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THE TRUMPET WEEKLY

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The Legal Problems of Illegal Immigration Amnesty

BY JOEL HILLIKER

UNITED STATES President Barack Obama made an executive decree to grant amnesty for 4.7 million illegal immigrants on Thursday night. In doing so, he broke the trust of immigrants trying to enter America legally, and effectively encouraged more illegal immigration. He also broke the law.

This executive action became the latest and one of the most significant in a series of actions the president has taken that break the Constitution's restraints on his presidential powers. And in this case, it also blatantly contravened his *own* repeatedly stated admission that such a move would be unlawful.

A year ago during a speech about immigration, the president told a crowd, "[I]f, in fact, I could solve all these problems without passing laws in Congress, then I would do so. But we're also a nation of laws." To those who pressed him to take unilateral action on immigration, the president said, "That's not how our system works. That's not how our democracy functions. That's not how our Constitution is written."

Yet now the administration has discovered new legal justification for such action. (It says the Department of Homeland Security only has resources to deport 400,000 illegal immigrants a year;

see AMNESTY page 12



U.S. President Barack Obama delivers remarks on the new steps he will take with his executive authority on immigration on November 21.



STEPHEN FLURRY

Jihad in Jerusalem

THE TRUMPET DAILY | November 20

Palestinians murder Jews in synagogue—
and why this is more than just a local crime.



Jews Murdered in Jerusalem Attack

Brent Nagtegaal | November 18

AT 7:01 a.m. on Tuesday, the ritual hum of morning prayers in a West Jerusalem synagogue was jarringly interrupted when two Palestinian terrorists stormed the sacred house. Armed with guns, axes and a meat cleaver, they murdered four Jews and injured eight others in Jerusalem's worst terrorist attack since 2008. A police officer later died from his wounds.

The savage rampage occurred in the ultra-Orthodox neighborhood of Har Nof. It lasted seven minutes as the terrorists went from room to room striking as many people as they could. According to one eyewitness, some of the victims were shot "in the head from point-blank range." Another saw people lying on the floor in pools of blood. "There were people running from the synagogue and a man sitting on the pavement covered in blood; it looked like he had been stabbed," said another

eyewitness. "Two people came out with their faces half missing, looking like they'd been attacked with knives."

"The scene was very complex and difficult," said a spokesman for the Israeli Identification, Extraction and Rescue volunteers, who first entered the grisly scene. "People were lying dead with their tefillin and prayer shawls," indicating they were praying as they were attacked.

In Tuesday's attack, the two terrorists, Rasan and Oudiai abu Jamal, cousins from an East Jerusalem neighborhood, did not fire indiscriminately into a crowd of worshipers. Rather, they ran up to the victims, shooting them point-blank.

The attackers were reportedly affiliated with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. However, no terrorist group has claimed the attack.

While many world leaders quickly denounced the horrific act perpetrated against the Jews, almost as horrid as the attack itself was the reporting by Western media outlets. In what could only be a serious mistake, CNN displayed the

headline "Deadly Attack on Jerusalem Mosque" while interviewing Mayor of Jerusalem Nir Barkat. Canada's CBC News first tweeted the breaking news by reporting only that Jerusalem police shot two people after an "apparent synagogue attack," failing to mention the Jews killed by the terrorists.

This deadly terrorist attack is just the latest event in the ratcheting up of tension and violence in Jerusalem over the past three months. For more information, read ["A Third Intifada in Jerusalem—Happening Now?"](#)

A Deal With Two Devils

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT | November 18

NOTHING BETTER showcases Washington's confusion over foreign policy than the idea that—as part of a U.S.-Iran nuclear deal—Iran would ship much or all of its enriched uranium to Russia, and Russia would then process it for Iranian civilian usage.

Were the U.S.-led "P5+1" negotiators ... to reach a deal with Iran with this provision, the United States would subjugate its national security and that of its allies to two U.S. adversaries, both of which are undermining U.S. interests around the world.

In addition, Washington would further legitimize Tehran and Moscow as good-faith actors that adhere to global norms and can be valuable partners with the United States, all evidence to the contrary notwithstanding.

The proposal for Iran to ship its enriched uranium to Russia, which is under consideration in the negotiations that restart this week and face a November 24 deadline, is designed to assure the world that Iran cannot quickly upgrade its enriched uranium to a nuclear-grade level in a quick race to a bomb. That the United States can trust Iran and Russia to play it straight, however, seems naive at best.

All in all, the U.S. quest for a deal, as reflected in its negotiations in

Iran Threatens to Flood Gaza With ‘Millions’ of Iranian Fighters

INN | November 19

THE HEAD of Iran’s Basij paramilitary force has claimed it is raising an army of “millions” to flood Gaza and Syria to support Tehran’s allies.

Fars, Iran’s semi-official newspaper, reported ... Brig. Gen. Mohammad Reza Naqdi, commander of the Basij paramilitary force, as saying: “Millions of Basijis (volunteer forces) are ready in Iran to be dispatched to Syria and Gaza, and they have come to us (for registration).”

Iran’s Basij forces are much feared inside the country and known for their brutality in quashing anti-government dissent. They were highly utilized during Iran’s violent repression of the student protests in the wake of the Iranian elections of 2009.

Thousands of Iranian volunteers—mostly tied with Iran’s Revolutionary Guards force—are already reportedly fighting alongside pro-regime forces in Syria, where Iran is attempting to forge a Syrian Hezbollah composed of Shia Islamist foot soldiers.

Brigadier General Naqdi’s threat to inundate Gaza, and even Judea and Samaria if possible, with Iranian militiamen comes on the heels of Iran’s Supreme Leader Khamenei’s call to arm the “West Bank just like Gaza.”

In fact, Brigadier General Naqdi himself elaborated on

Iran’s plans to arm its Hamas and Islamic Jihad allies in the West Bank just as it has in Gaza stating that: “The most serious job is that they need to receive the necessary training and skills; as today, Gaza has its own defensive industry and they have stood on their feet, we also try to implement the same plan in the West Bank, God willing.”

In July 2014, after the recent 50-day Hamas-Israel conflict, Ayatollah Khamenei first publicly emphasized that, “We believe the West Bank, too, should be armed just like Gaza, and those who are interested in the fate of the Palestinians must work in this respect so that the pains and miseries of the Palestinian people will be decreased due to their mighty hands and the weakness of the Zionist enemy.”

Since Khamenei’s call to arm terrorists in Judea and Samaria, numerous other Iranian military leaders have publicly repeated the Iranian supreme leader’s directive to “arm the West Bank just like Gaza.” ... Although threats to send “millions” of volunteers to Gaza to fight Israel are little more than bluster, it—along with threats to accelerate efforts to arm terrorists in Judea and Samaria—highlights a serious flaw in the conventional “wisdom” that a “two-state solution” will lessen the Palestinian demographic problem presented to Israel by maintaining the status quo. ...

recent months, bespeaks a posture that makes Washington look desperate and, thus, makes a good deal from the U.S. standpoint less likely. ...

Russia’s actions in Ukraine, NATO’s top commander said recently, “represent a clear decision by Moscow to reject the fundamental principles that have shaped international security over the past 25 years.”

So, for a final nuclear deal, the United States is considering a proposal to enable the outlaw nation of Russia to work with the outlaw nation of Iran to prevent the latter from developing nuclear weaponry.

That seems more than a little risky.

Related: [“Just What Is Iran Up To?”](#)

Syria Economy ‘Set Back Decades’ by War

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE | November 19

SYRIA’S ONCE-PROMISING economy has been set back more than 30

years by its brutal civil war, economists say, and it may never recover.

Squeezed by sanctions and the fallout of the more than three-year-old conflict, the government faces dwindling revenues and is increasingly dependent on aid from key allies Iran and Russia.

Inflation is in the double digits, half the population is unemployed and international trade has plummeted.

“We’ve lost a decade in terms of human development indicators, and in terms of the economy today, it’s back to the size it was in the 1980s,” said Bassel Kaghadou, a UN official working on ways to rebuild Syria’s society and economy.

“Syria as it was will never exist again. The economy will be smaller. The population will be smaller,” said Kaghadou, program director of the National Agenda for the Future of Syria. ...

“The opportunity [to rebuild Syria in the future] is slipping away by the day,” Kaghadou said.

Related: [“How the Syrian Crisis Will End”](#)

Khamenei Gives Nine Reasons Why Iran Is Not Moderate

Callum Wood | November 19

IRANIAN SUPREME Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei listed nine reasons why the West needs to see beyond the moderate farce peddled by President Hassan Rouhani. In a November 9 tweet, Khamenei posted a table listing nine questions on how and why Israel should be wiped off the map. This came as Iran and the West appear closer than they have been since the 1970s. It also came on the 76th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

Regarding the question on what the elimination of Israel meant to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, Khamenei believes, “The only means of bringing Israeli crimes to an end is the elimination of this regime.” In case this causes anyone concern, Khamenei reassures that “the elimination of Israel does not mean the massacre of the Jewish people in this region.” But before you think this means he wants peace, he said that “the West

Bank should be armed like Gaza, and those who are interested in Palestine's destiny should take action to arm the people of the West Bank."

Consider what happened when Gaza was allowed to arm. The West Bank covers an area over 15 times the size of the Gaza Strip, and it extends up to the foothills of Jerusalem. Any

bombardment from the West Bank would make Israel's opportunity to defend against rockets untenable.

With the P5+1 nations only days away from the nuclear agreement deadline, anything that might rock the boat of Western-Iranian relations is ignored. That includes statements like "resolute and armed resistance is the

cure of this ruinous regime"—another gem in the ayatollah's list.

The ayatollah's thoughts on how to destroy Israel are about as blatant as could be. If the West refuses to wake up to Iranian extremism with such compelling evidence, what will it take?

[Iranian nuclear weapons? War in Jerusalem?](#)

EUROPE

Merkel Concerned About Russian Influence in the Balkans

SPiegel | November 17

BERLIN HAS begun to see Moscow as an adversary rather than as a potential partner. The German government is concerned about efforts by Russian President Vladimir Putin to increase his influence in the Balkans. Stopping him, however, could prove difficult.

It is a fundamental principle of German foreign policy that talks are the best way to solve diplomatic problems. Such was the rationale behind Gernot Erler's recent trip to Moscow to speak with Russian parliamentarians about the ongoing Ukraine-related difficulties. Erler is the German government's Russia liaison, and he has spent much of his political career working towards better relations between Germany and Russia. But his recent trip to the Russia capital was a painful one. There was no one in parliament who was willing to speak with him.

For Erler, the message was clear: Russia is no longer particularly interested in dialogue. That is true for simple parliamentarians just as it is for Vladimir Putin. The Russian president still, to be sure, speaks regularly with Angela Merkel. But the chancellor believes that what Putin says and what Putin does have long since diverged. ...

[German] Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier,

who sought to establish a "positive agenda" with Moscow when he took office, is particularly frustrated. In recent weeks, Steinmeier has complained several times of significant breaches of trust perpetrated by the Russians and says he doesn't foresee relations with Moscow normalizing any time soon. Merkel is of the same opinion.

From the perspective of Berlin, Russia has gone from being a difficult partner to being an adversary within just one year. ...

What's more, the Kremlin last week expelled Sabine Stöhr, a long-time employee of the German Embassy in Moscow. ...

The fundamental problem from a Western standpoint is the fact that the desire for escalation and the ability to do so is not divided equally. Putin appears prepared to promote Russian interests in his neighborhood economically, politically and, if necessary, militarily. The West doesn't have much to offer in response—and it is completely unwilling to go to war for Ukraine or Moldova. Even the economic sanctions against Russia are controversial in Germany and elsewhere in the European Union. ...

Germany, Italy to Keep Soldiers in Afghanistan

REUTERS | November 19

GERMANY AND Italy plan to keep a total of up to 1,350 soldiers in Afghanistan in 2015 to help train local armed forces, their defense ministries said on Tuesday, a slightly larger contingent than had been previously expected.

After more than a decade of combat operations in Afghanistan, where Taliban insurgents remain a major

security threat, NATO plans to refocus next year on its core mission of defending Europe and North America. ...

Germany aims to retain up to 850 soldiers in Afghanistan, a German Defense Ministry spokesman said, while Italy will go with an average of about 500, according to the defense minister. ...

The German spokesman confirmed a *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* report that the number had been revised up slightly, saying this was because the German military would continue to be responsible for the international mission in

northern Afghanistan.

Related: ["The Whirlwind Prophecy"](#)

Ukraine Closing Offices, Banks in East

WASHINGTON POST | November 15

UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT Petro Poroshenko issued several decrees Saturday to shut state institutions

German Hooligans Declare War on Islam

KIALL LORENZ | November 18

GERMAN SOCCER hooligans and neo-Nazis allied together on October 26 under the banner “Hooligans Against Salafists” to protest Islam. The violence sent shock waves throughout Germany.

The streets of Cologne succumbed to chaos as approximately 4,800 extremists raged through them, throwing bottles at police and stores. The 1,300 police officers were unable to subdue the violent mob. The protesters injured more than 40 officers and damaged several police cars.

The protest marked the largest display of right-wing extremism in Germany since the 1990s when, following the reunification of East and West Germany, extremists attacked foreigners.

Hooligans from rival football clubs put aside their differences to unite against a perceived common enemy: radical Salafists, who are introducing Islamic sharia law to Germany. Currently, 3 to 3.5 million Muslims live in Germany.

“These groups are marginal but dangerous phenomena, as they have an insatiable, boundless hunger for violence,” Hajo Funke, a political scientist at Berlin’s Free University, said. “The issue of Salafism and Islam, which society hasn’t fully digested yet, is an easy prey for them.”

This display of right-wing extremism was not an isolated event. German right-wing extremism has increased steadily over the last few years. In February 2012, security officials received evidence regarding the alliance of opposing hooligan groups and their drift to the right.

Speaking of their fight against Islam, one hooligan forum member posted in a chat room, “The grannies will love us.” A yearning is growing in Germany for someone to stand up to Islam. Germans want protection from the perceived Islamic threat. Far-right extremists get support because they promise to provide that protection.

While right-wing extremists are a minority of the German population, this violent protest shows how quickly people can come together when confronted with a common enemy. The “Hooligans Against Salafists” had several more protests planned throughout Germany. Those were subsequently canceled after the Cologne protest. One of the planned protests had received 3,700 attendee notices.

To understand why this escalation of violence is significant and where it is ultimately leading, read the chapter titled “The Resurgence of Nazi Germany” from our booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.

and banking services in pro-Russian eastern regions, pressing a move to cut links with the rebel-held territory.

Ukraine has cut all state funding to separatist parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions after separatists held elections that Poroshenko condemned as illegal and in violation of a cease-fire pact made in September. The rebels say Ukraine violated the deal by

moving to revoke a law granting the regions autonomy, putting an already fragile accord in doubt.

A decree posted on the president’s website said all state companies, institutions and organizations should end their work within a week and “evacuate workers, with their permission, [and] where possible, remove property and documents.”

The ruling, which formally asks parliament to revoke the “special status” of the regions, also suggests Ukraine’s central bank take measures to close down all banking services in certain parts of separatist-held areas, including card operations. ...

Related: [“The Fight for Ukraine”](#)

ASIA

China Flaunts Stolen American Technology

KIALL LORENZ | November 17

CHINA’S MILITARY hosted a major arms show on November 12 in the southern city of Zhuhai. The main attraction of the event was the debut of China’s new J-31 stealth fighter jet, China’s second radar-evading warplane.

China’s decision to unveil it during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit was no coincidence. The J-31 fighter jet happens to

be a well-known product of stolen Lockheed Martin F-35 Joint Strike Fighter technology.

For China to showcase this jet during U.S. President Barack Obama’s summit was a slap in America’s face. While America’s president calls for a halt on cyberattacks, China flaunts the fruits of its cyberhandiwork.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported, “Having pilfered terabytes of data about the F-35’s design and operational capabilities, Beijing scheduled the J-31’s maiden flight as if to underscore that it robs America blind with impunity.”

In a U.S. Department of Defense report about China’s military developments this year, the Pentagon said the stealth fighter aircraft is vital for China’s air force to evolve from mostly territorial armed forces to developing the ability to launch both offensive and defensive operations.

Experts have said that the development of the J-31 stealth aircraft will allow China to launch both offensive and defensive operations. This could prove decisive as China seeks to project its power throughout the East China and South China seas region.

Russia's Military Much More Powerful Than Five Years Ago

RUSSIAN INSIDER | November 19

THE RUSSIAN military suffered years of neglect after the Soviet collapse and no longer casts the shadow of a global superpower. However, the Russian armed forces are in the midst of a historic overhaul with significant consequences for Eurasian politics and security.

Russian officials say the reforms are necessary to bring a Cold War-era military into the 21st century, but many Western analysts fear they will enable Moscow to pursue a more aggressive foreign policy, often relying on force to coerce its weaker neighbors.

Some say Russian interventions in Georgia in 2008 and Ukraine in 2014—both former Soviet republics seeking closer ties to the West—demonstrate that President Vladimir Putin is prepared to use military force to reestablish Russian hegemony in its near abroad.

What are Russian conventional military capabilities?

Both in terms of troops and weapons, Russian conventional forces dwarf those of its Eastern European and Central Asian neighbors ... many of which are relatively weak ex-Soviet republics closely allied with Moscow.

Russia has a military pact with Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan through the Collective Security Treaty Organization, formed in 1992. Moscow also stations significant troops in the region: Armenia (3,200), Georgia's breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia (7,000), Moldova's separatist Transnistria region (1,500), Kyrgyzstan (500), and Tajikistan (5,000).

As part of defense reforms, most Russian ground forces are to be professionalized and reorganized into formations of a few thousand troops for low- and medium-intensity conflicts. But for the foreseeable future, many will remain one-year conscripts with limited training (military service is compulsory for Russian men ages 18 to 27).

The Airborne Assault Forces, which comprises about 35,000 troops and whose commander answers directly to Putin, is Russia's elite crisis-reaction force. A Special Operations Command, also a reserve of Putin, was created in 2013 to manage special operators outside Russian borders.

Moscow is intent on remilitarizing its Arctic territory and is restoring Soviet-era airfields and ports to help protect important hydrocarbon resources and shipping lanes. (Russia has the world's largest fleet of icebreakers, which are regularly required to navigate these waters.) In late 2013, Putin ordered the creation of a new strategic military command in the Russian Arctic. ...

Russia's vast nuclear arsenal remains on par with the United States and is the country's only residual great power feature, military experts say. Moscow has about 1,500 strategic warheads on deployed intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarines and heavy bombers.

These numbers comply with the so-called New START treaty with the United States, which came into force February 2011. Russia is also believed to have some 2,000 non-strategic (also referred to as tactical, theater or battlefield) nuclear warheads.

China's ongoing theft of American trade and military secrets exposes America's cyberweakness.

Putin: U.S. 'Will Never Subjugate Russia'

TELEGRAPH | November 18

VLADIMIR PUTIN issued a defiant message to the West on Tuesday, accusing the United States of trying to "subjugate" Russia while promising it would never succeed.

The Russian president also appeared to channel Al Capone, the Chicago mobster, when he joked that "weapons and politeness" were more effective than "politeness alone."

Meeting supporters at a forum in Moscow, Mr. Putin corrected another speaker who said that the United States wanted to humiliate Russia.

"They don't want to humiliate us,

they want to subjugate us, to solve their problems at our expense," he said. "They want to bring us under control." Mr. Putin added: "Throughout history no one has ever succeeded in doing that to Russia, and they never will."

The president was speaking to members of the All-Russia People's Front, a coalition of groups that back him.

His characteristically sharp-tongued delivery suggested Mr. Putin was keen to dispel any idea that he had been cowed at the G-20 summit in Brisbane over the weekend, which he left early after a series of Western leaders upbraided him over Russia's military intervention in the Ukraine crisis.

Before his speech on Tuesday, the Russian leader was shown a new military vehicle described as a cross between a car and an armored personnel carrier.

Manufacturers had jokingly labeled the vehicles "polite armored cars"—in reference to "the polite people," a

phrase that became popular in the spring to describe the Russian soldiers who led the Kremlin's takeover of Ukraine's Crimea Peninsula.

On seeing the machine, Mr. Putin quipped: "You can get a lot more done with weapons and politeness than you can with politeness alone."

Putin Backs Deeper Ties With North Korea

REUTERS | November 19

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin called on Wednesday for deeper ties with North Korea to improve regional security, a day after holding talks with a personal envoy of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. ...

The Kremlin gave no details of Putin's meeting on Tuesday with Choe Ryong Hae, a close aide to Kim and a senior official from the ruling Workers'

Russian Military Exercises on NATO's Doorstep

ASSOCIATED PRESS | November 14

CAMOUFLAGE-CLAD RUSSIAN soldiers parachute from the sky, armored vehicles fire live rounds on an open field after being dropped from military transport jets, and helicopters fire missiles against enemy positions.

Although the flat terrain resembles the Ukrainian war zones, this is not an armed Russian intervention against its neighbor. It's the first-ever joint Serb-Russian military exercise in Serbia, the Balkan country that has been performing a delicate balancing act in between its Slavic ally Russia and Western Europe, with which Belgrade wants to integrate.

The "antiterrorist" drill on Friday—the first such by the Russians outside the former Soviet Union—of elite Russian troops in northern Serbia, not far from NATO-member Croatia, has stirred controversy both here and abroad.

Serbia's government wants to try and keep everyone

happy," said prominent Balkan political analyst Tim Judah. "So, the U.S. helps finance and modernize Serbia's army, while now Serbian soldiers train with Russians. In normal times there would be little to say about this, but post-Crimea, these are not normal times anymore."

Although Serbian officials say they respect Ukraine's territorial integrity and do not support Russia's annexation of Crimea, they have refused to impose sanctions against Russia like the EU and the U.S. have. ...

The show of Russian military might in a country seeking to join the European Union comes as Russia, blamed by the West for fomenting the Ukraine crisis, tries to increase the Kremlin's presence in the Balkans. ...

Russian President Vladimir Putin was in Belgrade last month where he received a hero's welcome that included a Soviet-style military parade. ...

Party, who is on a seven-day trip to Russia.

But receiving the credentials of North Korea's new ambassador to Russia, Putin said during a televised Kremlin ceremony: "We maintain friendly relations with one of our neighbors, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea." ...

Japan to Militarily Help Philippines, Myanmar

NIKKEI | November 15

JAPAN'S MINISTRY of Defense will begin assisting Myanmar and the Philippines with training military personnel in disaster relief and maritime security by March 2015.

The ministry, hoping to boost bilateral ties, will dispatch members of the Self-Defense Force (SDF) to teach military members in the two countries about rescue operations, reconstruction work and other activities. The move is part of Japan's efforts to strengthen security cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in the face of China's rising maritime presence in the region.

In addition to dispatching SDF members, the ministry will invite military personnel from the two countries to visit Japan for instruction in such areas as road and public facility

maintenance, underwater rescue, and marine chart drawing. ...

Defense ministers from Japan and ASEAN will hold their first meeting on November 19 in Bagan, central Myanmar. ...

Russia, China to Discuss Military Cooperation Priorities

ITAR-TASS | November 17

RUSSIAN DEFENSE Minister Sergey Shoigu has arrived on an official visit in China, where he will meet the republic's military and government officials and participate in a meeting of the Russian-Chinese commission for military-technical cooperation, a defense ministry spokesman said on Monday.

"During his stay in Beijing, the Russian defense minister will hold talks with Chinese Defense Minister Gen. Chang Wanquan. It is expected that the Russian defense minister will be received by Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang," said the ministry official, Gen.-Maj. Igor Konashenkov, who is accompanying Shoigu on his trip.

"Under discussion at the meeting will be current issues of international and regional security, and bilateral military and military-technical cooperation," Konashenkov said. ...

"During the session, there are plans to consider results of the commission's work over the past year and determine priority tasks for further cooperation between Russia and China in the military-technical sphere," Konashenkov said.

Related: "Asia Stands With Putin"

TW IN BRIEF

■ China's expanding military cooperation

China was busy this week strengthening its military cooperation with other nations. On Monday, India and China began a 12-day joint military exercise despite the tense border disputes between the two. The next day, high-ranking Chinese and Russian officials vowed to deepen military-industrial cooperation. Both countries are planning to conduct joint naval exercises in the Pacific Ocean and Mediterranean Sea early next year. Both of these meetings followed last week's meeting between China and Pakistan, where they discussed greater military, especially air force, cooperation between the two countries. China is slowly increasing its sphere of military influence throughout Asia and beyond.

Boom to Bust: Australia's Housing Bubble Crisis

Callum Wood | November 20

IF YOU'RE looking for that iconic home among the gum trees with a sheep or two and a kangaroo, you'd better be prepared to pay. According to Australia's Bureau of Statistics, house prices have risen over the past 12 months in every capital city except Darwin.

Sydney experienced the most dramatic increase at 7.2 percent over the last year. The median house price in Sydney now eclipses AU\$1 million (US\$861,000). Combined, the capitals experienced an average climb of 4.6 percent, with mean prices sitting at just over AU\$755,000.

Even those who gave up the classic home on the waterfront idea, turning to owning a unit, the prospects aren't great. In Sydney, a unit still costs over AU\$569,000—having risen 9.3 percent over the past year.

Part of the reason for [Australia's sky-high house prices](#) is that the nation's economy didn't fall as hard as it did in many other nations during the financial crisis of 2007-2008. That is where the real danger lies. As bad as it may be when people can't afford to own houses, society will suffer more when the prices fall.

The history of 2007-2008 shows that plummeting house prices are a harbinger of recession. Australia's housing market is far out of sync with the rest of the economy. This is the hallmark of a housing bubble.

When the U.S. crashed in 2008, Australia experienced a dip in house prices, but not the same plunge. Grants to first-time homeowners, stimulus packages, a booming mine industry and foreign investment led to a quick turnaround. Today, however, Australia's housing market is

precariouly perched on a much higher ledge. Had it fallen in 2008, it would have hurt. If it falls now, it will be excruciating.

Economic analyst Mike Shedlock says Australia's housing bubble "exceeds the height of the bubble that long ago burst in the U.S."

So how long until bust?

Housing prices cannot be sustained at their current level of growth. It mirrors the housing bubble that caused California home prices to nosedive. As *Trumpet* columnist Robert Morley warned in 2010, "Pay close attention, Australia. Los Angelification is coming to a city near you."

Yet new homes are still being built. Aussies are still taking out lifelong loans to buy a house, hoping prices will continue to rise so they can sell the house and pocket the excess. But people are buying outside their means. Half the residents in Sydney are paying for AU\$1 million-plus houses. How many own those homes outright?

The latest reports from the Bureau of Statistics warn just how inflated Australia's housing bubble is. Whether it pops today, tomorrow or a year from now, one thing is certain: The longer the prices inflate, the more it will hurt when the pressure is applied.

Read Robert Morley's article "[Is Australia's Housing Bubble Bigger Than America's?](#)" It explains the condemning parallels between Australia's burgeoning housing market and that of the now-collapsed market in California. And just as markets in America fell, so too will they fall in Australia. And they will fall hard.

U.S.-China Emissions Deal: The Media Got It Wrong

THE TRUMPET.COM | November 20

WESTERN MEDIA rejoiced over the United States' and China's "historic" agreement to decrease carbon emissions. The deal, made at last week's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, was called a "game-changer" and a "breakthrough."

The media's vision is at best myopic. For starters, this agreement is unlikely to create any new obligations for China.

Together, America and China produce 45 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. America agreed to

reduce emission levels by 26 to 28 percent by 2025. China, in response, said its emission levels would peak by 2030, and then begin to decline. In reality, [this likely means no change for China](#).

"[I]n many ways, it simply locks in the status quo," wrote Kenneth P. Green, senior director of the Center for Natural Resources at the Fraser Institute. "China gets to emit as much as it wants for the next 15 years, while the U.S. continues its regulatory crusade to cut U.S. carbon emissions. There's no stipulated ceiling for Chinese emissions—the sky is the limit until 2030."

The kicker is, in this "historic" deal, China actually agreed to hit an emissions peak *that it already expected to hit*. In 2012, China predicted its greenhouse gas emissions would peak in 2030.

While this deal requires much from the United States, China's "obligations" are potentially nonexistent.

Making the media's exultant coverage even more out-of-touch was the fact that it paled in comparison to another international agreement that China forged—one far more important, and which attracted a fraction of the media's focus.

Even as U.S. President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping made their lopsided agreement, Mr. Xi and Russian President Vladimir Putin struck a deal that actually *was* historic: a second gas pipeline from Russia to China.

In May, Putin and Xi had inked a mammoth gas supply agreement worth \$400 billion. Less than six

Muslim Groups Seek to Co-opt Ferguson Protests

FOX NEWS | November 18

MUSLIM GROUPS have stepped up efforts to co-opt protests over the fatal shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, with a drive to equate the teen's death to the death of a radical Islamist shot during an FBI raid in 2009, a Washington-based security watchdog group is warning.

Using social media, conference calling and traditional outreach methods, leaders of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) are portraying Brown and Detroit mosque leader Imam Luqman Ameen Abdullah as African-American victims of police targeting, according to the Washington-based Center for Security Policy (CSP). In a conference call organized by CAIR-linked "Muslims for Ferguson, a CAIR official called Abdullah a 'Shaheed,' or martyr, and said both he and Brown were victims of a national security apparatus that had 'completely gone wild' and engaged in 'demonizing and criminalizing Muslims.'

"The reality is that this country, in law enforcement, be it local, state or federal law enforcement, people with guns have always seen black men and black people as threats," Dawud Walid, executive director of CAIR's Michigan

Chapter, told the some 100 protest organizers on the call, made on the five-year anniversary of Abdullah's death and which was monitored by CSP.

Walid claimed Brown was a Muslim, although when pressed, Walid denied he had made such a claim. Brown was buried in August after a memorial service at the Friendly Temple Missionary Baptist Church in St. Louis.

Linking Brown and Abdullah, who federal prosecutors say was a separatist intent on overthrowing the U.S. government, is part of a wider effort to co-opt minority group support for causes they promote, according to Kyle Shideler, director of CSP's Threat Information Office. One such cause is to reduce police scrutiny of the American Muslim community in terror-related matters.

"They're interested in building coalitions with other organizations in order to effect a legislative change to weaken antiterrorism laws and weaken the ability of law enforcement to engage in counterterrorism," said Shideler. "And they're trying to bring other people into their efforts so it doesn't look like it is just a Muslim effort." ...

months later, they did it again. On November 9, the two leaders signed this second immense deal.

It is hard to comprehend the size and significance of these deals. To start with, they are the two largest business transactions in human history.

They mark notable progress in [Russia and China's relationship in recent months](#).

Expect China and Russia to continue to turn their backs on the West, drawing closer to each other. The Bible prophesies about this relationship—which will include other Asian nations—calling it a league of the "kings of the east." Our booklet [Russia and China in Prophecy](#) explains: "In the next few years, there will be a staggering turn in world events! A giant Asian superpower, with a modernized Russia and China at the helm, will dramatically affect the course of history. This emerging power bloc—a conglomerate of peoples which comprise one fourth of the world's population—will be deeply involved in the tumultuous tide of events that will lead to the conclusion of mankind's 6,000 years of self-rule!"

The Western media's myopic focus fails to see the significance of deals

between Russia and China and how they undermine the United States. Watch these Asian juggernauts become a massive power bloc. To learn more about the Russia-China alliance, request our free booklet [Russia and China in Prophecy](#).

China Can Shut Down Our Power Grids

ASSOCIATED PRESS | November 20

CHINA AND "one or two" other countries are capable of mounting cyberattacks that would shut down the electric grid and other critical systems in parts of the United States, according to Adm. Michael Rogers, director of the National Security Agency and head of U.S. Cyber Command.

The possibility of such cyberattacks by U.S. adversaries has been widely known, but never confirmed publicly by the nation's top cyberofficial.

At a hearing of the House Intelligence Committee, Rogers said U.S. adversaries are performing electronic "reconnaissance" on a regular basis so that they can be in a position to disrupt the industrial control systems

that run everything from chemical facilities to water treatment plants.

"All of that leads me to believe it is only a matter of when, not if, we are going to see something dramatic," he said. ...

In cyberspace, "You can literally do almost anything you want, and there is not a price to pay for it," the NSA director said. ...

Senator: Violence After Immigration Order?

USA TODAY | November 20

OKLAHOMA SEN. Tom Coburn warns there could be not only a political firestorm, but acts of civil disobedience and even violence in reaction to President Obama's executive order on immigration Thursday.

"The country's going to go nuts, because they're going to see it as a move outside the authority of the president, and it's going to be a very serious situation," Coburn said on Capital Download. "You're going to see—hopefully not—but you could see instances of anarchy. ... You could see violence." ...

On immigration, he accuses



The Day of the Lord Hastens Greatly

THE KEY OF DAVID | November 21

The book of Revelation describes in detail a time just ahead of us: 'the day of the Lord.'

GERALD FLURRY



Obama of acting like “an autocratic leader that’s going to disregard what the Constitution says and make law anyway.” He says changes in immigration policy require passage by Congress, not just the president’s signature—a charge the White House disputes and on which legal experts disagree.

“Instead of having the rule of law handling in our country today, now we’re starting to have the rule of rulers, and that’s the total antithesis of what this country was founded on,” Coburn says. “Here’s how people think: Well, if the law doesn’t apply to the president ... then why should it apply to me?” ...

Cameron: ‘Red Lights’ Flashing on Global Economy

WASHINGTON POST | November 17

IN A starkly downbeat assessment, British Prime Minister David Cameron has written that the world’s economy could be headed for another fall.

“Six years on from the financial crash that brought the world to its

knees, red warning lights are once again flashing on the dashboard of the global economy,” Cameron writes in a piece published Monday in Britain’s *Guardian* newspaper.

The prime minister cites a euro-zone economy that is “teetering on the brink of a possible third recession, with high unemployment, falling growth and the real risk of falling prices too.” He also references emerging market economies that “were the driver of growth in the early stages of the recovery” but are now slowing, as well as stalled trade talks, instability in the Middle East, war in Ukraine, and the spread of Ebola.

The bleak prognosis comes at the end of the Group of 20 summit in Brisbane, Australia, where leaders of the world’s biggest economies struggled with strategies for kick-starting growth. ...

But Europe is hardly the only sick patient. Government figures released Monday in Japan showed that the world’s third-largest economy has unexpectedly fallen back into recession, with GDP shrinking by 1.6 percent for the quarter.

Cameron’s decision to issue his warning may be motivated, at least in part, by domestic political challenges.

He will face voters in less than six months, and Britain’s economic recovery since he took office amid a recession in 2010 is at the core of his campaign for another five years in office.

By forecasting gloom for the globe, Cameron may be helping to manage expectations for a scenario in which Britain’s economy also begins to flag.

The British economy has been relatively robust this year, especially compared with much of continental Europe. In his *Guardian* piece, Cameron deems Britain the fastest-growing economy in the Group of Seven, with official forecasts of 3.5 percent growth for 2014. ...

Labor has argued that despite economic growth and falling unemployment, wages have stagnated and the benefits of recovery have been concentrated too heavily among the country’s wealthiest.

“We cannot insulate ourselves completely, but we must do all we can to protect ourselves from a global downturn,” Cameron writes. “Working through the agenda at the G-20, it was clearer than ever how vital it is that we stick to our long-term plan.”

Related: “Europe’s Beating Heart”

The Gruber Confession

Charles Krauthammer | November 13

IT’S NOT exactly the Ems Dispatch (the diplomatic cable Bismarck doctored to provoke the 1870 Franco-Prussian War). But what the just-resurfaced Gruber Confession lacks in world-historical consequence, it makes up for in world-class cynicism. This October 2013 video shows MIT Prof. Jonathan Gruber, a principal architect of Obamacare, admitting that, in order to get it passed, the law was made deliberately obscure and deceptive. It constitutes the ultimate vindication of the charge that Obama care was sold on a pack of lies.

“Lack of transparency is a huge political advantage,” said Gruber. “Basically, call it the stupidity of the American voter or whatever, but

Obama on Israel Attack: 'Too Many Palestinians Have Died'

BREITBART | November 18

PRESIDENT OBAMA has responded to [Tuesday's] terrorist attack on a synagogue in Jerusalem in which four Israeli Jews attending morning prayers condemning the attack, and stating that "the majority of Palestinians" want peace.

In a statement delivered to the White House press pool, President Obama responded to the attack by declaring that "too many Palestinians have died," as well as Israelis, in the struggle between the State of Israel and the terrorist group Hamas and its affiliates, including the internationally active Muslim Brotherhood. "At this difficult time," the president told reports, "I think it's important for both Palestinians and Israelis to try to work together to lower tensions and reject violence."

"We have to remind ourselves that the majority of

Palestinians and Israelis overwhelmingly want peace," the statement concludes, before the president begins remarks on the Ebola crisis in West Africa. The president did not take questions.

The president's remarks follow Secretary of State John Kerry's response to the terrorist attack, in which he called "on Palestinian leadership at every single level to condemn this in the most powerful terms." Palestinian Authority head Mahmoud Abbas, on his end, nominally condemned the attack while "stressing the need to end the causes of such attacks like tensions over what Jews call the Temple Mount and Palestinians call al-Aqsa Mosque." Such a dismissal of the increasingly out-of-control terrorist activity by Palestinian extremists received the typical benefit of the doubt from mainstream media. ...

basically that was really, really critical to getting the thing to pass." This was no open-mic gaffe. It was a clear, indeed enthusiastic, admission to an academic conference of the mendacity underlying Obamacare.

First, Gruber said, the bill's authors manipulated the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which issues gold-standard cost estimates of any legislative proposal: "This bill was written in a tortured way to make sure CBO did not score the mandate as taxes." Why? Because "if CBO scored the mandate as taxes, the bill dies." And yet, the president himself openly insisted that the individual mandate—what you must pay the government if you fail to buy health insurance—was *not* a tax.

Worse was the pretense that Obama care wouldn't cost anyone anything. On the contrary, it's a win-win, insisted President Obama, promising that the "typical family" would save \$2,500 on premiums every year.

Skeptics like me pointed out the obvious: You can't subsidize 30 million uninsured without someone paying something. Indeed, Gruber admits, Obamacare was a huge transfer of wealth—which had to be hidden from the American people, because "if you had a law which ... made explicit that healthy people pay in and sick people get money, it would not have passed."

Remember: The whole premise of Obamacare was that it would help the

needy, but if you were not in need, if you liked what you had, you would be left alone. Which is why Obama kept repeating—PolitiFact counted 31 times—that "if you like your plan, you can keep your plan."

But of course you couldn't, as millions discovered when they were kicked off their plans last year. Millions more were further shocked when they discovered major hikes in their premiums and deductibles. It was their wealth that was being redistributed.

As NBC News and others reported last year, the administration knew this all along. But White House political hands overrode those wary about the president's phony promise. In fact, Obama knew the falsity of his claim as far back as February 2010, when, at a meeting with congressional leaders, he agreed that millions would lose their plans. ...

Obama's Amnesty and Foreign Workers

THE DAILY CALLER | November 20

PRESIDENT BARACK Obama's unilateral amnesty will quickly add as many foreign workers to the nation's legal labor force as the total number of new jobs created by his economy since 2009.

The plans, expected to be announced late November 20, will

distribute 5 million work permits to illegal immigrants, and also create a new inflow of foreign college graduates for prestigious salaried jobs, according to press reports.

Obama has already provided or promised almost 1 million extra work permits to foreigners, while his economy has only added 6 million jobs since 2009. ...

Obama's administration claims it has helped create 10 million jobs. If so, he is giving out one work permit for every two jobs created since his inauguration.

Not all the 5 million illegal immigrants who get permits will work, and many are already working under fake names or for cash. However, their new work permits will allow them to compete for jobs now held or sought by blue-collar Americans. ...

Currently, less than 1 percent of the nation's population of 12 million illegal immigrants are repatriated each year. Obama's policy will likely shrink the repatriations, while providing millions with work permits.

Obama's total of 6 million extra work permits does not include the normal inflow of legal immigrants.

Each year, the nation accepts 1 million new immigrants, or roughly 5 million since 2009. That total includes roughly 3.5 million working-age immigrants, which is slightly less than the number of Americans—4.3 million—who turn 18 each year. ...

AMNESTY from page 1

thus, Obama has “prosecutorial discretion” to decide who among America’s 11 million illegals they will be.) Not only does the administration now deny that its amnesty action is unlawful, but it also now *ridicules* those who disagree; those who say, “That’s not how our Constitution is written.”

The *Washington Post* (hardly a conservative paper) published an editorial saying that the president is “tear[ing] up the Constitution.” White House adviser Jennifer Palmieri derisively dismissed that statement. She said, “After two years, there’s just no credible reason to continue to ask these people to wait.” There is “no credible reason,” that is, not to take *immediate*, unilateral executive action to resolve the status of these people who entered the U.S. illegally. To this administration, not even waiting for Congress to pass a law (which is “how our system works” and “how our democracy functions,” in the president’s words) making such action legal would constitute a “credible reason.” So who determines what is “credible”? Not the Constitution—the president.

Immigration is a serious and complicated issue. There are persuasive arguments for the order the president made, and many people expressed joy and gratitude at seeing it enacted. The point is, American government is founded on the rule of law and a constitutional *process* by which such debate gets aired en route to the formation of public policy. In this case, it is *through Congress*, America’s lawmaking body.

But the president is reversing his prior position because, he says, he considers this an emergency. In his Thursday night address he argued that because the nation’s immigration system is “broken,” and because Congress hasn’t passed a law yet, he *must* act alone. In other words, America’s *democratic system* is not working, and thus, *nondemocratic* intervention must be taken.

But this is hardly the only such “emergency” the president has encountered that necessitates unilateral executive action. When Congress did not pass cap-and-trade, the president instead gave the power to enforce this unpassed law to the Environmental Protection Agency, which is under his executive control. When Congress did not pass gun control, the president signed 23 executive orders. He took similar steps in order to pass health-care reform, one of the most sweeping laws in American history. He abandoned the Defense of Marriage Act by simply ordering the executive branch to stop enforcing it. In order to sidestep needing congressional approval for a controversial executive appointment, he declared that Congress was in recess. He bypassed the legislature in order to join the NATO mission in Libya. He applied a decade-old war power to justify military action in Syria without legislative approval.

He always finds justification to do what he wants. Thursday night, President Obama invoked the authority of a *higher law* than that of the Constitution. He quoted the *law of Moses*—which says, “[T]hou shalt not oppress a stranger: for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt” (Exodus 23:9).



JOEL HILLIKER

But just as he is doing with the Constitution, the president is applying this law in a highly selective way—not to govern or even to inform his decision, but merely to rationalize it once he has made it.

It is true that America is a nation of immigrants. So was Israel anciently, to whom God gave the law that President Obama cited. Most interesting is the fact that America is actually *descended* from the tribe of Manasseh of ancient Israel. “Israel ... always did absorb Gentiles, who became Israelites through living in Israel’s land and intermarrying,” Herbert W. Armstrong wrote in *Mystery of the Ages*. “The U.S. has become known as the ‘melting pot’ of the world. Instead of refuting a Manasseh ancestry, this fact actually confirms it.”

God permitted foreigners to immigrate to Israel, and even commanded that His people treat them well, as the president noted. However, the same God who passed that law said that those who immigrated were expected to follow the laws of Israel.

If the president wants to use the Bible in order to establish immigration policy, he would do well to refer to Leviticus 24:22, which states, “You shall have the *same law* for the stranger and for one from your own country; for I am the Lord your God” (New King James Version). And Numbers 15:16: “*One law and one manner* shall be for you, and for the stranger that sojourneth with you.” This law prohibits giving special treatment to foreigners. Only those who abide by the law of the land—not who disobey it by their very presence—should be permitted to stay.

Notice another law regarding immigration in Israel, just a few verses down from the one the president quoted. After telling His people not to make covenants with people from surrounding nations, God said, “*They shall not dwell in thy land*, lest they make thee sin against me: for if thou serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto thee” (Exodus 23:33). In other words, God forbade immigration of anyone who wouldn’t accept the *religion* of the Israelites.

It is disingenuous to cite only the provision commanding kindness to immigrants without acknowledging the fact that, by law, these immigrants would have to integrate themselves culturally and even religiously.

President Obama apparently recognizes the wisdom in one of the provisions with that ancient law. But whether or not people realize it, America is suffering a number of problems and curses because it has ignored the other provisions on the subject. Our nation’s dangerous and deepening racial and cultural divisions are proof.

That Old Testament law contains a prophecy of what would happen when we disobeyed it. Deuteronomy 28:43-44 reads, “The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low. He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail.” As the president invites illegal immigrants to remain in the United States—and at the same time encourages still more illegals to join them—we can see this prophecy being fulfilled.

To learn more about the effects of a borderless America, read “[Borderline Breakdown](#).”

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