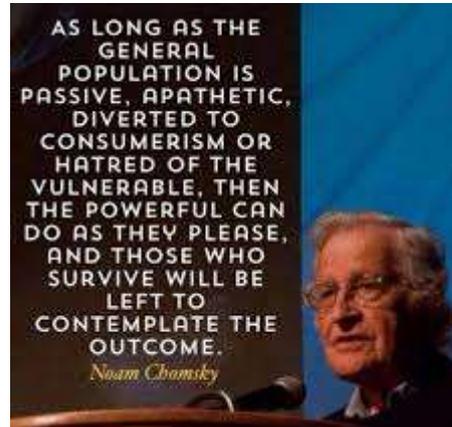


THE 2017 LAS VEGAS SHOOTINGS
“A CALL TO AWARENESS”
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A different look at the shootings
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The astrology of the event – the event itself
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In the heart of gun country
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Subterfuge in the event?
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Neptune, the event and the US
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Congress, Trump and distraction
Cui Bono?
Trump and the event
A call to awareness



Hello Everyone,

This article is a bit of a departure from my usual type of letter, but given the recent tragedy we saw in Las Vegas in the US on Oct 1 and given what it might mean for the US, I have decided to go out on limb and post this. I have waited some days prior to posting, both in deference to the victims and their families, and in waiting for the evidence to speak to the events that took place on that evening. If there is to be any redeeming factor from what happened on that night, it will be in the increased awareness of what that event will evoke from the US government, authorities and the American people. And if it stops certain people from making economic and political capital from the event and awakens people to what is going on behind the scenes as we mourn the victims, then they will not have died in vain. There is much with regard to the event itself that remains to be seen from investigations and also which has already come to light, some of which is disturbing, given what it actually might mean. As to what this event might actually mean for the US, and also for the wider world, it is difficult to say at this point, but there are indications. There is still too much to sort through, and there are some aspects of the event which we are likely not to know at all, at least in the foreseeable future. I am going to present what I see in the astrology of the event and the US, as well as with Donald Trump, because there are connections, and fill in some holes that are growing wider and wider in the official narrative as the case unfolds.

A different look at the shootings: I will be taking a different tack in this article than what I have seen in many posts, given the fallout from such events. I have named this piece “A Call to Awareness” because when it comes down to outcomes, we need to be aware of what is taking place under our noses and where this event and others like it might lead us as a country. There is much to consider, especially given the tone of the present administration, the polarization of the country and the wider world. This is not meant in any way to take away from the grief and anger suffered by the friends and family of those who were taken from them. My concern here is the actions that might be taken as a result of what happened, because those actions could, in theory, result in many more deaths. Why I say that will become clear later on in this article when we look at the event in relation to the US itself. I will not be focusing on the perpetrator here, except to make a couple of points, partly because there is mounting evidence that he did not act alone, especially when one examines the acoustic evidence. Some readers are likely to label that as ‘conspiracy theory’ and if so, so be it.

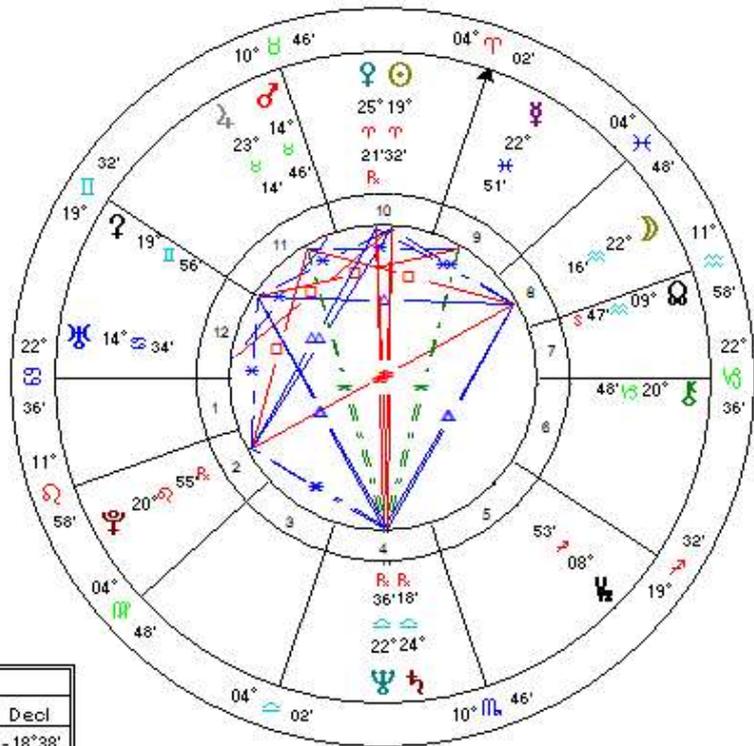
But if you want to consider everything for yourself, read on and see what speaks to you. For myself, I am reserving judgment at this point.

Stephen Craig Paddock

Natal Chart

9 Apr 1953, Thu
 11:05 am CST +6:00
 Clinton, IA
 41°N50'40" 090°W11'19"

*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node*



Info from birth certificate.

Extra Ring: newplan pte				
Pt	Name	Hs	Long	Decl
♁	Eris 136199	10	07° 11' 57"	-18° 38'
♁	Sedna 90377	10	24° 11' 32"	-00° 08'
♁	Pallas 2	10	02° 18' 31"	-05° 34'
♁	Varuna 20000	10	05° 18' 51"	-00° 25'
♁	Hygeia 10	11	01° 11' 06"	+22° 03'
♁	Ceres 1	12	19° 11' 56" 32"	+26° 06'
AWW	2002 AWW197 55565	12	26° 11' 44"	+35° 43'
Or	Orcus 90482	12	27° 11' 44"	+22° 59'
FY	2005 FY9 999003	1	23° 11' 24"	+39° 08'
EL	2003 EL61 999002	2	22° 11' 54" R	+24° 58'
♁	Quaoar 50000	4	09° 11' 56" R	-03° 41'
Ix	Ixion 28978	4	17° 11' 52" R	+07° 54'
TX	2002 TX300 55636	7	29° 11' 05"	-32° 08'
♁	Vesta 4	7	09° 11' 35" 07"	-17° 52'

The perpetrator?: So, to make a brief statement about the man, our latest perpetrator of domestic terrorism, Steven Paddock was a man between two worlds. His chart is shown above. His birth data is 9 Apr 1953, Clinton, IA, 11:05 AM, from his birth certificate.¹ I have read posts that speak of the Mars apex of the t-square formed with the Moon/Pluto opposition in his chart, denoting coldness, a violent past and so forth, and that is all possibly true. But the thing that caught my eye was his 4th house with the Saturn/Neptune conjunction, both being retrograde, opposite a Sun/Venus conjunction, with Venus ruling his 4th house. That combination is difficult enough, also speaks of coldness, a very reserved and careful approach to emotional matters, as well as difficulties in the home life, an absent father, and so forth. But the fourth and tenth houses of an individual's chart are also the foundational houses – the parents and early home life – the formative years. His wasn't easy, as we have learned,² having not had a stellar example of a father. His father was put in prison for bank robbery when Paddock was seven. At the time there was a solar arc of Uranus within orb of Stephen's ascendant, showing the sudden shock, which no doubt would have had a profound effect on him developmentally. But the reason I say he was a man between two worlds is because of the Saturn/Neptune, and also because the fourth house represents the conditions at the end of one's life. On the day of his death, Pluto by solar arc was at the midpoint of Paddock's Saturn/Neptune

conjunction, which throws up a red flag, and says that there was possible subversion or sabotage related to his death. Pluto also represents mass murder, in which he was involved, as well as suicide, as he is reputed to have met his end. The combination of those three planets is an indication of deep depression, a strong fear of loss, suffering for a cause, a feeling of “What’s the use?”, etc. His progressed Sun was also square to Mercury, the ruler of his 12th and 3rd houses, representing hidden enemies, self-undoing and/or secrets (12th); and air travel (he was a pilot), short journeys, delivery men, restlessness, commerce, tenants, etc. I’ll leave it there, but to state the matter clearly, his death and the reason for it, as well as why he did what he did, are suspicious and need to be more fully investigated. Authorities still report no clear motive for his acts on that day. There are too many questions about the man to simply dismiss his actions as those of an unbalanced and disturbed individual, as there was a media rush to do in the hours after the incident. And why it was not denounced as an act of domestic terrorism in the main needs to be questioned as well.

The astrology of the event – the event itself: So, to move on to the event itself, the chart is seen on the following page. The shooting took place at the Rt. 91 Harvest Festival, an outdoor concert of country music on the main strip of Las Vegas (Rt. 91), at which there were 22,000 people in attendance. As to the official timeline of events,³ the shooting on the crowd below started at 10:05 PM PDT, and went on for ten minutes, at which point the suspect, Stephen Paddock, allegedly killed himself with a gunshot. I say ‘allegedly’ because there were no forthcoming witnesses to the apparent suicide. It took police a further 15 minutes to enter the hallway where Paddock’s room was located, which was said to be normal under the conditions, at which point they starting going room to room looking for injured people. At that point the shooting had stopped and they felt no further need to rush the process. There was no one injured on that floor aside from a security guard, who said he had been shot by Paddock. Police finally entered the suspect’s room an hour and five minutes after the last shots were fired. That was the official story up to a couple of days ago, but even that is changed now, with further contradictory stories coming out about what happened on that floor of the hotel before Paddock started firing on the crowd. At the last report (as of this writing), there were 58 concert-goers dead, along with Paddock, and 489 injured. It was one of the worst mass shootings in US history. So far this year there have been 14 mass shootings in the US alone, given the FBI definition of ‘mass murder’. By any definition, the Las Vegas shooting was a massacre, and an act of domestic terrorism, which takes us to the event chart. It is a remarkable figure in many respects.

The ascending degree of the figure is the 22nd degree of Gemini, and the Sabian symbol reads:

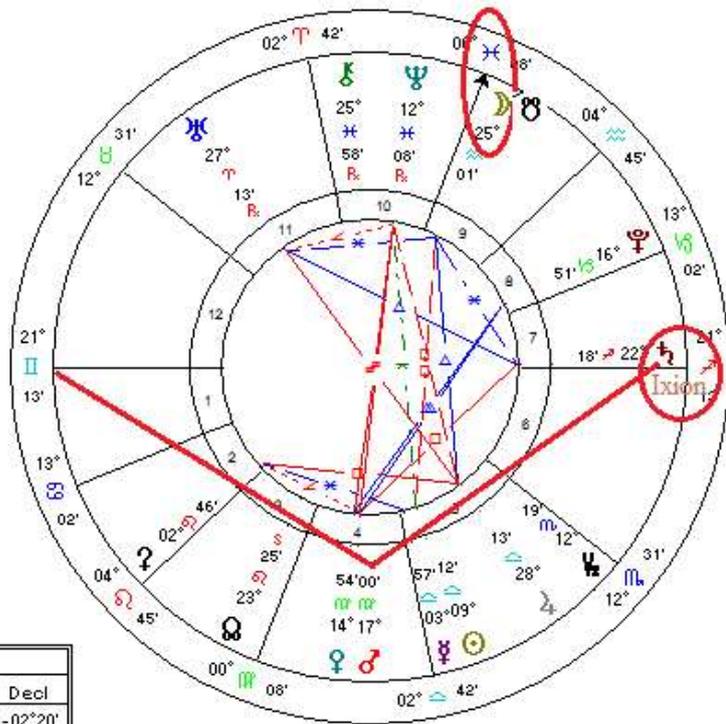
“Dancing couples in a harvest festival.” (the music event was called “The Harvest Festival”)

The mundane considerations: That in itself is remarkable, an indication that this event has more than a symbolic significance. The ascendant in such a chart indicates the targeted group. In the figure we find Mars in the bottom of the chart in the 4th house (homeland, but also representing anarchy and anarchists) square to the horizon, often an indicator of violence in a mundane chart. Mars is square to Saturn, the ruler of the 8th house of death. Mars in hard aspect to the angles in an event chart can and often does indicate violent events. Saturn is conjunct the descendant of the chart, indicating the heaviness of the event, the coming together of many karmic liabilities and a string of related events from the past, the seriousness of the outcome, disasters, obstructions, but also indicating planning by the attacker (7th house). The Moon, ruling the 2nd house (commerce and finances), is conjunct the south node and the Midheaven of the chart in Aquarius in the 9th house. The Moon in Aquarius is sometimes not an easy position anyway, depending on the aspects to it, often indicating a coolness of or lack of emotions and detachment from emotional concerns. Plus, conjunct the south node, the Moon/node conjunction posited in the 9th house of the event portends a possible change in the national philosophy regarding such acts, along with perhaps some changes in the nation’s gun laws, which will become clear when we look at the synastry of this chart with that of the US. Truthfully, we probably will not see any change with regard to the latter. The second

Las Vegas Strip shooting

Natal Chart

1 Oct 2017, Sun
 10:05 pm PDT +7:00
 Las Vegas, Nevada
 36°N10'30" 115°W08'11"
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node



Extra Ring: newplan pre				
Pt	Name	Hs	Long	Decl
♁	Eris 136199	11	23° 1' 27" R	-02° 20'
♁	2002 TX300 55636	11	02° 13' 18" R	+35° 01'
♁	Pallas 2	12	12° 13' 37" R	-16° 02'
♁	Sedna 90377	12	26° 13' 39" R	+07° 41'
♁	Varuna 20000	2	01° 52' 24"	+26° 24'
♁	Ceres 1	2	02° 52' 46" 00"	+23° 04'
♁	2002 AW197 55565	4	00° 07' 39"	-01° 14'
♁	Orcus 90482	4	09° 07' 21"	-09° 38'
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♁	Vesta 4	5	07° 13' 00" 06"	+01° 43'
♁	EL 2003 EL61 999002	5	23° 13' 50"	+16° 17'
♁	Ixion 28978	7	28° 13' 45"	-28° 14'
♁	Quaoar 50000	7	28° 13' 45"	-15° 34'
♁	Hygeia 10	7	07° 13' 45"	-22° 13'

Info from:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-04/las-vegas-shooting-a-timeline-of-events/9015258>

Hs	Long	Hs	Long
1	21° 13'	7	21° 13'
2	13° 02'	8	13° 02'
3	04° 45'	9	04° 45'
4	00° 08'	10	00° 08'
5	02° 42'	11	02° 42'
6	12° 31'	12	12° 31'

Dwarf Planets

IAU Aug 2006

house rulership by the Moon relates to the event being held on a major commercial thoroughfare, in the midst of a major center of commerce – a center of gambling, for which Las Vegas is perhaps best known.

Ixion – the malcontent: One of the things that I found striking about this chart was the position of the dwarf planet Ixion – conjunct Saturn, in the 7th house (open conflict, aggressors, open enemies). One of the indications of Ixion is madness, and the official news sources are pinning this event as the act of a madman, a lone discontent (Ixion, again) who, otherwise appearing normal, went off the rails and planned this and other attacks. Paddock also had Ixion opposite his Sun, giving of sort of “What difference does it make?” attitude at times, close to his Saturn/Neptune conjunction. Ixion in a chart represents the malcontent. Ceres is parallel the ascendant in the figure, and I often see Ceres in places of prominence in event charts when turning points in public consciousness have been reached. This was definitely one such event. We find an indication of that in the fact that even the NRA was initially open to regulating bump stocks, the type of add-on to the rifles found at the crime scene. However, this was also noted as a slick strategic move by the NRA in order to avoid further scrutiny of the organization by the public and to keep the Congress from debating legislation on gun laws. Unfortunately, it is a move that is very likely to work – then again, maybe not.⁴ This brings us to the Jupiter/Uranus opposition in the figure, with Jupiter ruling the 7th house, that of the attacker.

The Sabian symbol for Uranus is of particular interest with regard to future outcomes. It reads:

A large audience confronts the performer who disappointed its expectations (28 Aries)

Uranus, Congress and US gun violence: This could apply to Paddock if he was not acting alone, but more likely, with Uranus placed in the 11th house of the figure, that represents the Congress among other things. The 11th house also represents the national aims and desires, and there is a large percentage of the American public who wants to see teeth put into existing gun laws, however also believing that even doing so would not reduce the level of gun violence. We won't go into gun violence in the US here. Those figures are alarming enough. But one of the problems is that people conflate gun violence in general with mass shootings, which more often than not require assault-type weapons, as we have just seen. The sad and maddening fact is that the brainwashing of the American public has been so complete that we (as a majority of the nation) believe that *more* guns, as in handguns and rifles, are the answer to public safety, not less.⁵ The changeable nature of the suspect in this shooting is also indicated by the Jupiter/Uranus opposition, Uranus indicating a sudden change of events, and Jupiter indicating the mass nature of the events. And still the shoulders of the gun owners shrug. I have lived in countries where assault weapons are banned for the general public, and there are no mass shootings. There are still gun deaths, but not to the measure that we see in the US by any stretch of the imagination, and much more isolated in terms of incidence. From what I have seen, and figures back this up, *fewer* guns mean greater public safety.

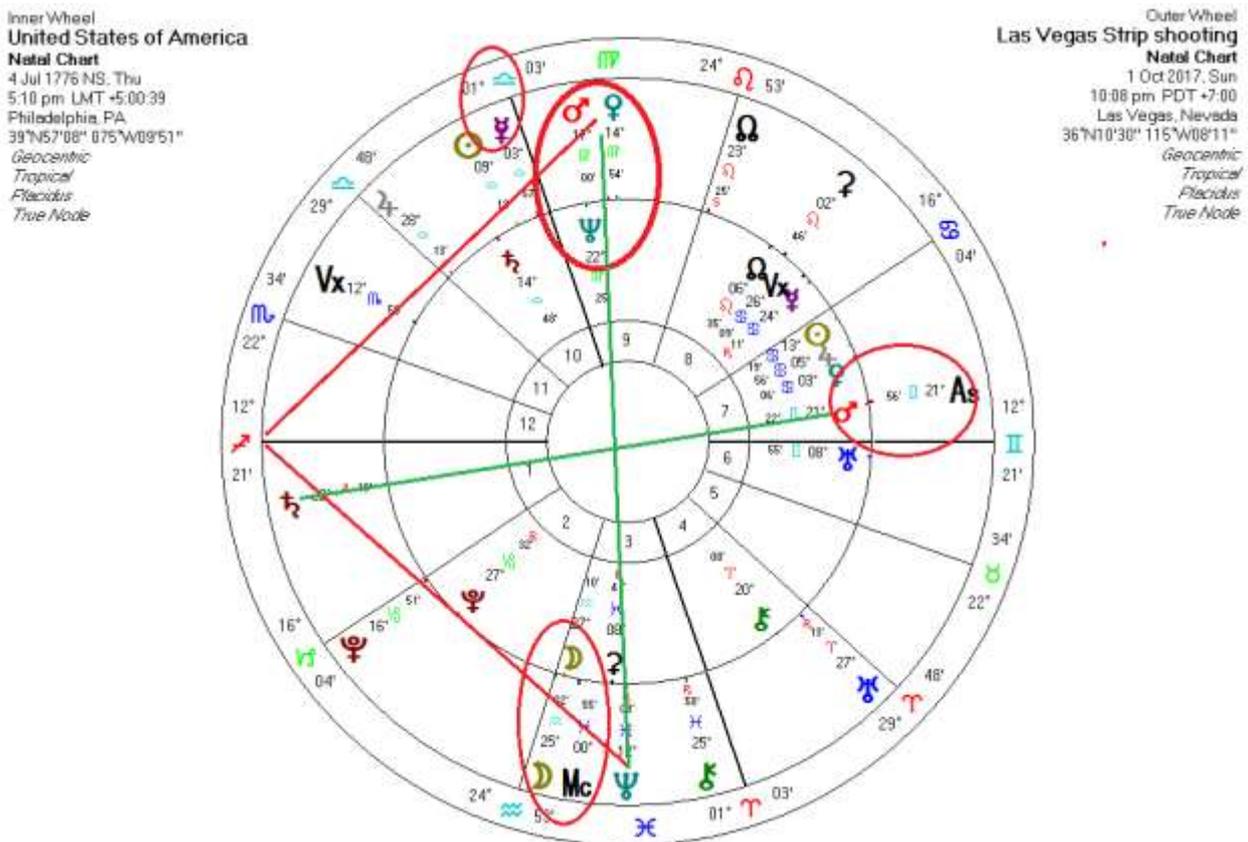
In the heart of gun country: The statements in the preceding paragraph may seem untrue or appalling to some readers, but the maddening fact is that there are not likely to be any appreciable, if any at all, changes to gun laws in the US as a result of this incident. Many people outside the US find this unfathomable, but I can speak from my own experience here. I grew up in the heart of gun country in the South (I have never owned or fired a weapon myself) where deer season is king, where guys spend a lot of time talking about their guns and their cars, or perhaps their boats and fishing, but this was just part of everyday conversation. Mention gun control, however, and the knee-jerk reaction is, "Let them come and try and take my guns! I know my 2nd Amendment rights!" Now, this is among average-working class men from my neck of the woods – good, hard-working average citizens, and these are many of the people who voted for Trump. Do not expect to see any meaningful legislation on gun control as a result of this incident.

False flag, conspiracy or the official story?: Moving on, there are more than a few alternative news sites that are calling this event a false flag operation. This is where issues get very touchy, and where I withhold judgement. There is suggestion in the astrology of the event figure that leans toward the fact that it was, or at least that not everything that is being reported is as it seems. This is also borne out in the synastry figure to follow. I have made a study of documented false flag operations and will be posting the charts of those that are in the next week or two. Pisces is the ruler of the tenth house in this event chart, representing the official narrative, the sitting administration and politics in general, and Neptune (ruler of Pisces) is in the 10th, opposite the Mars/Venus conjunction in the figure. There may be an attempt to steer public opinion toward certain aims in the coming weeks or months due to this shooting, and if that is the case, then we can probably safely assume that at least there was more than what we are being told behind this event. Neptune is often associated with deception and blurring of boundaries, and it is strongly involved with this event, especially when we cover its connection with the US, next.

Subterfuge in the event?: To finish with this chart, though, Venus rules the 12th house of subterfuge and hidden enemies, as well as institutions. Pluto, the planet of subterfuge and of death, is in the 8th house of death, and is trine to Venus, possibly indicating help from hidden/underground sources in the event. But before we get ahead of ourselves here, we'll have to wait until further evidence is submitted before we can say anything with certainty. In terms of evidence, though, this is still an event in the process of investigation. We know the official story – a lone, mad gunman with no past of violence, periodically on prescription anti-anxiety medication, amasses a large cache of weapons in a hotel room, which normally have heightened security measures against such event, and rains fire and death on a crowd of concert-goers below, with no apparent motive. To add one

point about bump stocks, though, they take a certain amount of strength and a fair amount of practice to control, in speaking with people who have tried them. This guy had experience – probably extensive experience – with firearms. He had great facility with technology and an interest in all types of machinery, along with considerable manual dexterity, as indicated by the partile sextile between Mars and Uranus in his chart. Neptune is speaking through this event chart. Questions abound.

Synastry of the event and the US: However, now we come to the real crux of this article, which is how this massacre might be likely to affect the US. The superimposition of the event chart on the US chart is shown below. To begin the analysis, I use the ‘Sibly chart’⁶ for the US. There have been many charts put forward for the US, but this one shows the character and destiny of the US rather quite clearly, both in terms of events and how they have affected the nation. Several very striking things stand out when we look at this synastry. To start, Neptune of the event chart is in a partile square to the US horizon, making a great cross with Venus and the US horizon. This aspect of Neptune is one of the major causes for concern with this event. There was another event that saw Pluto of that event chart on the US ascendant, for example, and that was 9/11, which started the quick erosion of US freedoms and subversion of citizens’ rights with the passage of the Patriot Act.⁷ Pluto rules subversion, plutocracies and plutocrats, and there was big money to be made, both with that event and in the wars that came on the heels of 9/11. Pluto also rules such things as demolitions, atrocities, corruption, insurance and insurance agents, terrorist activities and global wars, for those who are interested and who have followed the 9/11 truth movement. And when we look at what we have gotten up to on the world stage as a result of 9/11, we can perhaps see why the Sibly chart is so descriptive. But here, we have Neptune in a close square, along with other factors, which is why I previously stated that all not is what it seems with this event:



Neptune, the event and the US: Neptune rules many things, among others: oil, deception, the start of a journey toward clarity, secrets, secret services, the oceans, covert actions and secret agents, drugs in general, instability and treachery. There are many more things Neptune rules, but this will

suffice for what we have here, aside from one thing – Neptune also rules invasive and covert surveillance, which may be the real intended outcome of this event. Along with these, Neptune also co-rules the media in the US, and the US mainstream media is often known for its complicity in corporate and government narratives, and especially in its reporting on violence and its advocacy of acts of war, as we saw with the cruise missile strikes on Syria back in April. The last time Neptune squared the ascendant of the US in the same place was in 1853, just after its discovery in 1848. In 1853 there was serious debate about slavery in the US and threats of dissolution of the national union were starting to rumble at that point. The Republican Party was born just after that with the dissolution of the Whig Party, which is interesting with regard to the present travails of the Republicans. The country was quite divided at that time on the issue of slavery. The Neptune square to the US horizon ushered in the period of ‘Bleeding Kansas’, which was a fight over slavery and which began in earnest 1855 in the Kansas territory. We see a similar divisiveness in the US now, however along different lines, and especially in the Congress as it was then, but it still comes down to economics and racial differences.

Mars and the US: The next thing that stands out is the ascendant of the event partite to the US Mars. Mars rules violence and the use of weaponry in general, and co-rules the 4th, 5th and 12th houses in the US chart – a wide variety of factors – including among others the CIA and other intelligence services, secrets, secret agents and services, large institutions, etc. (12th), public infrastructure, nationalistic fervor, anarchists and anarchy, domestic affairs and land disputes (4th) and finally ambassadors, public entertainment and entertainment venues, youth, public schools and national pastimes (5th). All these areas were targeted or highlighted in some way with this event, since the ascendant of the event chart indicates the purpose of the event. Mars is also quite descriptive of the way the US approaches the areas just highlighted, with its long history of violent covert action by the CIA (12th house), for instance, as well as its gun violence. Mars also rules the gun lobby in the US and militarism in general. And Saturn of the event chart opposes that Mars and the event ascendant. Saturn, among other things, rules curtailment, the police force, discipline and frustration, and what we have with the present administration is a very high level of frustration and feelings of having their wings clipped. One might also be led to think that with this setup there may well be some legislation on gun control, but for reasons stated previously, we probably will not see it. So, where might this event and other factors lead us in the immediate future? There are indications.

Congress, Trump and distraction: Trump is ready to trash the Iran nuclear deal and stands poised to hand the matter over to Congress, thus washing his hands of it, which will could very likely see the US pulling out of the agreement. The timing of the shooting event with such activities is not coincidental. While we are preoccupied with the investigation and undergoing national mourning, the administration and the Congress go on making political capital with their moves toward fulfilling their agendas with regard to Iran, North Korea, the gutting of American health care, tax cuts for the wealthy and more or less complete deregulation of business, financial and environmental standards. Just look for what is absent in media coverage in the coming weeks. And if some ‘revelation’ comes out about the event that involves a foreign power, we should probably be very wary of what it will mean for us, and about the source. Trump, along with many others, wants a confrontation with Iran especially. And his cryptic statement about the ‘calm before the storm’ the other day should not just be passed off. There is something waiting in the wings to be rolled out. That ‘something’ could be anything, knowing Trump as we do now. It could even be something helpful to the country, as in ‘draining the swamp’, but I for one am not holding my breath. The statement could also be a ruse to draw attention to himself and nothing more, from what we have seen thus far in this presidency. He does like to keep people guessing, to remain a wild card. It is a strategy employed by many Geminis, given his Gemini Sun. And that brings up a very interesting point with regard to Trump and the event, which we will get to shortly.

This administration and the Congress are very good at distracting the public while they quietly go about their own desires. Trump is a master at distraction. He is a media personality, after all, and uses it to great effect. If you want to see whether or not that is true, just look at every time Trump has aroused some sort of controversy and what has been going on with the Congress at the same time. Here's a list of just a few:

- The NFL kneeling controversy: distraction from his tepid response to Puerto Rico's disaster, the latest effort on repealing health care, North Korea and tax reform
- The spew with ex-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger: the bill to scrap the EPA
- The spew with Kim Jong-un of North Korea: the last health care repeal failure in Congress
- Trump's Russia controversy: bills introduced by Republicans to scrap the education department, punish abortion providers and a 'right-to-work' bill which would in reality favor employers to the detriment of workers
- The controversy over health care repeal/reform: tax cuts for the rich
- Comey and Sessions controversies: health care repeal planning in secret in Congress. Comey's testimony took place on the day that the House repealed Dodd-Frank regulations. On the day Sessions testified the House passed a resolution that would block immigrants from receiving health care benefits.

In fact, the Congress has been very busy since Trump took over the White House. So far there have been 705 measures related to health, 615 measures debated in Congress related to the Department of Defense, followed very closely by tax reform, then politics and government, international affairs, then by public lands and resources and finally by crime and law enforcement. This is hardly surprising, given the makeup of Congress and the Administration. Also not surprisingly, the arts, family, animals and water resources were deemed a low priority, with social sciences and history coming in dead last at four measures. It is a very interesting insight into what Congress gets up to every year, and also that from which we have been distracted.⁸

Neptune has been squaring the US horizon since Trump was elected and took office. Every time a new controversy around Trump arises, our focus would be better directed at what is going on in the legislative branch, ignoring Trump. It is for the preceding reasons that I stated before that I thought Trump might actually be acting as a Trojan horse rather than a leader. Thankfully, perhaps for us, the administration and its fumbling, along with rising public opposition to Congressional measures, have stalled the major agendas of the Republican-ruled Congress, although many Democrats are also complicit in many of the more punitive measures attempted. And Democrats are wholly complicit, with a few exceptions, in wrecking the US economy, this laying a cause for much of the unsettling affairs in the US at the moment. With these preceding points in mind, there is a final point to be made with regard to the Las Vegas shooting. This won't be easy to read for many, but it needs to be stated: *Cui bono?* Who stands benefit from the shooting? In answering that, perhaps we might find a few more salient answers as to why this tragedy took place.

Cui Bono?: In answering that last question, we have to look at the main planet affecting the US through the shooting, and that stands as Neptune, affecting both the legislature (laws, 7th house) and the public (1st house). Not 24 hours after the shooting, an article in the New York Times appeared about the possible need for re-evaluating hotel security.⁹ In fact, there were many articles asking the same question. A quick internet search on the Las Vegas shooting and hotel security will show you what I mean. And now there is a new wrinkle about the need for better communications during such events and why it took so long for police to respond.¹⁰ What is more likely to happen with the present makeup of US administrations around the nation is a call for greater surveillance capability, the need for more police, the need for more vigilance, etc. – what we usually see when conservatives control state and national legislatures. When liberals are in office, one usually hears calls for gun control, not more surveillance. Las Vegas is one of the most heavily surveilled cities in

the nation, especially in hotels. The only way it could be increased is for it to become more invasive. It will be very interesting to see what the Nevada legislature introduces in that regard in the near future, if anything, and the public reaction to it. In short, *cui bono* equates to surveillance and gun companies.

Trump and the event: But, I mentioned Trump in regard to this shooting. The ascendant of the event was conjunct Trump's Sun – the same degree. It was a call to awareness for him, and should be a motivation for action against domestic terrorism. Mercury of the event chart was conjunct the US Midheaven, and this event sent a clear message to the Trump administration. What that was is anyone's guess, but his statements after the event and what he is set to announce with regard to Iran is telling. If there is a war with Iran, we can probably expect more invasive security measures to 'keep terrorists from coming to our shores'. We have just seen warnings of Hezbollah (who is backed by Iran, and very effectively fighting against Daesh, we might add) with regard to possibly committing acts of terrorism on US soil, and this just in the past day.¹¹ I for one seriously question that narrative. We should rightly question why there is such a focus on Iran, which is largely unfair and unjust if one wants to dig into it. Look at the legislative branch (the Congress) through this period, as well as the attitudes of the American public. Much would be revealed. More than that, get a feel for where media outlets and public officials are trying to steer us. Neptune, in its highest application, governs sensitivity and clear thinking, and that should be our focus and our effort through the months and immediate years ahead. Stand ready. Be aware.

A call to awareness: So, to finish here, this article is not meant to sound cynical, alarmist or conspiratorial. But we have seen too much in recent years not to question everything. If we do have minds, then we should use them. We do mourn the tragedy of October first. We also feel rightly enraged that something is not done to avoid or at least curb such an event. It was senseless, and the taking of valuable lives – an affront to our common sense, our sense of humanity and to peaceful living. Assault weapons need to be banned, as well as any mechanism that renders an otherwise single-shot or semiautomatic weapon into an fully automatic weapon, so long as we have our current attitudes toward guns. We also need a vigorous debate about prescription medications, because all-too-often they are implicated in such events.¹² But beyond all that, to get to the bottom of why people do such things and to institute the remedies for them is our ultimate aim, and that is a wide-ranging and long range pursuit. It starts with why much of the American public is so fear-based and acclimated to violence, and that is at the root of the problem. 'Thoughts and prayers' is an easy out. In the end, it is a useless and impotent response, given the lack of focus most people have. If events such as this do not rouse us to action, then the lives of people lost in them are gone in vain.

We need to sort out our own affairs, and it is not like we have nothing to address. We have a media and many politicians at all levels of government who constantly keep us whipped up about the need for security, the need for vigilance, the need for endless wars and more guns, focused on terrorists from overseas rather than the terrorists at home, such as what we just saw. It also serves to keep us divided amongst ourselves. It is all distraction from the main issues that give rise to our daily concerns. Address those issues, and then we will have true security. Giving up our liberties in the name of 'safety' is not the answer, nor is greater invasive surveillance, nor more firearms. This period in American history, if nothing else though, has been a call to awareness, and more and more of us are waking up to the reality of American life. If we quickly lapse into forgetfulness of what has happened and shrug our shoulders, thinking, "I can't really do anything about it," then we fall into the sleep of irresponsibility. If we are bothered and motivated by what we see, then we are getting somewhere. May we become increasingly motivated to bring about the changes we seek.

Blessings,
Malvin
12 Oct 2017

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- ¹ <http://wqad.com/2017/10/06/las-vegas-shooter-stephen-paddock-born-in-clinton/>
 - ² <http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2017/10/what-we-know-about-las-vegas-gunman-stephen-paddock.html>
 - ³ <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-04/las-vegas-shooting-a-timeline-of-events/9015258>
 - ⁴ <http://edition.cnn.com/2017/10/05/politics/nra-bump-stock/index.html>
 - ⁵ https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2015/07/27/gun-control-americans-increasingly-see-more-guns-as-the-solution-not-the-problem/?utm_term=.4ddddd8320dc
 - ⁶ https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Nation:_USA_No.1
 - ⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patriot_Act
 - ⁸ <https://www.congress.gov/browse/policyarea/115th-congress>
 - ⁹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/02/business/hotel-security-las-vegas.html>
 - ¹⁰ <http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-las-vegas-guard-20171010-story.html>
 - ¹¹ <https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0.7340,L-5027176,00.html> (Notably, an Israeli news source)
 - ¹² <http://www.thecommonsenseshow.com/2012/12/21/ban-the-pills-not-the-guns/>