

TW

THE TRUMPET WEEKLY

NOVEMBER 28, 2014

Why is Iran moving to take over Yemen? 2

Schism deepens between Putin and Merkel 5

Sharp rise in German anti-Semitism 6

China recognizes 'Russian Crimea' 9

U.S. firms have \$3,000 incentive to hire illegals 11

No Indictment—and Toxic Racial Thinking in Ferguson

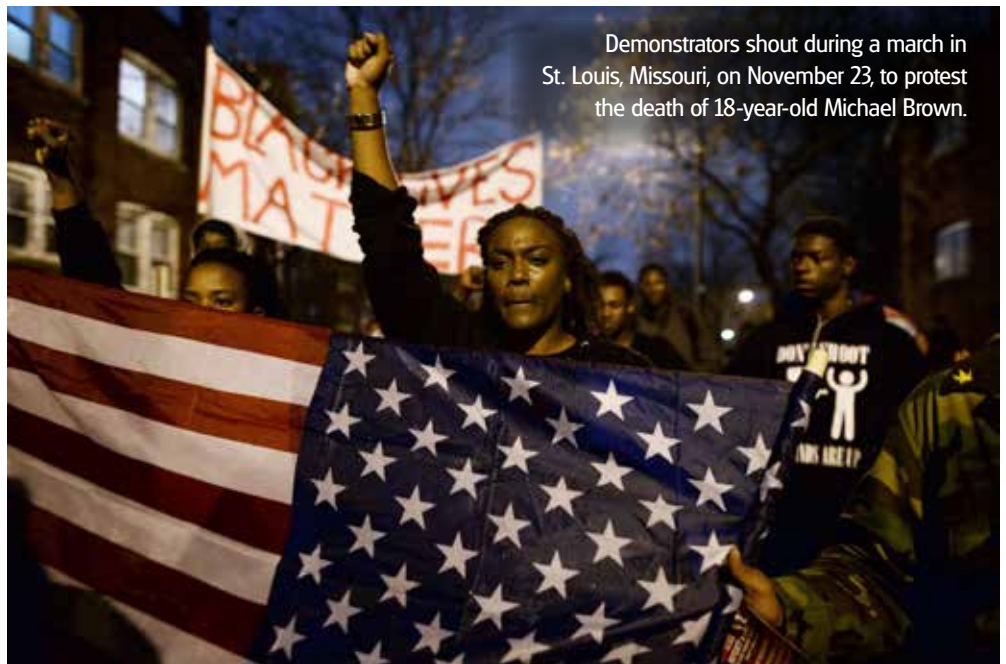
BY JOEL HILLIKER

IT WAS announced Monday night that a grand jury determined not to indict police officer Darren Wilson for fatally shooting Michael Brown last August. The jury found that Wilson shot Brown in the line of duty under credible threat against his own life. Immediately, protests began in cities across the nation.

In [Ferguson, Missouri](#), where the event occurred, the protests quickly descended into violence. More than 25 structures and 10 cars were set on fire. Officers reported facing heavy automatic gunfire, and protesters throwing molotov cocktails. One reporter was attacked by someone wearing a Guy Fawkes mask, another was hit in the head with a rock during a live broadcast, and another was chased off air by gunfire. Vandalism and looting were rampant, with even the store that Michael Brown had robbed before he was killed being looted. The Federal Aviation Administration began diverting some St. Louis-bound flights to other airports due to the reports of gunshots. At least 61 people were arrested on charges ranging from trespassing to burglary to receiving stolen property. Police also deployed tear gas on at least one location to contain rioting.

Consider why this mayhem is happening. Think about the incredibly toxic ideas that are turning this into such a volatile moment.

There are Americans who believe the reason this white



Demonstrators shout during a march in St. Louis, Missouri, on November 23, to protest the death of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

policeman killed this young black man is pure racial animus. They are sure that at the time of the killing, the black man was raising his hands in surrender, posing no threat; the policeman shot him in cold blood out of murderous hatred for blacks.

They further believe that there exists a pattern of such attacks—that blacks face regular if not continual harassment from authorities and citizens across the country—that young black men must fear, even for their lives, from whites (or even, in the case of George Zimmerman, “white Hispanics”) who are looking for any pretext to go after them.

They further believe that the grand jury’s acquittal is based on racial hostility

see [FERGUSON](#) page 12

Iran: Sultan of the Red Sea

Brent Nagtegaal | November 28

IN CASE you missed it, on September 21, the Islamic Republic of Iran expanded its foreign holdings to include Sanaa, the capital city of Yemen. That same day, Iran also took over Yemen's al-Hudaydah port, almost 100 miles southwest of Sanaa, on the eastern bank of the Red Sea.

Capturing these Yemeni strongholds indicates Iran is *right now* pushing to implement its [strategy of controlling the Red Sea](#), as previously forecast by the *Trumpet*.

To reach the Mediterranean Sea from the Indian Ocean, all seafaring trade, including 3 million barrels of oil per day, must pass through the Bab el-Mandeb Strait. Measuring just 18 miles across, the channel is the closest point between the two landmasses of central Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. The northeast edge of the strait is firmly within Yemeni territory. The strategic importance of controlling this passage is equal to controlling the Suez Canal, since both are part of the same thoroughfare.

To control this trade route, Iran needs to dominate Yemen. That is why the events of September 21 are so significant. Iran did not send its Revolutionary Guard to gain control of the country. Rather, as witnessed in Lebanon with Hezbollah, Iran activated one of its terrorist proxies to do its legwork. In Yemen, "Hezbollah" is Ansar Allah, the military wing of the Shiite Houthi tribe, which comprises 30 percent of Yemen's population. The majority of the country is Sunni.

In the two months following the capture of Yemen's capital, the Houthis entered a power-sharing agreement with the Yemeni government. Again, this is similar to what happened in Lebanon with Hezbollah. While Iran denies activating and arming the Houthis in the coup, many Iranian personalities could not help but gloat at their achievement.

"We in the axis of resistance are the new sultans of the Mediterranean and the Gulf," said Mohammed Sadeq al-Hosseini, adviser to former Iranian President Mohammed Khatami. "We in Tehran, Damascus, [Hezbollah's] southern suburb of Beirut, Baghdad and Sanaa will shape the region. We are the new sultans of the Red Sea as well."

Many nations, especially the European nations on the



other side of the Red Sea trade, are concerned by Iran's pushy moves in Yemen. In a November 4 fact sheet analyzing the Iranian takeover of Yemen, Michael Segall wrote (emphasis added): "Iran also sees Yemen as an important factor in its policy of establishing a physical Iranian presence, both ground and naval, in the countries and ports of the Red Sea littoral, which control the shipping lanes that lead from the Persian Gulf to the heart of the Middle East and onward to Europe. If the Shia rebels gain control of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, Iran can attain a foothold in this sensitive region giving access to the Red Sea and the Suez Canal, a cause of concern not only for its sworn rivals Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the Gulf states, but also for Israel and European countries along the Mediterranean.

"Arab commentators in the Gulf have warned in recent years about this *Iranian push*."

While Arab commentators may have speculated about this push in recent years, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry has warned about this [Iranian push](#) for almost a quarter of a century!

Furthermore, in 2011, the *Trumpet* alerted readers to "[Pay Attention to Yemen](#)," revealing Iran's plans for the country in light of its Red Sea strategy. As we wrote back then, "[W]hat does Iran expect to gain by establishing a strong presence in Yemen? Take a look at the accompanying map [above]. Basically, Iran wants Yemen for the same reason it wants Ethiopia, Eritrea and Egypt: TO CONTROL THE RED SEA!"

Follow Brent Nagtegaal: [Twitter](#)

Iran: The Islamic State Diverts Muslims From Palestine

ARUTZ SHEVA | November 26

AS REPORTED by Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's own website and Fars news, at a conference in Tehran on Monday, Khamenei accused [the Islamic State,] all

other Sunnis and Sunni governments, which battle any pro-Iranian Arab regimes and Shia militias, of diverting Muslims away from fighting Israel.

"The forefront of Muslims' struggle in the region was focused on the occupied Palestine [sic]," Khamenei wrote, "but the Takfiri stream changed this front line, and moved it into the streets and cities of Iraq, Syria, Pakistan and Libya." This, he stated,

"is one of the Takfiri stream's crimes which cannot be forgotten." ...

Khamenei further explained that, the "Takfiri" stream—that is, the Sunnis—and the governments that support it (principally Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf states) takes its cues from the goals of the "arrogant powers," meaning the U.S., the European governments and Israel, and "are practically at their service under an

Iran: 'Americans Have Very Clearly Surrendered'

WASHINGTON FREE BEACON | November 25

TOP IRANIAN leaders have been celebrating a recently inked extension in nuclear negotiations with the West, with leading military figures and politicians saying that the deal is a sign that the “Americans have very clearly surrendered to Iran’s might,” according to regional reports.

As negotiations in Vienna break up so that leaders from all sides can return to their countries for further deliberations, the Iranians have already begun mocking the West and insisting that the country’s nuclear rights will soon be recognized.

With a seven-month extension in talks—originally scheduled to expire on Monday—set to start in early December, nuclear experts are predicting that Iran will continue its most controversial nuclear work and likely have enough enriched fuel for a bomb by June 2015.

The “Americans have very clearly surrendered to Iran’s might, and this is obvious in their behavior in the region and in the negotiations, and the enemies’ reservations vis-à-vis Iran are completely felt,” Maj. Gen. Mohammed Ali Jafari, commander of the Iranian Revolution Guards Corps, was quoted as saying late Monday following the announcement of an extension in talks.

If the United States ever decides to launch an attack on

Iran, “our war will end by conquering Palestine,” Jafari said.

Meanwhile, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Monday in a television interview that the country’s “centrifuges will not stop,” according to a translation of his remarks.

“Today we have a victory much greater than what happened in the negotiation,” Rouhani said. “This victory is that our circumstances are not like previous years. Today we are at a point that nobody in the world [... says] sanctions must be increased in order that Iran accept P5+1 demands.”

“No one says to reach [an] agreement we must increase pressure on Iran,” Rouhani said. “But they say to reach an agreement more time and more discussion is needed. This

is a great victory for what the Iranian nation started since last June 15.” ...

Meanwhile, nuclear experts in the United States have warned that the extension will provide Iran enough time to produce enough nuclear fuel to power a bomb.

“The actual amount of less than 5 percent enriched

uranium that they’re producing per month has increased,” Greg Jones, a senior research and nuclear analyst at the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center, said in a conference call with reporters on Monday. ...

“‘And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them,’ God says about our very day in Isaiah 3:4. Later in that same passage, He blames the leaders primarily for the mess we have gotten ourselves into. ‘... O my people, they which lead thee CAUSE thee to err, and DESTROY the way of thy paths’ (verse 12).”

—Stephen Flurry, “America’s Decade of Defeat,” Dec. 2, 2011

Islamic disguise.”

Khamenei explained that even [the Islamic State] is not the root problem. ... “[The Islamic State] in reality is a manifestation of this treacherous movement.” ...

To show how nonsectarian Iran is when it comes to arming terrorist groups, Khamenei added, “The Islamic Republic of Iran, with divine grace, has not become prisoner of sectarian limitations and divisions. Just as it aids Shia Hezbollah in Lebanon it aids [the Sunni] Hamas and [the Sunni] Islamic Jihad and other Sunni groups

in Palestine and will continue this aid.”

Khamenei closed with what has been a constant theme of late: “Just as it was said earlier, the West Bank must be armed [like Gaza] and ready to defend. This will be certainly done [by Iran].” ...

Lone-Wolf Attacks in Israel?

Callum Wood | November 24

THE LATEST spike in violence in Israel has garnered a new name from the left-wing media: “lone-wolf” attacks. Further peddling the agenda of the biased media, this term is deceitful at best, murderous at worst.

Here is a quick update of attacks this month in Israel:

- An Israel Defense Forces (IDF) soldier was stabbed in Tel Aviv.
- Hours later, a woman was

stabbed to death and two others were wounded in the same attack.

- A woman and child were killed in a hit-and-run.
- Three IDF soldiers were seriously injured by another hit-and-run.
- Most recently, five Jews were killed by shooting or being hacked to death in a synagogue.

All these attacks were perpetrated by Palestinians. All happened during November.

Yet the news media was quick to label the latest murders as a “lone-wolf” attack. Such has been the predictable terminology with each event, despite the obvious similarities in both perpetrators and their means of killing.

Using the term “lone wolf” creates a scapegoat out of the murderers, alleviating blame from the shoulders of those it should rightly be placed upon: the Palestinian leadership.

The term “lone wolf” has been

“One half of Jerusalem being taken captive, [as prophesied in Zechariah 14:2,] is like the first domino to fall, leading to Christ’s return and battle against all nations in Jerusalem! It all begins and ends in Jerusalem.”
—Gerald Flurry, Jerusalem in Prophecy

Thoughts on the P5+1 Negotiations With Tehran

Daniel Pipes | November 27

THE NOVEMBER 24 deadline came and went for an agreement between the powers and the Islamic Republic of Iran; on that date, they managed only to extend the existing interim deal for another seven months. The ayatollah crowded and U.S. senators stewed. Looking beyond these responses, the current situation spurs several thoughts:

- If one assumes, as I do, that the apocalyptically-minded Iranian leadership will do everything it can to acquire the bomb, then economic sanctions only serve to slow its course, not to stop it. Put more forcefully, the debate over sanctions is peripheral and even diversionary. The arcane financial and scientific minutiae of the negotiations tend to bury the only discussion that really matters—whether or not some government will use force to reverse the nuclear program.
- That said, should the 114th Congress pass legislation

“The president is pursuing a nuclear-free world by cutting America’s nuclear program—but he also has said, ‘No single nation should pick and choose which nations hold nuclear weapons.’ So he is also increasing the likelihood that Iran will finish building its own nuclear bombs! Meanwhile ... the Obama administration is being very careless with hundreds of nuclear bombs that America has stored in Europe and in Turkey—bombs that could easily be used against us.”

**—Gerald Flurry, “Europe’s Nuclear Secret,”
Trumpet, January 2014**

with a veto-proof majority, this would be an unprecedented blow against [U.S. President] Barack Obama and would presumably serve as a low-water mark of his presidency. But this signal event for American domestic politics is unlikely to affect the Iranian program.

- Some governments (Russian, American) have the means but not the intent to destroy the Iranian facilities. Others have the intent (Saudi, Canadian) but not the means. This leaves only one player, which sort of has the means and sort of the intent: Israel. Given its in-between status, whether it will act is the \$64,000 question. ...
- Israel’s conundrum appears genuine: On the one hand, this is [the] only state to have knocked out nuclear programs ... on the other, the logistical challenge and supremely high stakes make this round far more daunting. ...

peddled constantly by the news media in the latest violence in Israel. It works to avoid the subject of Palestinian extremists within the very organizations the United States and other Western

nations are attempting to work with. The U.S., in particular, has been pushing for a two-state solution between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. To acknowledge that the latest attacks

are anything but “lone-wolf” attacks would be to admit that the PA and similar groups are not interested in peaceful negotiations—just the [destruction of Israel](#).

EUROPE

Pope Francis Calls Europe ‘Haggard’ Grandmother

FINANCIAL TIMES | November 25

POPE FRANCIS likened Europe to a barren grandmother, calling the Continent “elderly and haggard” during an address to members of the European Parliament that was meant to raise the spirits of a region mired in economic stagnation.

The 77-year-old Argentine pontiff made the remarks during a visit to Strasbourg that was the first address to the Parliament by the head of the Catholic Church since St. John Paul

spoke there 26 years ago.

Pope Francis told MEPs he wanted to convey a message of “hope and encouragement” to a Continent brought low by sluggish growth and high unemployment.

Yet he was particularly vivid in depicting its sense of decline. “We encounter a general impression of weariness and ageing, of a Europe that is now a grandmother, no longer fertile and vibrant,” the pope said.

“The great ideals which once inspired Europe seem to have lost their attraction, only to be replaced by the bureaucratic technicalities of its institutions,” he added.

The pope exhorted the lawmakers,

who were elected in May, to build Europe “not around the economy, but around the sacred nature of the human person.” ...

As well as his speech at the Parliament, Pope Francis’s Strasbourg visit also included a meeting with a 97-year-old German woman who had hosted him in 1985 when he was studying theology at the Goethe Institute in Boppard, in the nearby Rhineland.

His reception was overwhelmingly positive in the Parliament, which has seen a big increase in populist, euro-skeptic members voted in amid discontent with Europe’s economic slide.

“Your message of peace and dialogue, sincerity and responsibility for each

Angela Merkel Uses Strongest Language Yet About Putin

IRISH TIMES | November 26

GERMAN CHANCELLOR Angela Merkel signaled she's ready for a long confrontation with President Vladimir Putin over Ukraine as her foreign minister said the two countries' ties will be "remapped."

As government forces and pro-Russian separatists battle it out, Germany's goal is keeping Ukraine sovereign and whole, and Russia's actions threaten "the peaceful international order and breach international law," Merkel said in a speech to parliament in Berlin.

"We need patience and staying power to overcome the crisis," she said to applause from lower-house lawmakers.

Economic sanctions on Russia "remain unavoidable" as a ceasefire in eastern Ukraine fails to hold, she said.

Ms. Merkel, who has emerged as Europe's main conduit to Mr. Putin in the Ukraine crisis, used some of the strongest language yet to hint at her exasperation as she retraced attempts by world leaders to reach out to the Russian president during a year of conflict.

Germany was "sparing no effort" to try to reach a diplomatic solution, she said. The European Union's biggest

economy has also taken into account Russian concerns about the impact of Ukraine's free-trade agreement with the bloc that triggered the crisis and preceded Mr. Putin's annexation of the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea in March.

"None of this justifies or excuses Russia's annexation of Crimea," said Ms. Merkel, who had a four-hour discussion with Mr. Putin at the group of 20 summit in Australia this month. "None of this justifies or excuses the direct or indirect participation in the fighting in Donetsk and Luhansk. Russia is breaching Ukraine's territorial integrity."

"The relationship with Russia will definitely have to be remapped," German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said in a speech to parliament. "Where we will stand 10 or 15 years from now, what the European security architecture will look like ... I don't know."

Merkel's government is also alarmed by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko's plan to hold a referendum on Ukraine joining NATO, seeing it as a dead end that would only exacerbate tensions with Russia, according to spokesman Steffen Seibert. ...

other, of solidarity and togetherness make it very clear that together we need to find common solutions to our challenges," said Martin Schulz, the German socialist and president of the body.

Manfred Weber, a German Christian Democrat who is chairman of the center-right European People's Party, called the pope's speech a "timely wake-up call" to Europeans. "We must resist egoistic approaches and take Europe to a new beginning, based not only on money and the economy, but first and foremost on ideas and values," he added.

Related: "The World's Next Superpower"

Pope: I Fear Escalation in the Holy Land

YNETNEWS | November 18

THESE ARE difficult days for Pope Francis. He is concerned about the situation in Jerusalem, fears for the fate of Christians in Iraq and Syria, and is worried also about the future of Europe.

"I utterly condemn any kind of violence in the name of God," the

pontiff says in an exclusive interview, when asked about the massacre at the synagogue in Jerusalem and the rise in terrorism of recent weeks.

"I am following with concern the escalation in Jerusalem and other communities in the Holy Land, praying for the victims and appeal from the bottom of my heart to the parties to put an end to hatred and violence," he says. "Building peace is hard, but living without peace is a nightmare." ...

Germany: 40 Percent Think Crimea Should Belong to Russia

RUSSIAN INSIDER | November 25

ACCORDING TO a poll conducted at the request of a German television channel ARD program, almost 40 percent [of] residents of Germany would agree to recognition of Crimea as part of Russia.

The poll ... was conducted by the sociological institute Infratest Dimap

Forty-three percent of respondents do not believe Russian foreign policies pose any imminent danger, while 54 percent of the respondents believe

they pose a danger to Germany. ...

"[D]id you know that Germany and Russia have probably already dealt with their most urgent differences? ... I believe that Germany's leaders may have already agreed to a deal with Russia, a modern Hitler-Stalin pact where Germany and Russia divide countries and assets between themselves. This agreement would allow each to turn its sights on other targets. Any such deal that may have been struck between Germany and Russia is a precursor to war!"

—Gerald Flurry, *Trumpet*, November-December 2008

Finland Feels Vulnerable To Russia

WASHINGTON POST | November 23

WEDGED HARD against Russia's northwestern border, peaceable Finland has long gone out of its way to avoid prodding the nuclear-armed bear next door.

But now the bear is provoking Finland, repeatedly guiding military planes into Finnish airspace and deploying submarines and helicopters to

Gaza Conflict Sparked Sharp Rise in German Anti-Semitism

REUTERS | November 20

GERMAN ANTI-SEMITISM and resentment towards Israel has risen sharply in recent months, with more than one in four respondents in a new poll equating the Jewish state's treatment of Palestinians to Nazi persecution of Jews during World War II.

The biannual survey on xenophobia in Germany by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation showed broad measures of anti-Semitism on the decline over the past decade.

But it also showed a spike in negative views towards Israel and Jews in general between June and September, coinciding with the conflict between Israel and Hamas militants in Gaza. ...

When asked in September, for example, whether they believed Jews, because of their actions, were partly

responsible for their own persecution, 18 percent of respondents agreed, up from less than 8 percent in June.

Just over 27 percent of those surveyed in September said they broadly or fully agreed with the idea that Israel's treatment of the Palestinians was no different than Nazi persecution of Jews during the Holocaust, when 6 million Jews were murdered.

That survey result was still down significantly from 2004, when over 51 percent of respondents agreed with this statement. One in five respondents, in the survey of 1,915 German citizens, said Israel's policies made Jews less likeable.

The lines between anti-Semitism and substantive criticism of Israel are becoming blurred and that is a problem," the Friedrich Ebert Foundation said in a statement. ...

chase after Finnish research vessels in international waters. ...

As Russian-backed separatists have eviscerated another non-NATO neighbor this year—Ukraine—Finnish leaders have watched with growing alarm. They are increasingly questioning whether the nonaligned path they navigated through the Cold War can keep them safe as Europe heads toward another period of dangerous standoffs between West and East.

"We have a long history with Russia—not that peaceful all the time. So everything the Russians are doing, surely the Finns notice and think very carefully about what that might mean," Finnish President Sauli Niinistö said in an interview at his coastal residence in this capital city, just a two-hour drive from the Russian border.

In the case of the recent air incursions, he said, the message was clear: "They were testing how we'd react." ...

But the palpable anxiety in this country that many in the West consider a model of progressive and stable democratic governance reflects how unsettled Europe has become since Russia's annexation of Crimea in March. ...

Finnish Prime Minister Alexander Stubb has argued that the country needs to join NATO, and a growing share of the public seems to agree, although the issue remains hugely sensitive here. ...

Like Finland, Sweden has remained outside NATO even as other Baltic nations—including Estonia, Latvia and

Lithuania—have joined.

But NATO membership has not protected those countries from Russian probing, which has extended in recent months across Europe, as far afield as Portugal. ...

Such explanations are viewed with extreme skepticism here in Finland, where the country's airspace was violated in August three times in one week. The breaches came just days before Finland forged greater cooperation with NATO at the alliance's summit in Wales, and leaders here say they were a clear signal from Moscow that Finland dare not go any further. ...

Related: "Russia Ramping Up Military Aggression"

The Balkans: Russia's New Playground

REAL CLEAR WORLD | November 25

AFTER ANGELA Merkel delivered a trenchant foreign policy speech at the Lowy Institute for International Policy in Sydney on November 17, the German chancellor took part in a follow-up discussion. Her comments about Russian President Vladimir Putin were not only highly critical of his actions over recent months, Merkel also said she was not convinced that he would stop at Ukraine. ...

Over the past few years, the EU's policy toward the states of the Western Balkans—Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia—has been one of benign neglect, to say the least. ...

Russia has long focused much of its attention on Belgrade, which has traditionally had firm ties with Moscow. Over the past year, Serbia's President Tomislav Nikolić has forged a close relationship with Putin while trying at the same time to bring Serbia nearer to the EU.

In 2013, during a visit to Putin's summer residence in Sochi, Nikolić signed a declaration on strategic partnership between Belgrade and Moscow. Later that year, Serbia signed a military cooperation agreement with Russia. And in October 2014, much to Berlin's chagrin, Serbia rolled out the red carpet for Putin, with Nikolić awarding him the country's highest order. ...

Russia is also meddling in neighboring Bosnia and Herzegovina. There, Moscow has long been a staunch supporter of the Republika Srpska, one of the country's two entities, and of its president, Milorad Dodik. Dodik has repeatedly held up reforms, especially in the judiciary—not that Bosnia's other leaders have been enthusiastic about introducing long-overdue social, economic and political reforms. ...

Related: "Keep an Eye on the Balkans"

Russia Takes Key Step Toward Annexing a Slice of Georgia

Jeremiah Jacques | November 27

Russian President Vladimir Putin further tightened his grip over Georgia's breakaway province of Abkhazia on November 24 by signing a new treaty that places Abkhazian and Russian military forces under joint control.

On paper, "joint control" means Abkhazia has as much control over Russian forces as Moscow has over Abkhazia's. But in reality, Abkhazia's influence over Russia will be approximately as robust as Mercury's gravitational influence on the sun.

"Putin's treaty with Abkhazia is very similar to Crimea's scenario," Dr. Irakli Bokuchava, a resident of Tbilisi, Georgia, told the *Trumpet*. Putin's clear plan, according to Bokuchava, is the "creation of a renewed USSR."

The Georgian Foreign Ministry said that in signing the new treaty, Russia took a "step toward the de facto annexation" of Abkhazia.

Abkhazia broke away from Georgian authority in a 1992-1993 war. In 2008, after Russia's fought a five-day war with Georgia, Moscow recognized Abkhazia—and Georgia's other breakaway region of South Ossetia—as independent.

Moscow then asserted Russian control over the two regions. Only a handful of other nations have recognized the two regions' declarations of independence, but Georgia insists that they remain part of Georgia.

Just after that 2008 war, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry made this forecast: "[Russia's attack on Georgia](#) in August marks the beginning of a dangerous new era in history. This was the first military strike of a rising Asian superpower—and there will be more! ... Today, you have [Western leaders] trying to also bring Georgia and Ukraine into NATO. I don't believe Russia will ever allow that to happen. ... Will a crisis occur over Ukraine? That area is the breadbasket of Russia, and surely it is willing to wage war over that as well."

Mr. Flurry could see back in 2008 that Ukraine was not safe from Putin's expansionist ambitions. To understand more about the ongoing Ukraine crisis, and what to expect for Abkhazia and other former Soviet nations and regions, read Mr. Flurry's article "[The Crimean Crisis Is Reshaping Europe](#)." Follow Jeremiah Jacques: [Twitter](#)

East Asian Waters Free of U.S. Aircraft Carriers

ASIAN REVIEW | November 27

DEFENSE POLICYMAKERS in Japan and the U.S. are privately voicing concern about the total absence of U.S. aircraft carriers from East Asian waters for four months next year.

Budget constraints at home, combined with the rise of the Islamic State group in the Middle East, are limiting the American fleet's ability to operate in Asia. Temporarily at least, not a single aircraft carrier will be deployed in East Asia.

Japanese and U.S. officials fear having no U.S. carriers, which have long been the bedrock of the region's stability, could tempt North Korea and China to take advantage of the power vacuum to initiate a military adventure.

The USS George Washington, the only U.S. aircraft carrier with an overseas home port, is to leave its base for nuclear refueling and an overhaul. Until the USS Ronald Reagan arrives at

the Japanese port of Yokosuka, located at the mouth of Tokyo Bay, to replace the ship, there will be no American carriers in East Asia, according to persons familiar with the matter.

The U.S. Navy has not disclosed details on the rotation, but the Ronald Reagan is expected to arrive sometime between the spring and autumn of 2015. ...

PLA Must Prove Loyalty to Communists

SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST | November 24

THE PLA [People's Liberation Army] will work to institutionalize mechanisms to ensure the ideological purity of the army and ensure its absolute loyalty to the Communist Party.

A lengthy article published by the General Political Department on [the] front page of the *PLA Daily* today said the Army would step up vigilance when deciding on promotions and placement of personnel to guarantee

the long-term viability of its anti-graft campaign. ...

Officers who prove they stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the party leadership on "major issues of principle" would have a better chance of promotion, the department said.

Those who try to create their own power bases through nepotism or corruption would either be demoted or dismissed, it added. ...

The General Political Department, one of the four general headquarters of the PLA, is responsible for disciplinary affairs and human resources. It said officers would be evaluated based on their "implementation of [Chinese President] Xi Jinping's directives," "stances on major issues of principles" and "attitude towards wealth and fame."

"In this way, we can ensure the gun is always in the hands of those who are loyal to the party," the department said in the PLA article. ...

Earlier this month, Xi, who is also chairman of the Central Military Commission, held a two-day conference with PLA's top brass in Gutian,

China, Russia and the Sinatra Doctrine

FINANCIAL TIMES | November 25

FOR CENTURIES European navies roamed the world's seas—to explore, to trade, to establish empires and to wage war. So it will be quite a moment when the Chinese Navy appears in the Mediterranean next spring, on joint exercises with the Russians. ...

[R]ussia and China are ... making an important statement about world affairs. Both nations object to Western military operations close to their borders. China complains about U.S. naval patrols just off its coast; Russia rails against the expansion of NATO. By staging joint exercises in the Mediterranean, the Chinese and Russians would send a deliberate message: If NATO can patrol near their frontiers, they too can patrol in NATO's heartland.

Behind this muscle-flexing, however, the Russians and Chinese are pushing for a broader reordering of world affairs based around the idea of "spheres of influence." Both China and Russia believe that they should have veto rights about what goes on in their immediate neighborhoods. Russia argues that it is unacceptable that Ukraine—a country ruled from Moscow for centuries—should now join the Western alliance. The Putin government's aspiration for a "Eurasian Union" also seems intended to reestablish a Russian zone of influence over much of the former Soviet Union—which could then counterbalance the EU.

Until recently, China relied primarily on its economic might to spread its influence throughout Asia. But Beijing has now also become more directly assertive on security matters. ...

There are some in the West who suggest that ... Russia and China should be tacitly granted these "spheres of influence." ...

The Obama administration, however, has explicitly set itself against this idea. Tony Blinken, U.S. deputy national security adviser, has said of Russia's aspirations: "We continue to reject the notion of a sphere of influence. We continue to stand by the right of sovereign democracies to choose their own alliances."

As Mr. Blinken's statement makes clear, the Americans believe that the argument about spheres of influence is about the defense of a fundamental principle. If undemocratic countries, such as Russia and China, are conceded a sphere of influence in their neighborhoods, they are implicitly granted a veto over the policies pursued by nominally independent nations. Russia can forbid Ukraine from joining NATO or the EU. China can force Vietnam, the Philippines—or even Japan—to pay tribute.

As far as the Russians and Chinese are concerned, however, this is an argument that is fundamentally about power—and all U.S. talk about "principle" is simply hypocrisy. After all, ever since the Monroe Doctrine was announced in 1823, America has proclaimed its intention to keep outsiders away from its own hemisphere. In recent decades, it has intervened militarily in Grenada, Panama and Haiti. Even more recently—as the Russians never tire of pointing out—the U.S. has led military interventions far from home, in Iraq, Afghanistan and now Syria.

Indeed, as Moscow sees it, America's global military reach is so pervasive that Washington has got used to treating the whole world as its "sphere of influence." There are U.S. troops in Japan and South Korea, U.S. naval and air force bases in Bahrain and Qatar, and NATO bases all over Europe—to name just a few of America's most high-profile global commitments.

The American response is to point out that the U.S. global military presence is built around alliances between willing partners. ... Henceforth, it seems, America will endorse what a Soviet spokesman once called "the Sinatra doctrine"—the idea that all nations can do it their way.

It will not be hard for the governments in Moscow and Beijing to point to continuing inconsistencies in America's rejection of spheres of influence. But the U.S. argument still rests on a basic truth. There is a vast difference between a sphere of influence based on willing consent and one that is constructed around intimidation and force. ...

where Mao Zedong held a historic congress in 1929 that established the principle of the party being in control of the military. ...

In its earlier report on Xi's speech during the conference, the *PLA Daily* said the Army must "grasp the

initiative in the ideological struggle and rebuild its military spirit" to fight corruption and other ideological struggles

India-Russia Hold Joint Air Force Exercise

HINDUSTAN TIMES | November 25

PERSONNEL FROM the Russian Federation Air Force (RFAF) and the Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in the second phase of their first bilateral exercise, named "avia-indra 1," at the

Sidhwan Khas range near Jagraon in Ludhiana district on Tuesday.

Officers of both forces witnessed air-to-ground firing by aircrafts and helicopters during the exercise. It is for the first time that the IAF station at Halwara has been selected to organize such an exercise. The 18-member crew from RFAF is participating, and some of them also flew the IAF's aircrafts, including SU-30 MKI, Mi-35 and Mi-17. ...

Talking to HT, wing commander of the Halwara station, SK Saini informed that it is for the first time that Russian and Indian air forces are jointly conducting an exercise. He said

"It has long been China's grand strategy to build a strong military on the back of a strong economy. ... The reorganization of the Chinese military personnel paces the path to speedier, more efficient managements of the nation's 2 million-man army." —Trumpet, March-April 2005

China Recognizes Russian Crimea

Alexander Mercouris, **RUSSIAN INSIDER** | November 25

THIS IS the clear meaning of the statement TASS reports that a senior official of the Chinese Foreign Ministry has made. The fact that China recognizes the Crimean referendum means that de facto (and surely before long de jure) China has recognized Crimea's unification with Russia. Note also that the official has expressed support for Russia's Ukrainian policy.

This is the clearest statement from an official source (as opposed to the news media) of China's position viz the Ukrainian crisis that China has made to date. Because it is made by an official rather than a minister it has gone almost unnoticed.

However, that is how China works: Statements of this sort are first floated in the media, then made formally but at a relatively low level, following which, they become

uncontested policy.

Suffice [it] to say that it is inconceivable that the official in question would have spoken out in this way without clearance from the very highest levels of the Chinese government and the fact that in his conversation to TASS he actually quotes comments made by Xi Jinping in telephone conversations with Putin puts that question beyond doubt.

I have always felt that the Chinese dimension in influencing Russia's Ukrainian policy is consistently underestimated.

I am sure that every single step Moscow has taken since the start of the Ukrainian crisis has been discussed and coordinated with Beijing at the highest possible level. We should not make the mistake of thinking that the only conversations between Putin and Xi Jinping are those that are officially or publicly reported. ...

members of the Russian delegation had also visited Bengaluru, where they were exposed to indigenous projects such as the light combat aircraft Tejas, light combat helicopter and the advanced light helicopter Dhruv. ...

"The joint exercise will further strengthen the relations between Russia and India," said Maj. Gen. Lyapkin Alexander, who was heading the Russian delegation, using a translator for communication.

The exercise began on November 17, and the Russian team will be in India till November 28. In the first phase, a delegation of IAF had participated in an exercise in Russia in August-September.

Related: ["Results of Largest Election in Human History Mean India-Russia-China Ties Will Advance"](#)

attempts of bringing both armies on same platform; specially to fight terrorism at the global level," read a joint statement issued at the concluding ceremony of the counterinsurgency and counterterrorism joint exercises named "Hand-in-Hand."

The special training capsule of 12 days was held at the College of Military Engineering and Aundh Military Station. ...

[Officials] said that working together has proved beneficial for the army personnel of both countries. The joining of hands between India and China will help at the global level; not only for peace, but also for prosperity, read the statement. ...

Related: ["What's Ahead for India?"](#)

was announced that Russia and China plan to hold joint naval exercises in both the Pacific and the Mediterranean in 2015.

After talks with his Chinese counterpart Chang Wanquan on November 18, Shoygu was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying that Russia and China are concerned by the U.S.'s "attempts to increase its military and political influence" in the Asia-Pacific region. After the talks, Shoygu's deputy Anatoliy Antonov went further still in alleging that China and Russia faced a joint threat from U.S.-orchestrated "color revolutions."

Antonov said: "We noticed the events that recently occurred in Hong Kong and the two ministers admitted that no country is safe from 'color revolutions.' It only seems like these 'color revolutions,' these experiments by Western political technology experts, including ones from the U.S.A., occur somewhere far away from China or Russia. In fact, it all happens nearby, and we believe that Russia and China should work together to counter this new challenge to our states' security." Antonov referred specifically to Ukraine where, he said, "a coup has taken place." ...

On the question of joint military exercises, Shoygu said: "We are planning to conduct another joint navy drill in spring next year in the waters of the Mediterranean. A joint navy drill is also planned in the Pacific area." ...

India-China Military Exercise Ends on Friendly Note

TIMES OF INDIA | November 26

THE JOINT military exercise of India and China concluded on Tuesday with the defense establishments of both countries agreeing to continue such friendship efforts in future.

"The two countries will scale up

Hong Kong Protests Deepen China-Russia Ties

COURCY'S INTELLIGENCE | November 19

ON NOVEMBER 7, we issued an Intelligence Brief titled "Putin accelerates turn to China." In the two weeks since we issued that brief, the pace of Russia's turn to China has picked up further, including with a trip to Beijing by Russia's Defense Minister Gen. Sergey Shoygu during which it

AFRICA/LATIN AMERICA

Outbreak of Bubonic Plague in Madagascar

DAILY MAIL | November 25

AN OUTBREAK of bubonic plague in Madagascar has now claimed almost 50 victims and is spreading to the island's capital, officials warned today.

There have been 138 suspected cases of the disease—similar to the Black Death in medieval Europe—since the start of the year, with the death toll of 47 expected to rise in the coming months. ...

The Health Ministry said 200 households had been “disinfected” this month, adding that those who had contact with the infected had been given antibiotics in a bid to arrest the spread [of] the disease. ...

Plague is spread by fleas and mostly

affects rats, but humans can also contract the disease if they are bitten by a disease-carrying flea. ...

The situation in Madagascar is all the more worrying because of a high level of resistance to insecticides targeting fleas, the United Nations health agency said. ...

The Black Death, otherwise known as the bubonic plague, is estimated to have killed some 25 million people across Europe in the Middle Ages.

Bubonic plague killed around 100 million people during the 14th century and was known as the Black Death. ...

After the Black Death arrived in 1347, plague became a common phenomenon in Europe, with outbreaks recurring regularly until the 18th century.

Bubonic plague has almost completely vanished from the developed world, with 90 percent of all cases now found in Africa.

TW IN BRIEF

■ Argentina: The Falklands are Argentine

All Argentine public transportation must display signs stating “Las Malvinas son Argentinas” (the Falkland Islands are Argentine,) according to a law passed November 20. The Argentine senator behind the initiative, Teresina Luna, said it would reflect “our undeniable sovereignty” over the islands. All public vehicles of rail, water, road and air must display the newly approved sign. This sign initiative is an attempt to feed public opinion in Argentina that Britain illegally controls the Falkland Islands. The new law requiring the signs is just the latest in a string of political maneuvers by Argentina to force Britain to give up the islands. Regular *Trumpet* readers know the prophecies showing that Britain will eventually lose this strategic sea gate.

ANGLO-AMERICA

Hagel, Under Pressure, Resigns

REUTERS | November 24

U.S. DEFENSE Secretary Chuck Hagel resigned on Monday, leaving under pressure as President Barack Obama faces critical national security challenges, including fighting the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria and revising plans to exit Afghanistan.

It was the first major change to Obama's cabinet since his Democrats were routed in midterm elections three weeks ago, and Republicans, who now control both houses of Congress, are looking for a new approach from the White house.

Hagel was appointed less than two years ago as Obama pushed his signature program of winding down wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, a process now being upended with U.S. reengagement in Iraq and greater military cooperation with Kabul.

He had privately expressed frustration to colleagues at the administration's strategy toward Iraq and Syria and at his lack of influence over the decision-making process, a source familiar with the situation said.

Officials said publicly the decision for him to leave was mutual but privately others said he was forced out. “There's no question he was fired,” said one source with knowledge of the matter.

Hagel raised questions about Obama's strategy toward Syria in an internal policy memo that leaked this fall saying the president's policy was in jeopardy due to its failure to clarify its intentions toward Syrian President Bashar Assad.

Obama has insisted the United States can go after Islamic State militants without addressing Assad, who the United States would like to leave power. ...

[Sen. John] McCain, a fierce critic of the president, told Reuters Hagel

had been “very unhappy” about micro-management from the White House and did not believe that Washington had a strategy to combat [the] Islamic State. ...

Malware Spied on Governments in 10 Countries

THE GUARDIAN | November 23

AN ADVANCED, malicious software application has been uncovered that has spied on private companies, governments, research institutes and individuals in 10 countries since 2008, antivirus software maker Symantec Corp. said in a report on Sunday.

The California-based maker of Norton antivirus products said its research showed that a “nation state” was likely the developer of the malware, Regin, but Symantec did not identify any countries or victims. Symantec said



GERALD FLURRY

Hidden Danger in Keeping Christmas?

THE KEY OF DAVID | November 28

Family time together and the life of Christ are both wonderful. But does God want us to celebrate these things by keeping Christmas?



Regin's design "makes it highly suited for persistent, long-term surveillance operations against targets." The program was apparently withdrawn in 2011, but resurfaced in 2013.

The malware uses several stealth features and "even when its presence is detected, it is very difficult to ascertain what it is doing," according to Symantec. "Many components of Regin remain undiscovered, and additional functionality and versions may exist."

Almost half of all the infections occurred at the addresses of Internet service providers, the report said. The targets were the customers of companies rather than the companies themselves. About 28 percent of targets were in telecoms, while other victims were in the energy, airline, hospitality and research sectors. ...

Cybersecurity is a sensitive topic for businesses in the United States, where there have been several breaches of major companies and customer information. The U.S. government and private cyberintelligence firms have said they suspect that state-backed hackers in China or Russia may be responsible.

Symantec said Russia and Saudi Arabia accounted for about half of the confirmed infections of the Regin

malware. The other countries affected were Mexico, Ireland, India, Iran, Afghanistan, Belgium, Austria and Pakistan.

Related: "America's Achilles Heel—and Germany"

White House Extends Combat in Afghanistan

CNN | November 22

IN A policy shift, President Barack Obama has decided to extend the combat role of U.S. forces in Afghanistan into 2015, allowing troops to keep fighting the Taliban and other militant groups that threaten American soldiers or the Afghan government, the *New York Times* reported.

Back in May, the president described an exit strategy that called for an end to U.S. combat operations and the withdrawal of the U.S.-led international military force by the end of 2014.

While not confirming the article, a senior administration official told CNN the change is more about force protection designed to protect U.S.

personnel in Afghanistan.

"We will no longer target belligerents solely because they are members of the Taliban," the official said. "To the extent that Taliban members directly threaten the United States and coalition forces in Afghanistan or provide direct support to al Qaeda, we will take appropriate measures to keep Americans safe." ...

The *Times* said the new presidential action will allow American planes and drones to support Afghan troops in combat.

The official told CNN that "the United States may provide combat enabler support to the [Afghan National Security Forces] in limited circumstances to prevent detrimental strategic effects to these Afghan security forces."

The United States has had troops in Afghanistan for 13 years, following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The website for Operation Enduring Freedom says 2,351 American soldiers have died in the conflict, along with 453 soldiers from the United Kingdom and 675 from other nations. ...

"The United States and Britain were powerful empires because God can, and desires to, bountifully bless mankind. Afghanistan shows that He is definitely not blessing America and Britain anymore. In fact, this graveyard of empires shows how much God is now cursing these nations."

—Trumpet, January 2015

Obamacare Offers Firms \$3,000 to Hire Illegals

WASHINGTON POST | November 25

UNDER THE president's new amnesty, businesses will have a \$3,000-per-employee incentive to hire illegal immigrants over native-born workers because of a quirk of Obamacare.

President Obama's temporary amnesty, which lasts three years, declares up to 5 million illegal immigrants to be lawfully in the country and eligible



Born to Run

THE TRUMPET DAILY | November 24

STEPHEN FLURRY

How is your spiritual pace? Is it measured, or is it uncontrolled?



for work permits, but it still deems them ineligible for public benefits such as buying insurance on Obamacare's health exchanges.

Under the Affordable Care Act, that means businesses who hire them won't have to pay a penalty for not providing them health coverage—making them \$3,000 more attractive than a similar native-born worker, whom the business by law would have to cover.

The loophole was confirmed by congressional aides and drew condemnation from those who said it put illegal immigrants ahead of Americans in the job market.

"If it is true that the president's actions give employers a \$3,000 incentive to hire those who came here illegally, he has added insult to injury," said Rep. Lamar Smith, Texas Republican. "The president's actions would have just moved those who came here illegally to the front of the line, ahead of unemployed and underemployed Americans." ...

FERGUSON from page 1

alone. Their mistrust of and cynicism about the justice system is so deep that they are certain the jury did not rule based on facts and evidence, but in spite of facts and evidence. They know that the only reason Wilson was found innocent is the system's inherently racist nature.

These views are held by a lot of Americans. This type of thinking is producing a lot of anger and hostility. In a statement shortly after the grand jury announcement was made, President Barack Obama said, "[T]here are Americans who are deeply upset, even angry. It's an understandable reaction."

Among those who believe all of that, there are some who are so sure of these convictions, so certain of the system's innate anti-black bigotry, that they are ready to rise up in violent protest. Not directly, specifically against police officers or government officials that they have proven to be racist, but against authority in general—and even against society in general. They believe the injustice they have been dealt is so egregious that they are justified at lashing out at virtually anything—smashing shop windows, looting stores, creating general mayhem.



JOEL HILLIKER

Surely the number of Americans who follow such "reasoning," as it were, are very few. But they are numerous enough to arrest the attention of media and law enforcement, and countless others of us who are apprehensive about what they are about to do. And truth be told, this is not unwarranted apprehension; it has been built over time in recent years, incident by indiscriminately violent incident.

Further, that group of toxic, non-thinking Americans, however small, is legitimized, unapologetically, by many quite-mainstream political, academic and media voices. These supposedly enlightened thinkers insist that violent racial protests and outbursts are, if not justifiable, certainly understandable, given the oppression that blacks face within American society.

We must acknowledge that America has come to recognize and accept an extraordinary level of wholly irrational, dangerously noxious racial animosity as simply a part of life in this country.

This is not a situation that will blow over when the Ferguson protests die out. According to biblical prophecy, it is building to a nation-destroying crisis point.

To learn about that future, read *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry's recent article on the subject, "[Where America's Race Riots Are Leading](#)."

Follow Joel Hilliker: [Twitter](#)