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THE TRUMPET WEEKLY

NOVEMBER 7, 2014

## Is Republican Optimism Really Justified?

BY JOEL HILLIKER

REPUBLICANS ARE jubilant. On Tuesday they picked up at least seven Senate seats and majority control—they increased their rule of the House—they won several key governors' races. It was a big win, bigger than most analysts expected.

Republican optimism is swelling. Sen. Mitch McConnell called this "a chance to begin to save this country."

Is he right?

A lot of Americans agree the country needs saving. Problems are legion—runaway debt, economic inequality, unemployment, immigration concerns, racial tension and

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violence, foreign-policy blunders, waning global influence. Two thirds of voters—including 89 percent of Republicans and 71 percent of unaffiliated voters—say the United States is headed in the wrong direction.

But it takes real naivety to expect *solutions* to come out of these elections.

Though President Barack Obama wasn't on any ballot, Republicans worked very hard to turn their races into referendums on his policies, taking advantage of public discontent and castigating Democratic candidates who supported him.

see **REPUBLICAN** page 12



Supporters celebrate on election night after hearing that Republican candidate Joni Ernst won the U.S. Senate race on November 4.

## Israel 'on Brink of Third Intifada' After New Car Attack

TELEGRAPH | November 6

ISRAEL WAS feared to be descending into a third intifada on Wednesday night after a police officer was killed and 14 people injured in a car attack, the second such incident in two weeks coming amid continued rioting in Jerusalem's holiest places.

A Palestinian member of the militant group Hamas rammed a truck into a crowded light-rail station, backed out and then continued to drive, hitting several cars and injuring passengers and pedestrians on the street.

He got out of the car and attacked a group of civilians and police officers on the side of the road with a metal bar before he was shot and killed.

A Hamas statement claimed responsibility and praised the "glorious operation" of the attacker, named as Ibrahim al-Akri, 38, from the Shuafat refugee camp in East Jerusalem.

He had "retaliated for the blood of his people and the sacredness of the al-Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem," a

statement said. ...

Tensions have been high in the capital since a similar incident two weeks ago when Abdel Rahman al-Shaludi, also from East Jerusalem, plowed his car into commuters killing a 3-month-old baby and a 20-year-old woman. ...

Last month, the trouble moved to the al-Aqsa Mosque compound, which was closed to all visitors on Thursday for the first time in 14 years. ...

It was closed again on Wednesday after the renewed rioting. ...

Menachem Klein, professor of political science at Bar Ilan University, said Jerusalem was facing a renewed intifada, or uprising, after previous uprisings in the 1980s and again from 2000-2005.

"Those who say this is not an intifada have in mind intifada one and two as models, but I refuse to assume that the third intifada should

exactly follow the first and the second. It can be different—it's a popular rejection of the Israeli authority," he said. ...

**"Zechariah prophecies of a violent takeover of half of Jerusalem led by the Palestinians, which is why it is likely that Hamas will eventually grab hold of the West Bank. Its leadership there will most likely be needed to orchestrate an attempt of the takeover of East Jerusalem."**

—Stephen Flurry, *Trumpet Daily*, August 25

## Libya's Top Court Dissolves Parliament

ASSOCIATED PRESS | November 6

IN A blow to anti-Islamist factions, Libya's highest court on Thursday ruled that general elections held in June were unconstitutional, the country's parliament and government which resulted from that vote should be dissolved.

The development further deepened the rift in the politically divided Libya, which has been mired in months-long bitter clashes and turmoil that have left the country with two rival parliaments and governments, killed hundreds and displaced whole populations of war-torn cities and towns.

The Supreme Constitutional Court issued its ruling, [which cannot be appealed,] from the capital of Tripoli, which is controlled by Islamist-allied militias from the powerful western coastal city of Misrata.

The militias, which took Tripoli

in August, revived an earlier parliament that ran the country before the elections. They also forced the recently elected parliament, dominated by anti-Islamists, to convene in the far eastern city of Tobruk.

The fact that Libya's top court ruled from Tripoli raises the question whether it did so under pressure from the militias. ...

"Tripoli is hijacked," [Abu Bakr] Baeira, [a leading lawmaker] who is a strong advocate for setting up a semi-autonomous region in eastern Libya, told the Associated Press over the phone from Tobruk. "We don't recognize anything that comes out of it."

The parliament's deputy speaker, however, hailed the ruling as a "victory for the nation." Saleh al-Makhzoum said it had rendered the Tobruk parliament "nonexistent."

In Misrata, rallies were held, complete with fireworks, to celebrate the ruling.

Former lawmaker and historian Faraj Najm said the ruling resets Libya

"back to square one" and that the choices now before the Tobruk-based parliament are "between bad and worse." ...

**"Now America and the West have paved the way for another Iranian victory in Libya. We are rejoicing about the overthrow of Libya's Muammar Qadhafi, while we should be mourning. Libyan chaos is now the ideal setting for Iran to bring that nation into its deadly terrorist web. The government that replaces Qadhafi will be a thousand times worse."**

—Gerald Flurry, *Trumpet*, October 2011

## The 13-Year-Old on 'Righteous Path'

Mark Lowen, BBC | November 6

IN A cramped living room in southern Turkey, a 13-year-old boy is training

# Pentagon Sought Sanction Exemptions for Iranian Investment in Afghanistan

WALL STREET JOURNAL | November 4

AS THE U.S. struggled in recent years to help prop up Afghanistan's anemic economy, the American military turned for help to an unlikely partner: Iran.

The U.S. has no formal relations with Tehran, and American companies are restricted from working with Iran by sanctions over the country's disputed nuclear activities. Nevertheless, a specialized Pentagon task force sought to engage Afghanistan's western neighbor for major business ventures it was promoting in the country.

Twice in the last two years, the task force secured special permission from the U.S. government to seek help from Iran in setting up Afghanistan's first pharmaceutical company and in developing four mines, according to government documents reviewed by the *Wall Street Journal* and interviews with people directly involved in the unusual outreach effort.

Though the engagement with Iran ultimately faltered, the efforts demonstrated the lengths to which the American military was willing to go to promote business investment in Afghanistan to replace billions of dollars the U.S. and its allies have spent during 13 years of war. ...

"For Afghanistan, you can't ignore Iran," said Joseph Catalino, head of the Pentagon's Task Force for Business and Stability Operations—an agency that seeks to help

rebuild Afghanistan's economy by backing investment opportunities and business ventures. "They're a major partner to them in many ways."

The unusual and quiet cooperation with Iran represents one small example of the Obama administration's tentative efforts to allow for a closer relationship with America's longtime adversary that would make it easier to work together in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria. ...

From last year's ice-breaking phone call between [United States President] Obama and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani to ongoing nuclear talks, the two nations have been trying to repair their relationship—much to the dismay of American allies such as Israel and Saudi Arabia, which are wary of Iran's intentions.

"It's why they see us as a paper tiger," Sen. Mark Kirk of Illinois said in an interview. "It is impossible to convey to the Iranians that you are getting tougher on them if DoD personnel are involved in granting Iranians special favors. It represents a total incoherence in the Obama administration," he added.

"You would expect that Afghans would outreach across the border to Iran, but for Americans to do it is really stunning and defeats the purpose of nuclear negotiations," he said. ...

**"For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of hosts, doth take away ... The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator."**

—Isaiah 3:1-3

to join Islamic State. ... [A]s we sit down to talk, he heads next door to change, returning in a black balaclava and military-style camouflage top. He wants to be known as "Abu Hattab."

Born in Syria, he was first radicalized last year, joining the jihadist group Sham al-Islam. He had Sharia lessons and learned how to use weapons, proudly showing us pictures in which he takes aim with machine guns. Now he spends his days online, watching jihadist videos and chatting on Facebook to [Islamic State] fighters.

Within weeks, he says, he'll go to the [Islamic State] stronghold of Raqqa in Syria to become a young jihadi soldier. "I like Islamic State because they pursue Sharia and kill infidels, non-Sunnis and those who converted from Islam," he says. "The people killed by Islamic State are American agents. We must behead them as Allah said in the Koran." ...

But why not simply enjoy his

childhood, I ask?

"I don't want to go out with friends or have fun. Allah ordered us to work and fight for the next life—for paradise. Before, I went to the park or the seaside. But then I realized I was wrong—and I've taken the righteous path." ...

"I can't stop him if he wants to fight," [his mother] says. "War makes children grow up fast. I want him to become a future leader—an emir." ... "I would not be sad if he killed Westerners. I'm ashamed that my other sons are working peacefully for civil society groups—they must take up arms."

How would she feel, I ask, if he dies fighting for Islamic State?

She pauses. "I would be so happy," she replies, before bowing her head to cry. ...

**Related: "The Plight of the Children" and "The World's Newest Most Radical 'State'"**

## Iran Building 'New Hezbollah' in Syria

AL ARABIYA NEWS | November 6

IRAN IS working to unite Shiite foreign militias fighting in Syria under one organization that could serve as a "parallel army" to that of Bashar Assad's regime, pro-opposition news website Siraj Press reported on Wednesday.

The new organization, described as similar to the highly organized and well-armed Lebanese Hezbollah group, would bring together Afghan and Iraqi mercenaries under one military command.

"This army would resemble Hezbollah in Lebanon ..., and will gradually work on recruiting Syrians," Siraj Press quoted a source as saying.

The organization would then be well-armed and trained to be an independent force for long-term presence in Syria, even if the regime of



President Assad collapses.

The Iranian move coincided with Damascus's decision to recruit thousands of Syrian youth to join military service. ...

"The decision maker in Syria is Gen. Qassem Suleimani, commander of [Iran's] Quds Force," [Jordanian

Maj. Gen. Fayez] al-Doueiri said ....

General Doueiri noted that it was Suleimani's idea to send Iran's Basij brigades to Syria in the early months of the Syrian civil war. He explained how Suleimani reportedly used Iraq as a training ground for foreign Shiite militias who desired to join the Syrian

civil war. ...

He suggested that Tehran no longer sees Assad's tattered army as reliable to safeguard its interests in the country; so it needs a "parallel army" for long-term service. ...

**Related:** ["Iran Is King"](#)

## EUROPE

### The German Path to an EU Army (II)

**GERMAN FOREIGN POLICY** | November 3

**P**ROMINENT GERMAN think tanks and politicians are calling for the establishment of an EU army. ... According to the government-affiliated German Institute for International and Security Affairs (swp), there are "good reasons" for establishing an EU army. In a paper published on the website of the German Ministry of Defense, Claudia Major, Deputy Director of the swp's "Security Policy Research Group," wrote that particularly the transformation of the U.S.A.'s global role and the current "financial crisis" offer "new options for European integration." Because the United States will be "more tied up in Asia and Africa" in the future, the EU has to "assume more responsibility around the world." The "financial crisis" has clearly shown that "national sovereignty built on autonomy is illusory." "The EU countries must make cutbacks and gradually accept that solutions must be found at a European level." The author, however, explicitly calls for "caution in the use of terminology," because countries, such as Great Britain, would not "support a project labeled 'European army' in the foreseeable future." "Efforts leading in the same direction, but under a different label, would have more chances of success."

Based on these considerations, the swp researcher outlines "two paths to a European army." The first path, according to her, would be to encourage military policy cooperation between the governments of the EU member countries. This "enhanced" cooperation could lead to the establishment of more joint combat units, such as the "EU Battle Groups," which could serve as the "nucleus of a European army," the author explains. The second path would be the "transfer of national prerogatives to the EU." This would be the only route to lead ultimately to an "integrated European army" with "European command structures," which "no longer would be dependant on decisions by individual European countries," according to the author. Since the EU members are not yet ready to comprehensively "transfer their sovereignty," only the "coexistence of national armies with initial vanguard forces of a European army" is possible today.

The swp researcher sees the creation of a "common European arms market" as another possibility for establishing an EU army. Bilateral projects in the area of arms development and production are particularly well suited for this purpose, explained the scholar. ...

**Related:** ["Germany Is Building a European Army Before Your Eyes"](#)

### Of Neo-Nazis and Football Hooligans

**SPIEGEL** | November 4

**T**HE RIOTS in Cologne at the end of October show there is a new danger on Germany's extremist right. Neo-Nazis and football hooligans have teamed up to go after Islamist Salafists. Many are wondering why officials didn't recognize the development sooner. ...

The rally took place on the last weekend in October and saw almost 5,000 demonstrators, right-wing extremists and football hooligans march

through Cologne, many of them clearly looking for trouble. Riled up by the right-wing rock band Kategorie C (which sings lyrics like: "Today they are slitting the throats of sheep and cows, tomorrow it may be Christian children"), they filled the Cologne city center with their hate. Tourists and passersby got out of their way.

By the time the march came to an end, 49 police officers had been injured, a police van had been flipped over, and plenty of other property had been damaged. Cologne police quickly assembled a special investigative unit made up of 36 officers. State

prosecutors say that 32 suspects have now been identified and fully 72 investigations have been opened. ...

The phenomenon is an unexpected one. Thousands of hooligans appear to have left their football clubs of choice behind in favor of uniting against a common enemy: the presumed danger of Islam. In addition, they have joined forces with neo-Nazis and other racists. Nobody, it would seem, thought that such an unholy alliance was possible. ...

The hooligans' success in the battle against the Ultras resulted in a flood of new right-wing members. Meetings began attracting attendees who had

# Cameron Braces for a Strenuous Month

**STRATFOR** | November 4

**B**BRITISH PRIME Minister David Cameron's Conservative-led government is facing a difficult two weeks at the end of this month. ... The underlying theme in all of these issues is the euroskepticism that is taking hold across the United Kingdom as the European Union's traditionally awkward member approaches the moment when it will re-evaluate its relationship with the continental bloc. ...

The United Kingdom's relationship with Europe has long been a problematic issue for Cameron's government, but tensions between London and the Continent have been exacerbated greatly by the rise of UKIP [UK Independence Party]. ... [I]ts rise has been dramatic; it became the first UK party in more than a century outside of the Conservative and Labor parties to come first in a nationwide election, winning 24 of 73 available seats in the European elections in May of this year ....

The contentious parliamentary vote is on the European Arrest Warrant, which was created in 2004 in the security-conscious climate that followed 9/11. Once issued by an EU state, a European Arrest Warrant requires another member state to arrest and extradite a suspected offender to the issuing country for trial. ...

Cameron is looking down the barrel of three damaging political defeats within a two-week period at the end of November. An October 22 poll gave UKIP a 13-point lead in the upcoming Rochester and Strood by-election, suggesting that Cameron's efforts are insufficient for retaining the seat. Either a defeat in that by-election or a 100-member revolt in Parliament over the European Arrest Warrant would be reasonable grounds for a no-confidence vote in his leadership, though that is still unlikely seven months before a general election. ...

While these battles will likely keep Cameron awake at night, it is not important which side wins each fight from a geopolitical perspective. The true winner here is euroskepticism in the United Kingdom, because each of these events are symptoms of its continued rise. Underlying euroskepticism has made defection to UKIP a viable option for Conservative members of Parliament, has created the grounds for a euroskeptical rebellion in the House of Commons, has pushed Cameron to react strongly on the EU budget request, and will hold him to his pledge to stand up to Europe. Regardless of who comes out on top in next year's general elections, euroskepticism will be the real victor.

previously been active in the "Nationalen Widerstand" (National Resistance) or in now-banned groups such as the "Kameradschaft Aachener Land." ...

Meanwhile, the neo-Nazi-hooligan network became even more radical, with some of them waiting for an opportunity to steer the group in a political direction. Developments in Iraq and Syria were exactly what they were looking for, particularly given the proliferation of pro-Islamic State Salafist groups in Germany.

The hooligans adopted their new name—Hooligans gegen Salafisten, or Hogesa—and hoped to receive widespread popular support with their fight against Islamist extremists. One forum member posted in a chat room: "The grannies will love us." ...

## Efforts to Save EMU Have Hit Berlin Wall

**Ambrose Evans-Pritchard,**  
**TELEGRAPH** | November 5

**M**ARIO DRAGHI has finally overplayed his hand. He tried to bounce the European Central Bank

[ECB] into €1 trillion (US\$1.2 trillion) of stimulus without the acquiescence of Europe's creditor bloc or the political assent of Germany. ...

They are at daggers drawn. Mr. Draghi is accused of withholding key documents from the ECB's two German members, lest they use them in their guerrilla campaign to head off quantitative easing [QE]. This includes Sabine Lautenschlager, Germany's enforcer on the six-man executive board, and an open foe of QE. ...

The governors of all northern and central [Economic and Monetary Union] EMU states—except Finland and Belgium—lean towards the Bundesbank view, foolishly, in my view, but that is irrelevant. The north-south split is out in the open, and it reflects the raw conflict of interest between the two halves. ...

The let-out clauses would make QE the sole decision of the 18 national governors—shutting out Mr. Draghi—based on the shareholder weightings. Germany would have 26 percent of the votes, easily enough to mount a one third blocking minority. Mr. Draghi would not even have a say.

[T]his has echoes of the "Emminger

Letter" invoked in September 1992 to justify the Bundesbank's refusal to uphold its obligation to defend the Italian lira in the Exchange Rate Mechanism. The lira crashed. The Italians were stunned. One of them was the director of the Italian Treasury, a young Mario Draghi.

Lena Komileva, from G+ Economics, says the ECB is heading for a crisis of legitimacy whatever happens. If the bank tries to press ahead with a QE-blitz, [Jens Weidmann, German economist and president of the Deutsche Bundesbank,] will resign. If it does not do so, the eurozone will remain stuck in a lowflation trap and the ECB will go the way of the Bank of Japan in the late 1990s, in which case Mr. Draghi will resign. ...

Mr. Draghi is of course right to force the issue. The ECB is missing its 2 percent inflation target by a mile, with crippling effects on the crisis states. This itself is a violation of the ECB's legal mandate. The refusal of the German-led hawks to do anything serious about this is indefensible, and remarkably stupid unless their intention is to break up EMU, a possibility one can no longer exclude. ...

## ■ Germany may train Iraqi Sunnis

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said October 31 that her government was ready to train Iraqi Sunni soldiers. “If we were asked, we would consider training Sunni soldiers, not just Kurds,” she said. Ms. Merkel said the Sunnis had been “badly treated”

by the previous Shiite dominated government in Baghdad, which helped Islamic State gain such a strong following among the Sunnis. Germany wants to confront Islamic State and bring order to the chaos in Iraq, but not in such a way that hands the entire region over to Shiite Iran. Instead Merkel is suggesting that Germany

work with Iran’s Sunni adversaries. The *Trumpet* has long pointed to Germany’s efforts to create a Sunni alliance opposed to Iran. Ms. Merkel’s suggestion of training the Sunnis falls in line with this policy. For more on Germany’s efforts to create this alliance, read our article “[Psalm 83 Is Making Headlines!](#)”

## ASIA

### Russia Conducts Full ‘Nuclear Triad’ Drill

**ZERO HEDGE** | November 3

WHILE EAST Ukraine, aka the Donetsk Republic, was voting over the weekend in what the West preemptively classified as another sham vote as its outcome would merely push east Ukraine even closer to the Kremlin, Russia was busy conducting its most comprehensive nuclear preparedness drill in recent history, one involving the entire “nuclear triad” consisting of strategic bombers; submarines and an [intercontinental ballistic missile] ...

[T]he silo-based Topol-M intercontinental ballistic missile was launched from Plesetsk in Arkhangelsk Oblast. A few minutes later, the dummy nuclear warhead hits its target on the Kamchatka Peninsula in Russia’s far eastern corner, the Ministry of Defense reports. The Ministry, conveniently, adds that the Topol-M missile has an “extremely high accuracy of target destruction.” ...

Tu-95 is a turboprop aircraft built during the Cold War to carry nuclear weapons and is because of its long range included in the strategic nuclear forces. And then there were the nuclear subs (of which one was supposedly lost somewhere near Stockholm only for the rumor to be quietly vaporized).

The third arm of Russia’s nuclear triad, the submarine based ballistic missiles, were tested on Wednesday ...

This was the first operational test launch of Bulava in line with the program of combat training. All previous launches were part of development testing of the new weapon.

It is also the first time a Borey-class submarine had a full set of missiles on board when the launch was conducted. The Borey-class submarines carries 16 missiles that each may hold as many as 10 nuclear warheads. “Yury Dolgoruky” got her full set of Bulava missiles in June this year.

### Japan Risks Asian Currency War

**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR** | October 31

THE BANK of Japan has stunned the world with fresh blitz of stimulus, pushing quantitative easing to unprecedented levels in a bid to drive down the yen and avert a relapse into deflation.

The move set off a euphoric rally on global equity markets but the economic consequences may be less benign. Critics say it threatens a trade shock across Asia in what amounts to currency warfare, risking serious tensions with China and Korea, and tightening the deflationary noose on Europe.

The Bank of Japan voted by 5:4 in a hotly-contested decision to boost its asset purchases by a quarter to

roughly \$700 billion a year, covering the fiscal deficit and the lion’s share of Japan’s annual budget. “They are monetizing the national debt even if they don’t want to admit it,” said Marc Ostwald, from Monument Securities.

In a telling move, the bank will concentrate fresh firepower on Japanese government bonds, pushing the average maturity out to seven to 10 years. It also pledged to triple the amount that will be injected directly into the Tokyo stock market through exchange-traded funds, triggering a 4.3 percent surge in the Topix index.

Gov. Haruhiko Kuroda said the fresh stimulus was intended to “pre-empt” mounting deflation risks in the world, and vowed to do whatever it takes to lift inflation to 2 percent and see through Japan’s “Abenomics” revolution. “We are at a critical moment

in our efforts to break free from the deflationary mindset,” he said.

The unstated purpose of Mr. Kuroda’s reflation drive is to lift nominal GDP growth to 5 percent a year. The Finance Ministry deems this the minimum level needed to stop a public debt of 245 percent of GDP from spinning out of control. The intention is to erode the debt burden through a mix of higher growth and negative real interest rates, a de facto tax on savings. ...

### China Unveils Laser Drone Defense

**GUARDIAN** | November 3

CHINA HAS developed a highly accurate laser weapon system that can shoot down light drones at low

# Xi Stresses CPC's Absolute Leadership Over Army

XINHUA | November 2

CHINESE PRESIDENT Xi Jinping said the Army is under the absolute leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the principle should always be firmly upheld.

"The Party commands the gun," said Xi, also general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and the Central Military Commission chairman, at a military political work conference held in a former revolutionary base in the township of Gutian, Fujian Province on Thursday and Friday.

The ideological and political development is the lifeline

for military building and has safeguarded the CPC's absolute command of the troops, Xi noted.

The Army has established a set of fine political traditions, including serving the people wholeheartedly, fair and honest promotion of officers, rigorous self-discipline, and sacrifice to the revolutionary spirit, Xi said. ...

To strengthen the Army's ideological and political development, Xi urged the troops to have a strong sense of party principles and interests, giving priority to the CPC cause and the people's interests. ...

altitude, state media reported.

The machine has a 1.2-mile range and can bring down "various small aircraft" within five seconds of locating its target, the official Xinhua news agency said, citing a statement by the China Academy of Engineering Physics (CAEP), one of the developers. ...

The laser system is expected to "play a key role in ensuring security during major events in urban areas" and address concerns on unlicensed mapping activities, according to Xinhua. It is effective up to a maximum altitude of 500 meters and against aircraft flying at up to 50 meters per second (112 mph), Xinhua said. ...

The system, which can be installed on vehicles, shot down more than 30 drones in a recent test with a "100 percent success rate" said the CAEP statement. ...

meant that Moscow intended to boycott the summit or if it was a temporary show of displeasure over Washington's harsh condemnation of Moscow's role in Ukraine unrest and its lead in orchestrating Western sanctions and other punitive measures in response.

But even if short-term, Russia's no-show is significant. Only three or four planning meetings are scheduled before the spring of 2016, when the summit is tentatively set to open. With Russia a key global player—and one of the world's five formally recognized nuclear powers—its input is crucial to setting an agenda. ...

## Putin Reaffirms Military Modernization

MOSCOW TIMES | November 4

DESPITE SLOWING economic growth, threats posed by former Cold War enemies mean that Russia's ongoing 20 trillion ruble (US\$500 billion) military rearmament program will continue as planned, President Vladimir Putin told senior military officials at a promotion ceremony on Friday. ...

The rearmament program focuses on equipping Russia's military with new ships, submarines, airplanes, nuclear missiles and battlefield equipment for Russian soldiers. It is a sweeping modernization project that hopes to revitalize almost 70 percent of the armed forces by 2020, while the strategic nuclear forces will be completely overhauled in this period.

Under the plan, Russia's national defense budget for next year will reach

a record 3.3 trillion rubles (\$80 billion), or 4.2 percent of the country's GDP, the head of the State Duma's defense committee, Admiral Vladimir Komoyedov, was quoted as saying by the Interfax news agency last month. ...

**"Such a man doesn't appear overnight. It takes years for even a strong-willed leader to gain such control. Vladimir Putin already has the power—and the will to use it. I believe there is not enough time for a competitor to arise and challenge him. Over 80 percent of his people support his leadership. This much is absolutely certain: The restoring of Russia's power by Vladimir Putin—the prince of Russia—was prophesied!"**

**—Gerald Flurry, Trumpet, September 2014**

Related: ["The Collapsing 'China Fantasy'"](#)

## Russia Boycotts Nuclear Meeting

ASSOCIATED PRESS | November 4

RUSSIA HAS failed to show up to a meeting planning the 2016 Nuclear Security Summit, U.S. and European officials said Monday, in a potentially serious blow to efforts by U.S. President Barack Obama to cement his legacy as leaving the world safer from nuclear terrorism than when he took office.

The officials said it was not immediately clear [whether Russia's absence](#)

### TW IN BRIEF

#### ■ Communist Party of China unmoved by Hong Kong protesters

On November 5 some protesters in Hong Kong were still calling for full democracy for the 2017 election of the city's top civil position. In August, China said the people of Hong Kong can vote in that election—but only for candidates who have been preapproved by Beijing. This announcement triggered the protests, with demonstrators decrying "fake" Chinese-style democracy. They demand an unrestricted choice of candidates. In 1997, when Britain handed back Hong Kong to China, the Chinese promised the special administrative region "a high



degree of autonomy” for 50 years. Now residents say that the freedom that distinguishes the city from the rest of China is disintegrating. At their peak, the protests drew tens of thousands to the streets, congesting many of the city’s traffic arteries, and sparking skirmishes between demonstrators and police. Some analysts believed the protests could spread to the rest of China, and viewed them as a threat to the Communist Party. But as the weeks have gone by, the number of protesters has been falling. Last month, Hong Kong officials held talks with students and promised to deliver a report to Beijing about their demands. But no

change resulted, and little is expected even if more discussions are held. The protests are not over yet, but China’s refusal even to give protesters real recognition affirms that even in Hong Kong, the ultimate authority is Beijing.

### ■ Japan’s homegrown fighter jet

Japan’s first homegrown fighter jet since the end of World War II will take to the skies in January, reports on November 2 said. The Advanced Technology Demonstrator-X, a stealth fighter jet, was created to counter the growing Chinese aggression and combat its 670 fighters. Japan’s previous 260 fighters were jointly produced

with the United States. With the U.S. cutting its defense budget, many in Japan’s defense industry say there is no guarantee that America can continue supplying military equipment to Japan. Therefore, they have no choice but to make their own. Some analysts speculate that the U.S. may even ask Japan for fighter jet technology in the future. A senior Defense Ministry official said that “there is a strong likelihood that the U.S. and Europe will propose joint development of a fighter jet with Japan.” With America’s diminishing presence in Asia, [Japan will increasingly focus on building military might.](#)

## LATIN AMERICA/AFRICA

### Why Boko Haram Won’t #BringBackOur-Girls

**Anthony Chibairwe** | November 5

**I**T APPEARS the last glimmer of hope for the return of Nigeria’s kidnapped girls has now been snuffed out.

On October 17, the Nigerian government announced a truce deal with Boko Haram terrorists in which the 276 girls kidnapped by the Islamists in April would soon be returned to their families. Apparently, the Nigerian government negotiated with a different Boko Haram. The real leader of Boko Haram, Abubakar Shekau,

poignantly set the record straight.

“If you knew the state your daughters are in today,” Shekau taunted in a video released October 31, “it might lead some of you ... to die from grief.” He explained that “the issue of the girls is long forgotten because I have long ago married them off.” The captive girls, he added, “have now memorized two chapters of the Koran.”

During the two weeks between the announcement of the truce and Shekau’s video, Boko Haram was silent but let its weapons do all the talking. Over the weekend of the sham deal, it launched six attacks in which it kidnapped 40 women, killed dozens of civilians, and beheaded six people.

As harrowing as Shekau’s video was, it was not surprising. The name “Boko Haram” means “Western education is forbidden.” The militants care only for “battle, hitting, striking and killing with the gun, which [they] look forward to like a tasty meal,” as the video said. “You people should understand,” explained Shekau, “that we only obey Allah; we tread the path of the prophet. We hope to die on this path .... Our goal is the garden of eternal bliss.”

Boko Haram (and other Muslim terrorist groups) can be stopped only by people who understand that terrorists cannot be reasoned with. The Bible reveals who those people will be.

## ANGLO-AMERICA

### Obama’s Border Policy Fueled Epidemic

**THE DAILY CALLER** | October 31

**T**HE DEADLY EV-D68 enterovirus epidemic, which struck thousands of kids this fall, was likely propelled through America by President Barack Obama’s decision to allow tens of thousands of Central Americans across the

Texas border, according to a growing body of genetic and statistical evidence.

The evidence includes admissions from top health officials that the epidemic included multiple strains of the virus, and that it appeared simultaneously in multiple independent locations.

The question can be settled if federal researchers study the genetic fingerprint of the EV-D68 viruses that first hit kids in Colorado, Missouri

and Illinois to see if they are close relatives to the EV-D68 viruses found in Central America.

Officials “have to do the genetic analysis” to disprove or prove the link, Nora Chapman, an enterovirus scientist at the University of Nebraska, told the Daily Caller.

But there’s already more than enough statistical evidence for American citizens to demand that scientists



# America Faces Most Dangerous Two Years in 150 years

Charles Hurt, WASHINGTON TIMES | November 5

IF PRESIDENT Obama suffered a “shellacking” in the 2010 elections, then what he endured Tuesday night was nothing short of a vicious gangland beatdown the likes of which have rarely been seen before in the history of electoral politics.

This, of course, is a wonderful and well-deserved outcome. But beware: America now enters the two most dangerous years of her existence—or certainly the most dangerous since the Great Depression and possibly going all the way back to the Civil War. ...

Already, he has demonstrated again and again that he has no regard for the Constitution or the legitimacy of laws when they do not suit his agenda. He flaunts his disregard for the constitutional process, dismisses laws he doesn't like, and rewrites others.

He mocks the powers of Congress. The Supreme Court has slapped him down more than any president in recent times. ...

Now come his very explicit threats to pass more illegal and unconstitutional presidential edicts to grant amnesty

to illegal aliens already in the United States. This, in turn, will issue invitations for millions more illegals to come streaming across the border.

It will not end at immigration. Unchecked power is addictive.

Disowned by Democrats and made to feel irrelevant in this election, President Obama's enormous and unjustified ego is deeply wounded. He is frustrated and feels caged, cornered. This is when people like him are most dangerous.

Buoyant Republicans will make an effort to engage him.

But President Obama is not a listener. He is not a negotiator. He is not a learner. He will just take what he wants. It is easier that way. ...

To bind the union, Abraham Lincoln took an economic and political war and elevated it into something higher. He made it about emancipating slaves and won. And saved the Republic.

This president does the opposite. He got elected promising to elevate politics but instead finds unity and sows discord, often inciting racial divisions. ...

test the viruses to see if Obama's progressive border priorities spread the dangerous contagion throughout the country during 2014.

So far, that virus has been found in nine people—including at least three American kids—who died from illness. It has apparently inflicted unprecedented polio-like paralysis in roughly 50 kids, and it has put hundreds of young American kids into hospital emergency wards and intensive care units throughout more than 40 states. Most of the dead have not been publicly identified. ...

The issue is dangerous for scientists because it could spike existing public opposition to the unpopular effort by Obama, Democrats and business-backed Republicans to increase the migration of foreign nationals—including many foreign scientists—into the United States. That inflow is a top priority for the Democratic leaders, who have the power to make life difficult for grant-dependent American scientists who discover politically damaging information. ...

There is no vaccine for EV-D68, so health experts expect more victims. ... There have been nearly 20 confirmed cases of EV-D68 in Ohio. ...

Since 2011, Obama and his

deputies have allowed 170,000 adults, children and youths from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras to cross the border and apply for green cards.

Under existing immigration law, Obama could have barred the migration and repatriated the first waves of migrants in 2010 and 2011. He did not block the flow, but instead directed federal agencies to let the growing number of migrants settle throughout the United States. ...

There's plenty of evidence from government agencies and from doctors that the epidemic suddenly appeared in many places after the arrival of the 40,000 young migrants in the summer of 2014, and that it included many strains of EV-D68. ...

## Obama's Secret Letter to Iran's Khamenei

WALL STREET JOURNAL | November 6

U.S. PRESIDENT Barack Obama secretly wrote Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in the middle of last month and described a shared interest in fighting Islamic State militants in Iraq and Syria, according to people briefed on the correspondence.

The letter appeared aimed both at buttressing the campaign against Islamic State and nudging Iran's religious leader closer to a nuclear deal.

Mr. Obama stressed to Mr. Khamenei that any cooperation on Islamic State was largely contingent on Iran reaching a comprehensive agreement with global powers on the future of Tehran's nuclear program by a November 24 diplomatic deadline, the same people say.

The October letter marked at least the fourth time Mr. Obama has written Iran's most powerful political and religious leader since taking office in 2009 and pledging to engage with Tehran's Islamist government.

The correspondence underscores that Mr. Obama views Iran as important—whether in a potentially constructive or negative role—to his emerging military and diplomatic campaign to push Islamic State from the territories it has gained over the past six months. ...

Mr. Obama's push for a deal faces renewed resistance after Tuesday's elections gave Republicans control of the Senate and added power both to block an agreement and to impose new sanctions on Iran. ...

In a sign of the sensitivity of the Iran diplomacy, the White House



**GERALD FLURRY**

## The Former Prophets

**THE KEY OF DAVID** | November 9

These books of the Bible contain prophetic history, yet few study them and even fewer understand their significance for today.



didn't tell its Middle East allies—including Israel, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates—about Mr. Obama's October letter to Mr. Khamenei, according to the people briefed on the correspondence. ...

Current and former U.S. officials have said Mr. Obama has focused on communicating with Mr. Khamenei specifically because they believe the cleric will make all the final decisions on Iran's nuclear program and the fight against Islamic State.

## Exec Amnesty 'No Matter How Big a Shellacking'

**BREITBART** | November 4

**A**BC News Chief White House Correspondent Jon Karl reported that according to White House officials "the president will move forward with an executive order on immigration reform "no matter how big a shellacking Democrats get tonight" during ABC's election coverage on Tuesday.

Karl said "White House officials are saying that you can expect the president to set an aggressive, and defiant tone tomorrow. You're not going to

see any mea culpas, no big firings, no change in direction."

He added "officials tell me the president is prepared to aggressively pursue his agenda using his power of executive authority ....

## Emergency \$6.18 Billion to Fight Ebola

**CHRISTIAN POST** | November 6

**P**RESIDENT BARACK Obama has asked Congress for \$6.18 billion in emergency funding to advance the U.S.'s efforts in tackling the largest Ebola outbreak in history both abroad and at home. At the same time, the UN has said that it lacks the resources to stop the deadly virus. ...

"The funding is needed immediately to strengthen and sustain our whole-of-government response to strengthen preparedness in the U.S. and to help end the Ebola epidemic at its source in West Africa, and to prevent disease outbreaks, detect them early, and swiftly respond before they become epidemics that threaten the American people," the Obama administration explained on why the funds are considered an "emergency."

"It's in situations like this one, when activities surpass the current level of funding, that the request is deemed an emergency."

The World Health Organization reported a lowered death toll estimate in West Africa on Wednesday as it sought to improve the quality of data on its previous reports. Still, it noted that at least 4,818 people have died from the outbreak out of 13,042 cases, mainly in the countries of Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia. ...

"Because of our skill, our determination, and our passion, Americans are uniquely suited to lead this international response. The emergency funding will ensure that we can fulfill our leadership role and also ensure that we are taking important steps to strengthen preparedness here in the U.S.," the Obama administration said. ...

## Police 'Struggling to Cope' With Immigration

**TELEGRAPH** | November 6

**B**RTAIN'S POLICE forces are "struggling to cope" because of the pace of immigration, the country's most senior officer warned last night.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, told an international terrorism conference that his officers face challenges not only because of the speed of growth but because those coming to Britain had different languages and views of authority. ...

"People arrive with different languages, different perceptions of the police, so that in itself can be part of the challenge," he said.

Sir Bernard said that 25 percent of the population growth in the UK had arrived in London in the last 10 years.

"We have all seen growth but not at the pace we have seen more recently, so it's a simple logistical point that the more people that arrive, the more quickly they arrive, all our bureaucracies struggle to cope and the police are no different," he said.

Sir Bernard emphasized the importance of the community beat as much as high-level counterterrorism in the

# Oregon, Alaska and Washington, D.C., Legalize Marijuana

CNN | November 5

VOTERS IN Oregon, Alaska and Washington, D.C., have voted to approve sweeping pro-marijuana legalization, according to CNN projections.

The three wins have pro-legalization activists enthused and many are already looking towards 2016, when ballot initiatives in states such as California, Massachusetts, Maine, Nevada and Arizona are likely to be put to voters.

In Oregon, the law legalizes personal possession, manufacture and sale of marijuana for people 21 years of age and older. Mimicking similar plans in Washington State and Colorado, the Oregon law will also create a commercial regulatory system for the production, distribution and sale of marijuana.

Alaska's law is similar to Oregon and would tax and regulate the production, sale and use of marijuana, making the use legal for people over 21 years old.

Washington, D.C.'s, proposal, while scaled back compared to the others, allows for a person over 21 years old to

possess up to 2 ounces of marijuana for personal use and grow up to six cannabis plants in their home. It also allows people to transfer up to 1 ounce of marijuana to another person, but not sell it. ...

"It's always an uphill battle to win a marijuana legalization initiative in a year like this, when young people are so much less likely to vote, which makes today's victory all the sweeter," Ethan Nadelmann, executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance, said about Oregon. "The pace of reform is accelerating, other states are sure to follow, and even Congress is poised to wake from its slumber."

Wins in Washington, D.C., also have activists hoping for federal recognition.

"With marijuana legal in the federal government's backyard," said Tom Angell, chairman of Marijuana Majority, "it's going to be increasingly difficult for national politicians to continue ignoring the growing majority of voters who want to end prohibition." ...

effort to combat the radicalization of some of Britain's youth who become driven to plot attacks or head overseas to join the jihad of [Islamic State]. ...

Sir Bernard's controversial remarks came after an annual conference of law enforcement chiefs held in New York ...

"Our societies are changing apace. Here in New York society is changing—with immigration many people are coming to live here and you will find the same in London," he said. ...

## 'Old, Whites' Who Swept GOP to Power Will All Die Soon

INQUISITR | November 7

"OLD, WHITE" voters swung Tuesday's midterm elections to the Republican Party, allowing the GOP to take control of both houses of the U.S. Congress for the first time since 2008, a Democratic political consultant said in an MSNBC interview Wednesday. But Democrats should take heart, Jimmy Williams said in the interview.

"Those old, white people," Williams told interviewer Krystal Ball. "They're going to die someday. And who's going to be there to replace them? People that want you to be for them, not against them."

The remark sparked outrage in conservative media circles, with American Thinker blog, for example, sniping, "old hippies are going to die someday too."

But demographic surveys of the 2014 midterm electorate show that ... Williams's comments had some facts to back them up. The people who voted in Tuesday's election were the oldest bunch of voters in decades, leading one Democrat to label the turnout of younger voters for Tuesday's balloting "pathetic."

At the same time, the gap between the oldest voters and the younger ones was even greater than in the 2010 midterm elections, in which voters over the age of 60 made up 32 percent of the turnout allowed Republicans to wrest control of the House of Representatives back from the Democrats after only two years of a Democratic majority.

In 2010, only 12 percent of voters were younger than age 30. This year, the disparity was tilted even more to the senior end of the age spectrum .... While the under-30 crowd held steady at 12 percent from the 2010 midterms, the 60-plus demographic made up 37 percent—more than one in every three—Americans who cast ballots in Tuesday's nationwide election. [T]urnout among younger voters is notably higher in presidential election years.

At one time, the demographic split

would have made little difference in an election.

As NBC News also pointed out, "Throughout the 1990s, the youngest and oldest voters tended to vote the same way. For example, in the 1994 election which resulted in a Republican takeover of the House of Representatives, 48 percent of voters under 30 voted for the Democratic candidate for Congress and an identical 48 percent of voter age 60 and older did the same."

But beginning in 2004, something strange happened. Older and younger voters began to take dramatically different political paths. By 2010, 55 percent of the under-30 voters cast ballots for Democrats, compared to only 41 percent of over-60 voters.

This year, the gap closed somewhat, but remained massive, with 45 percent of older voters supporting Democrats, while the young Democratic base maintained its 55 percent level. ...

As for whether Williams is correct that the older voters will "die," allowing younger, Democratic voters to assert electoral dominance, as of 2014, the life expectancy of the average American was 79 years—ranking 53rd in the world—meaning that on average, the youngest of that 37 percent [of] the over-60 voting bloc have nine more national elections—five presidential and four midterm elections—to make their mark.

## REPUBLICAN from page 1

Recent polls show dissatisfaction and anger with the present administration (as well as with congressional leadership and both parties). Now, Republicans say their election victories send a strong message from voters to the president.

Set aside the fact that opposition to the president is not a solution. Disregard that Republicans have nothing approaching consensus on how to address the economic, domestic and international problems facing America.

The real issue is this: We have no reason to expect this president to take any correction from these elections.

This administration views virtually everything it has done over the last six years as a *terrific success*.

Look at its foreign-policy record, for example. It has authored stunning failures in Iraq, Egypt, Libya, Syria and elsewhere in the Middle East; it has effectively aided Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons; it has played the spectator to the rise of Islamic State; it has ravaged alliances with Israel, Britain, Poland, Germany and other nations; it has been embarrassed by a militant Russia and a belligerent China. Yet the administration sees its leadership as having *improved* global tranquility and enhanced prospects for peace on "every fundamental issue of conflict today."

Similar abysmal evidence abounds in many other arenas—as does the administration's unwarranted confidence in its own success. Despite presiding over a stagnant economy, chronic unemployment and a \$7 trillion increase in national debt, the president praises his economic accomplishments (though, tellingly, no Democrats ran on that record). Despite proof that lax immigration policies encouraged more illegal immigration, the administration wants to grant amnesty to millions of resident illegals. It simply shrugs off scandal after scandal—Fast and Furious, Benghazi, the IRS, FBI drone surveillance, illegal Department of Justice and National Security Agency monitoring, to name a few.

Rather than acknowledge failure and fire guilty officials, the administration has consistently deflected blame and doubled down.

Now, in light of tough Democratic election losses, why should anyone think it will be any different?

For six years, this president's administration, in pushing its agenda, has routinely disregarded constitutional limits on executive powers, ignored laws it doesn't like, and bypassed Congress.

What is the president going to do now that Congress is *even more* opposed to his agenda? Transform into a consensus-builder?

Politico reported this before the election: "Administration officials tell us that Obama's political and policy teams are planning a big counterattack if the Republicans win the Senate—introducing a slate of legislative proposals and executive actions on immigration, infrastructure and early childhood education that are popular with the Democratic base and that he will dare the GOP to oppose."



JOEL HILLIKER

ABC's Jon Karl reported on election day that administration officials said "no matter how big a shellacking Democrats get tonight," the president "is prepared to aggressively pursue his agenda using his power of executive authority, where he can't work with Congress ...." "White House officials are saying that you can expect the president to set an aggressive, and defiant tone tomorrow," Karl said. "You're not going to see any mea culpas, no big firings, no change in direction." Is this a surprise?

About a year ago, Oklahoma Congressman James Lankford participated in talks with the president on a the government shutdown. He told the *Trumpet* staff that the two sides appeared close to an agreement. Rumors of a deal emerged. The stock market rose. However, the next day, immediately after the stock market closed for the holiday weekend, the White House said, *All deals are off, I'm not going to negotiate on anything. My way or no way at all.* Lankford said, "All of us that were sitting there said, what was that? What just happened?"

"Speaker Boehner has told us over and over again, every negotiation he's had with the president has been that way," Lankford said. "He'll sit down one-on-one and talk through stuff, but within 24 hours, all the rules change ...."

The people who are optimistic, hoping the elections will "begin to save this country," simply have *no* evidence to support their confidence. Frankly, they do not know who they are dealing with.

In his press conference Wednesday afternoon, President Obama was polite in acknowledging the Republican victory. But he refused to admit any real need to change what he is doing. And whatever his words, watch what he *does*. The next two years promise to be bruising politically, and this president—unconcerned about reelection—is certainly not going to put away the executive pen he is increasingly using to sidestep Congress in order to enact his agenda.

Tough realities, though many people choose to ignore them, have a lot of Americans mired in disillusionment and despair. The more vigilant a person is to what is really happening within this country—geopolitically, economically and morally—the greater his cause for alarm. Still, election cycles have a remarkable tendency to create swells of optimism. Rhetoric fills the air about fixing what's broke, taking back Washington, sending a message, saving the country. Then, inevitably, the rhetoric is overtaken by reality.

The magic and enchantment that carried the current president to two election victories have largely been overtaken by disappointment. But the hope being invested in the Republican resurgence is *just as misplaced*. It is *just as certain* to end in frustration.

As the Prophet Jeremiah once wrote, "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man." Yes, *cursed*.

American *is* headed in the wrong direction. But Republicans won't be able to steer it right. The country *does* need saving. But *no* politicians will be able to deliver. The nation is being *cursed* for placing its trust in man.

Jeremiah continued: "*Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.*" In whom have you placed *your* trust?

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