\\_ADM\\_Ann\\_E\\_Rondeau\\_now\\_before\\_the\\_United\\_States\\_Court\\_of\\_Appeals\\_for\\_the\\_Fourth\\_Circuit](https://www.academia.edu/95489658/Secret_Wars_and_vice_ADM_Ann_E_Rondeau_now_before_the_United_States_Court_of_Appeals_for_the_Fourth_Circuit)

The then-NDU president, vice ADM. Rondeau, who protected and promoted the wrongdoers, later went on to be appointed by President Donald Trump as the head of the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS).

"In my 30 years as a professor there, no other president has been viewed so poorly by the faculty," noted NPS Professor Glenn E. Robinson in public protest last April. "Resignations and retirements have soared since she was appointed president, with some of the best and brightest faculty at the school either leaving or stepping down from leadership roles. Of the dozen people on her current 'leadership team,' only the provost is a civilian scholar.

"The result is the creation of a centralized, top-down decision-making culture that might be expected at a regular military base, but would be the death of any high-achieving university. So bad is Rondeau's leadership that the faculty have met openly to discuss taking an unprecedented vote of no confidence in her."

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2023/04/01/glenn-e-robinson-guest-commentary-time-for-new-leadership-at-nps/>

## **RAINING ON THE CHRISTMAS PARADE (and the U.S. Constitution)**

In the "*the most monumental test for the rule of law in American history*," Trump is now on trial for a 2021 coup attempt. So wrote Jonathan Alter and Cliff Sloan in the *Washington Monthly* on the same day as

*Government Executive* exposed the MSPB under Cathy Harris. Alter and Sloan added: it was “the highest-level criminal trial in American history (having been previously) the case of former Vice President Aaron Burr, who was acquitted of treason in 1807.”

<https://washingtonmonthly.com/2023/12/22/a-trump-coup-trial-primer/>

According to [Barton Gellman](#), writing in *The Atlantic*, “Trump’s next coup has already begun. January 6 was practice.” (Already a month before, The Philadelphia Inquirer’s award-winning Will Bunch warned, “The U.S. 2025 dictatorship threat just got real.”)

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2022/01/january-6-insurrection-trump-coup-2024-election/620843/>

<https://www.inquirer.com/columnists/attytood/trump-biden-polls-democracy-dictator-protest-20231107.html>

Rondeau and Harris have a proven record of covering up, if not engaging in, illegal and other injurious conduct in the federal workplace.

Writing to Robinson last week, Brett Steele, a former associate professor at the NDU’s College of International Security Affairs, noted “we both seem to have been on the receiving end of Admiral Rondeau’s autocratic behavior. Yes, your 1 April 2023 essay sure was revealing; You certainly confirmed my suspicions that Rondeau was inflicting horrors on NSP. ...

“I ran up against Rondeau’s autocratic, rules-be-damned and down-right criminal mindset,” Steele continued, even having had to endure a physical assault by her minions “... involving ... coordinated battery and false imprisonment.”

(One of those campus security noted was involved was Lt. Col. Craig Deare, a Rondeau special case who touted his close friendship with Garcia Covarrubias and who was later appointed to Trump’s National Security Council by the notorious coup monger and disastrous former DIA chief General Michael Flynn. In one post-service intelligence scandal, Flynn apparently forgot to tell the DIA that he had been paid thousands of dollars by a Russian media outlet.)

<https://www.miamiherald.com/opinion/op-ed/article13299944.html>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/flynn-never-told-dia-russians-paid-him-say-officials-n756421>

<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/trump-michael-flynn-jeffrey-clark-second-term-coup-jan-6-1234733081/>

In *Steele v. Mattis* (2018), the DC Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the once-battered-on-campus Middle East expert, specifically citing evidence that “included the contradictory testimony of the NDU defense witnesses.”

It is important to note that, among those ruling in *Steele*’s favor was Judge Patricia Millett, who later was intimately involved in a case crucial to Trump’s legal, and perhaps political, fate. (Millett’s father, a winner of an NDU award less than a decade ago, years earlier sought, unsuccessfully, to play matchmaker with one of those who blew the whistle on *Rondeau et. al* and who long before outing her was the NDU award coordinator).

<https://www.law.com/nationallawjournal/2021/11/11/with-brief-reprieve-to-trump-judges-ketanji-brown-jackson-patricia-millett-and-robert-wilkins-will-hear-jan-6-doc-fight/?slreturn=20231124125902>

<https://h1060.classes.harvard.edu/article.html?aid=504>

<https://progressive.org/latest/no-good-deed-unpunished-whistleblower-martin-edwin-andersen-180713/>

(NDU staff proclivities to support those in uniform guilty of killing unarmed university students can also be seen its giving an award to a Mexican general wanted by the Drug Enforcement Administration who is linked to civilian murders south of the border.

[https://www.academia.edu/85305973/Death\\_squads\\_and\\_narcotraffickers\\_in\\_Mexico\\_and\\_the\\_Case\\_Against\\_vice\\_ADM\\_Ann\\_E\\_Rondeau\\_et\\_al](https://www.academia.edu/85305973/Death_squads_and_narcotraffickers_in_Mexico_and_the_Case_Against_vice_ADM_Ann_E_Rondeau_et_al)

“Unfortunately, the resulting bench-trial verdict in *Steele v. Esper* (2019) and the second DC Circuit Court of Appeals verdict of *Steele v. Austin* (2022) completely exonerated *Rondeau* with a shocking disregard of the substantial evidence cited in *Steele v. Mattis* (2018),” the NDU professor told Robinson.

In an observation that is chilling given today’s penchant for coupism in American politics, *Steele* added, “I remain stunned at how federal court judge Amit Mehta and Chief Judge Sri Srinivasan accepted all the demonstrably false testimony of the NDU witnesses in support of *Rondeau* and ignored the piles of documented evidence.”

<https://63752cccec92dd.site123.me>

If Trump goes on to win the 2024 election, or doesn't and, (like in 2021) still claims to, vice ADM. Ann E. Rondeau is at least a well-positioned dark horse candidate for his Secretary of Defense. Trump's rhetorical quiver now includes a Hitlerian sheen according to Commander-in-Chief Joseph Biden (or as one of the former president's top aides called it, a "total dog whistle").

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/12/20/biden-trump-hitler-post-00132774>

<https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/4375154-scaramucci-trumps-rhetoric-a-total-dog-whistle/>

Rondeau has shown an unmistakable repeated preference for federal service miscreants who support foreign neo-Nazis, coup mongers, uniformed narco traffickers, and other wrongdoers while engaging in their campaign of character assassination against already decorated (and anti-leaker Snowden) national security whistleblowers.

Cathy A. Harris already has the MSPB cowed and whistleblowers are left to choose: between aligning with Russia advocates and national security leakers now on the payroll of Vladimir Putin on one hand; and fighting violations of rules, regulations and law by themselves. Perhaps she hopes to shed herself of future impediments for personal advancement at the continued expense of others' rights.

<https://whistleblower.org/press-release/press-statement-government-accountability-project-applauds-the-senate-confirmation-of-cathy-harris-as-u-s-merit-systems-protection-board-chair/>

<https://whistleblower.org/press/gap-statement-edward-snowden-and-nsa-domestic-surveillance/>

<https://www.laprogressive.com/foreign-policy/kissinger-snowden>

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**Martin Edwin Andersen**



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Yah, yah. Finished that list, checked it twice. As a whistleblower and an investigative historian I know who's naughty or nice!

