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THE TRUMPET WEEKLY

JULY 3, 2014

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Does Japan's Historic Constitutional Change Mean Its Military Secret Will Soon Come Out?

BY JEREMIAH JACQUES

AFTER JAPAN wreaked some of the worst brutality in mankind's history and then surrendered in World War II, global powers were anxious to ensure it would never happen again. The solution was Article 9. This was a clause the United States wrote into Japan's postwar constitution that forbids the nation from building a military any

larger than what is needed for self-defense of its immediate geography, and bans its right to "collective self-defense" or helping a friendly nation under attack.

For the last 70 years, Tokyo has interpreted the ban on collective self-defense as strictly limiting Japan's forces to acting in its own defense, never **see MILITARY page 12**

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe speaks during a press conference in Tokyo on July 1.



ISIS Declaration of Caliphate: Strategy or Blunder?

Anthony Chibarrirwe | July 3

ON JUNE 29, the first day of the Islamic month of Ramadan, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) declared its formation of a “caliphate” and consequently renamed itself the Islamic State, to indicate its new status.

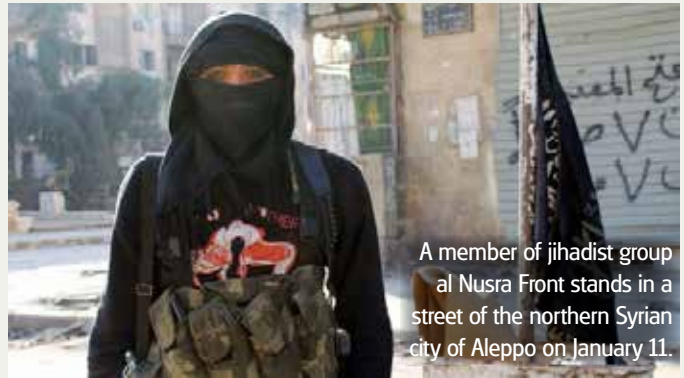
In a statement released in English, Arabic, German, French and Russian, the former ISIS asserted that the region that’s now under its control—northwestern Iraq all the way up to northern Syria—is now an Islamic “caliphate” under the group’s leader Abu Bakr al Baghdadi. The expectation is that its territory will expand beyond Iraq and Syria, hence the dropping of those two nations from its new name.

A caliphate is an Islamic republic transcending national boundaries and ruled by a supreme, politico-religious leader.

By this declaration, Baghdadi is now “the imam and [Caliph] for the Muslims everywhere,” as the group’s spokesman said in the statement. That means all Muslims, jihadists or otherwise, must now pledge their allegiance to the Islamic State and Caliph Baghdadi, the statement qualified. “The legality of all emirates, groups, states and organizations,” said the spokesman, “becomes null by the expansion of the [Caliph’s] authority and arrival of its troops to their areas.”

This brazen declaration is “likely the most significant development in international jihadism since 9/11,” said Brookings Doha Center’s Charles Lister. It’s a call to Islamic unity, a dare to fellow jihadists and a declaration of war to Islamic nations that won’t capitulate to the Islamic State.

The former ISIS is picking up fights in the world’s most



A member of jihadist group al Nusra Front stands in a street of the northern Syrian city of Aleppo on January 11.

explosive region. And it’s doing so without enough significant tangibles.

The Islamic Republic of Iran cannot and will not sit idly by while a pariah terrorist group claims kingship of the Middle East. Iran might have actually supported and funded ISIS in the past, as some reports indicate, but it appears ISIS and Iran have crossed paths. Iran will use its clout in Iraq, its rising international legitimacy (thanks in no small measure to its apparent pragmatism in nuclear negotiations) and ISIS’s global marginalization to defeat or severely cripple the newly established Islamic State and assert its prophesied role as the end-time “king of the south” (Daniel 11:40).

Thanks to ISIS’s brazenness, the West, particularly the United States, will significantly [allow Iran’s rise and regional dominance](#).

Russia Sends Fighter Jets to Aid Iraq

Samuel Livingston | July 3

THE UNITED States’ slow delivery of military aid has Iraq worried and searching for other alternatives. Russia answered the call June 30, sending five Sukhoi Su-25 fighter jets to help the Iraqi government. Russia plans to send a total of 12 jets to aid President Nouri al-Maliki against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, and Russian experts are expected to stay in Iraq as long as it takes to train pilots.

“If Russian pilots begin flying attack missions in Iraq, Moscow will be doing the job Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki first asked of the United States,” Josh Rogin wrote for The Daily Beast.

The U.S. condoned Iraq’s dealing with Russia. State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said that the U.S. does not “oppose legal Iraqi efforts to meet their urgent military requirements.”

The White House’s only military action in Iraq so far has been sending troops to defend the U.S. embassy in Baghdad, hardly the support the Iraqi people were hoping for. The U.S. is also sending Apache helicopters and F-16 fighter jets, but the arrival date at best will not be until this fall.

New York Times columnist Rod Nordland wrote that “the Russian move was at least an implicit rebuke to the United States which the Iraqis believe has been too slow to supply American F-16s and attack helicopters”

The *Trumpet* has been monitoring this trend closely over the past year—America is on its way out and other nations are now on deck to fill the vacuum. Russia hasn’t been hesitant to step up to the plate in the Middle East. To understand just how significant Russia’s recent power grab is, read “[Is Vladimir Putin the Prophesied ‘Prince of Rosh’?](#)”

Israel Hit With Barrage of Rockets From Gaza

I24 NEWS | July 2

AS TENSIONS remain high in Jerusalem following riots over the murder of a Palestinian teen, Israel also faced a barrage of rockets from Gaza on

Iran Says It Will Not 'Kneel' for Nuke Talks

REUTERS | July 2

IRANIAN FOREIGN Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif took to YouTube on Wednesday to deliver a message that Iran was ready to take steps to ensure its nuclear program remains peaceful but would not “kneel in submission” to do a deal with major powers.

As talks to resolve the long-running nuclear standoff resumed in Vienna, Zarif’s remarks, delivered in English in a slick five-minute video, appeared to be a response to a U.S. warning that Tehran has yet to prove that its atomic ambitions are peaceful.

The statements highlighted how much work the

negotiators from Iran and from the United States, France, Germany, Britain, China and Russia still have to do to meet a self-imposed deadline of July 20.

[Zarif said]: “To those who continue to believe that sanctions brought Iran to the negotiating table, I can only say that pressure has been tried for the past eight years, in fact for the past 35 years.

“It didn’t bring the Iranian people to kneel in submission. And it will not now, nor in the future.” ...

Related: “Iran Wants Nuclear War”

Wednesday evening.

The Israel Air Force targeted a site in Gaza from which four mortars were apparently launched on Wednesday evening. ...

Since midnight, Israel has been hit with at least a dozen rockets—and new reports of rockets landing continue to come in every hour. Israel’s Iron Dome defense system intercepted one of the rockets fired at Ashkelon and another one over Sdot Negev Regional Council. Two rockets landed and exploded in the Sdot Negev Regional Council while another two exploded in the Eshkol Regional Council.

Israel’s security cabinet is currently meeting to discuss potential actions against Gaza in light of the increased rocket fire. ...

The week started off with Israel on Monday finding the dead bodies of the three kidnapped teenagers, for which security forces had been searching for weeks. Their burial on Tuesday was followed by demonstrations in Jerusalem calling for “death to Arabs” and “revenge” for the murders.

Early Wednesday morning, the body of a Palestinian teenager was found in the Jerusalem Forest, following reports of a possible kidnapping. ...

Hundreds of Palestinians gathered by [the teenager’s] home later in the day on Wednesday and clashed with security forces, throwing stones and calling to avenge the murder.

Despite an assumption that the murder of the Palestinian was carried out by a Jew in revenge for the murder of the three Israeli teens, Israel’s Minister of Internal Security Yitzhak Aharonovitz

insists that the motive is not yet clear. ...

Hamas warned that Israel would pay for the kidnap and murder of the Palestinian teenager. “We send our message to the Zionist entity and its leaders, which hold direct responsibility (for the murder), that our people will not let this crime pass, nor all the killings and destruction by your settlers,” the Islamist movement said.

“You will pay the price for these crimes.” ...

Related: “Why the Middle East Can’t Have Peace Today”

Libya’s Despair

Mustafa Fetouri, AL MONITOR | June 30

FEWER LIBYANS voted this time for the Council House of Representatives as the new parliament is known, than in the general elections of 2012. In 2012, Libyans were full of hope and optimism after the NATO-Qatari-backed rebels toppled longtime leader Muammar Qadhafi. Democracy, stability, security, peace and above all freedom were the noble causes the majority of my countrymen were eager for. Yet, it took only three years to see all that crumble into a pile of wreckage.

No wonder this time that only 630,000 voted, less than half of the eligible voters registered to cast their ballots, compared with over 3 million in 2012. There were no party lists this time around, so every single candidate contested the election on his own, personal credibility. Full results, though,

are not expected before July 3.

Many polling stations, particularly in Derna in the east of the country and Kufra to the southeast, did not open for security reasons on June 25. Libya’s election commission said 15 seats in the 200-seat parliament will remain vacant since elections could not be organized in some parts in the country while others have to be rescheduled. In Benghazi, after casting her vote, prominent human rights lawyer Salwa Bughaighis was killed after gunmen forced their way into her house. She was stabbed before being shot in the head. She was a well-known critic of armed groups in Benghazi. Later, it emerged that her Egyptian housekeeper, who was wounded in the attack, was killed while under police protection. He was the only witness to her murder. ...

Libyans are clearly not happy with the way their country is run and managed. The low turnout is testimony to the little interest people have in the political process in the new Libya. This is a dangerous trend in a new democracy, since it means a failure of the political elite as well as the government to gain the nation’s trust, reflect the people’s will and be truly representative of the public’s interests.

In any case, while the final results have yet to be released, the Libyan people are sure to come out as losers.

Related: “What We Said About the ‘New and Democratic Libya’” and “The Stunning Truth Behind Libya’s ‘Democratic Revolution’”



STEPHEN FLURRY

Europe Now Speaks German

With the Juncker appointment, the German-dominated EU effectively slams the door on Britain.



Rome Conquered Next, Says Islamic State

TELEGRAPH | July 1

ABU BAKR al-Baghdadi, the self-proclaimed leader of the Islamic State stretching across Iraq and Syria, has vowed to lead the conquest of Rome as he called on Muslims to immigrate to his new land to fight under its banner around the globe.

Baghdadi, who holds a Ph.D. in Islamic studies, said Muslims were being targeted and killed from China to Indonesia. Speaking as the first caliph, or commander of the Islamic faithful since the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, he called on Muslims to rally to his pan-Islamic state.

"Those who can immigrate to the Islamic State should immigrate, as immigration to the house of Islam is a duty," he said in an audio recording released on a website used by the group formerly known as the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham.

"Rush, O Muslims, to your state. It is your state. Syria is not for Syrians and Iraq is not for Iraqis. The land is

for the Muslims, all Muslims.

"This is my advice to you. If you hold to it you will conquer Rome and own the world, if Allah wills."

Having claimed the title of "caliph," Baghdadi appealed to "judges and those who have military and managerial and service skills, and doctors and engineers in all fields."

He also called on jihadi fighters to escalate fighting in the holy month of Ramadan, which began on Sunday. "In this virtuous month or in any other month, there is no deed better than jihad in the path of Allah, so take advantage of this opportunity and walk the path of your righteous predecessors," he said. "So to arms, to arms, soldiers of the Islamics, fight, fight." ...

Baghdadi's claims to control vast territory have yet to be tested by an Iraqi government counterattack. Many Muslim groups dispute his putative caliphate. However, some experts fear his rise could transform the appeal of extremist Islam, partly by harassing social media to build a global following.

Hassan Hassan, an analyst at Abu Dhabi's Delma Institute, wrote that

Baghdadi provided the most radical challenge since the emergence of Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda. "The whispers of support to a caliph in Afghanistan are now replaced by clear words and acts, amplified by social media," he said. "Jihadism has evolved significantly. It is no longer limited to narrow 'elitists' who travel to distant countries to wage jihad. Today's jihad is more sophisticated and individualized and can be waged everywhere." ...

TV IN BRIEF

■ Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine sign deal with EU

Ukraine, in addition to Moldova and Georgia, has signed trade and political agreements with the European Union. This is the deal that ignited protests in Ukraine last November after Russian strongman Vladimir Putin coerced Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich out of making the agreement. Ukraine's current president, Petro Poroshenko, signed the deal on Friday. "What a great day—maybe the most important day for my country after independence day," he said in a speech to the 28 members of the EU. The three nations who signed the deal will have a rough road ahead. Russia feels these nations belong under its sphere of influence, and is willing to do whatever it takes to bring them back in. The three nation's strong reliance on Russia puts them a sticky position. If Russia decides to scale back or even discontinue trade with any of these nations, which it is known to do, it would cripple them. The EU will not be able to serve as a substitute for Russia to these countries. Russia's foothold over these nations may cause them to rethink the agreement they just signed. Putin didn't hesitate to take Crimea from Ukraine. In 2008, he invaded Georgia for not cooperating. And Russia already has [2,500 troops stationed inside Moldova](#). How will he respond to the latest deal? To learn more about the situation in Eastern Europe, be sure to read ["The Crimean Crisis Is Reshaping Europe!"](#)

■ Italian Prime Minister calls for 'United States of Europe'

The ever-growing rift between European countries pushing for a unified state, and Britain, who wants to reduce the power of the European Union, is becoming increasingly evident. This rift will only grow, especially considering the goals outlined by the Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi, for Italy's presidency of the EU, which began July 1. Renzi's goals included pushing for a "United States of Europe." This move will raise the ire of the British, as they are staunchly against such a move. "[A] stronger and more cohesive Europe is the only solution to solve the problems of our time," Renzi said. He has called upon his fellow European leaders to work toward this goal. As if to prove a unified Europe would have no national boundaries, Renzi, speaking on the threat of immigration facing Italy, inquired whether the Mediterranean was an Italian border or a European one. Renzi wants his fellow Europeans

to grasp the bigger vision of a unified Europe. Mr. Armstrong foretold of a unified states of Europe 80 years ago as Europe lay in ruins after World War II. "[A] United States of Europe was as certain as the rising of tomorrow's sun," the *Plain Truth* proclaimed in 1970. Despite Britain's joining the European Common Market, Mr. Armstrong knew Britain would eventually leave. Those predictions are incredibly close to fulfillment. Read Richard Palmer's article "[Why Britain Is Closer Than Ever to Quitting the EU](#)" to see how the unfolding events in Europe will force Britain out of the EU, just as Mr. Armstrong foretold.

■ German Defense Minister: Europe needs drones

Europe should work together to develop its own military drones, and in the meantime the German army should rent them, German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen said, according to an article published by the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* on July 2. "I



am convinced that we should develop a European armed drone," she told the newspaper. "We're looking for partners for the project which will take at least a decade." Germany currently uses reconnaissance drones in Afghanistan, but lacks any armed drones. Drones look increasingly like the future of aerial warfare. Cheaper and more expendable than a manned aircraft, they could make today's fighter jets obsolete. Armed drones are vital to any aspiring military power. Watch for Europe to continue to develop its own military capabilities, independent of American power.

ASIA

China and Russia: Naval Supremacy

NEWSWEEK | July 1

CHINA AND Russia—the United States' two biggest strategic rivals—have made it plain they plan to challenge America's monopoly of sea power. In Beijing, spending on the navy (known as the PLAN—the People's Liberation Army's Navy) has surged.

Beijing has been banging out three submarines a year—it now has 28 active nuclear submarines and 51 submarines overall. PLAN has commissioned 80 surface ships since 2000, compared with about 48 vessels commissioned in the 1990s. By 2020, Beijing plans to have three aircraft carrier-led battle groups—meaning that two aircraft carriers are under production.

China's ambitions go far beyond this increase in naval hardware.

Chinese leaders now routinely refer to "blue national soil"—the oceans that extend off its coast line—which they demarcate far beyond the 200 nautical miles that are its "exclusive economic zone" under the UN's Law of the Sea Treaty. Beijing has even issued a map—known as the "nine dash line"—which purports to show China's waters lapping against the Philippines and Vietnam. "China," write Toshi Yoshihara and James Holmes, of the U.S. Naval War College, "is on the brink of commanding the seas with Chinese characteristics."

To date, those "Chinese characteristics" mainly consist of an increased capacity to drive the U.S. out of Beijing's waters. The strategy aims to create a buffer zone to prevent an enemy's approach. The linchpin is the submarine fleet, but the plan also includes fast-attack vessels equipped with antiship missiles, which distresses U.S. Navy war planners. ...

Russia's naval ambitions are linked closely to China's rise Putin has pledged \$700 billion to boost Russia's military over the next two decades—much of it to go to naval hardware. The Kremlin's shopping list includes half a dozen Admiral Grigorovich-class frigates and as many aircraft carriers; eight Yasen-class attack submarines; and a new generation of ballistic missile submarines designed to carry out nuclear attacks These Borei-class boats carry 16 nuclear-tipped Bulava missiles, each with 10 warheads that can "thwart evolving Western ballistic-missile defense shields," according to U.S. Navy Reserve Lt. Cmdr. Tom Spahn. He calls Russia's newest boats and missiles "alarmingly sophisticated." ...

Washington remains the dominant naval power globally. But the gap is closing—quickly.

Related: "[Czars and Emperors](#)"

Huge Hong Kong Pro-Democracy March

ASSOCIATED PRESS | July 2

HONG KONG police arrested more than 500 people who refused to leave a street in the city's financial district on Wednesday, a day after tens of thousands of people joined a massive march to demand democracy that is free from China's interference.

The march has become an annual affair held on the anniversary of the day China took over Hong Kong from Britain on July 1, 1997, with the promise to give the city a high degree of autonomy for 50 years. But there is growing unease among its residents—especially the youth—that the Western-style civil liberties they've know all their lives are being eroded as Beijing has increasingly tried to impose its authority over the freewheeling capitalist enclave.

The fears are only going to be heightened following the predawn crackdown by the Hong Kong police, who normally do not have an antagonistic relationship with the people, unlike the security forces in mainland China.

Police said 511 people were arrested for unlawful assembly in the central business district and preventing police from carrying out their duties. After warnings failed to dislodge them, the police moved in to remove the protesters, who lay down on the street with arms locked, taking them away one by one. ...

Organizers said 510,000 people turned out, the highest estimates in a decade. Hong Kong researchers put the number at between 154,000 and 172,000.

Whatever the numbers, the march and the vehemence of opposition is certain to raise the alarm in Beijing, which tried to keep the news away from people in mainland China.

The Chinese media predictably did not report it, and comments about the protests were deleted from microblogs and other social media. Some users posted comments saying friends' accounts were blocked after they discussed the protests.

A Hong Kong protester, Kennie Chan, lamented that Beijing was less

restrained now in exerting its influence over Hong Kong.

"In the past, it seemed like they were doing it step-by-step, but now, it's obvious that they cannot stand Hong Kong people. We are not obedient anymore, and are resisting more and more," said the 30-year-old, who works as a stage manager. ...

Also, three weeks ago, the Chinese government released a so-called white paper that said Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy is not inherent but is authorized by the central government in Beijing.

Anger against those moves was on display during the march Tuesday when peaceful crowds carried banners and posters urging democracy. ...

The protest comes days after nearly 800,000 residents voted in an informal referendum aimed at bolstering support for full democracy. Beijing denounced the referendum as a political farce. ...

Xi's Grip on Military

ZEENEWS.INDIA | July 1

THE CHINESE Communist Party's dramatic expulsion of a former top general—the most senior figure to fall in President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign—is an assertion of political control over the powerful and wealthy military, analysts say.

Xu Caihou, former vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission and until two years ago a member of the ruling party's elite 25-strong Politburo, was stripped of his party membership on Monday and his case was handed over to prosecutors.

The 71-year-old is the highest-ranking Chinese military officer to face trial in decades.

The authorities' move to pursue charges against him—despite reports that he is dying of bladder cancer—is intended to send the People's Liberation Army (PLA) a clear message, analysts said.

The PLA's influence in domestic affairs has waned since the days of Communist China's founding father Mao Zedong, but it remains a political force to be reckoned with and has at

the same time built up a vast network of business interests.

Xi presided over the meeting that decided to expel Xu, the official news agency Xinhua stressed.

The expulsion "definitively puts to rest any notion that Xi is not fully in command of the CCP and its military," according to Christopher Johnson, the Freeman Chair in China Studies at CSIS in Washington. ...

China's military spending has seen double-digit annual increases in recent years, with the official 2013 defense budget reaching \$119.5 billion, according to Beijing—far eclipsing the expenditure of neighbors including Russia (\$69.5 billion), Japan (\$56.9 billion) and India (\$39.2 billion), although still well below the U.S.'s \$495.5 billion. ...

"In his first year in office, Chinese President Xi Jinping has amassed a level of individual power not seen among Chinese leaders in decades. He [has] impressive new powers that enable him to sidestep traditional bureaucracy and force through his policies. ... For any nation destined to play a decisive role in shaping history, an ambitious leader with power is key. ... Thus it is significant that we see power consolidating in the hands of Xi Jinping, an autocrat cast in the ideological mold of Vladimir Putin. In the coming months, watch for Mr. Xi to lead China toward a more confrontational foreign policy that heightens friction with Europe."

—Trumpet, February 2014

Related: "Another King of the East"

A Retweet Can Cost You Five Years in Jail

BUZZFEED | June 30

IN RUSSIA, likes, reposts and retweets aren't just endorsements—they're now punishable by up to five years in prison. President Vladimir Putin has approved new amendments introducing harsh sentences for online incitement to religious hatred and

“extremism,” further tightening the screws in the Kremlin’s recent Internet clampdown.

Under the amendments, passed by parliament earlier this month and published on an official government website with Putin’s stamp on Monday, prosecutors essentially have the right to charge anyone who reposts content they deem illegal. [Russia’s vaguely worded “extremism” law is ostensibly aimed at targeting neo-Nazis and Islamic militants](#), but has been applied to everything from opposition groups to Scientology and South Park, in what rights groups say amounts to backdoor censorship.

The new measures post facto legalize practices Russian authorities have

been increasingly keen to avail themselves of during the Kremlin’s recent crackdown on the internet, which Putin called a “CIA project” in April. ...

“Retweeting and publication is the same thing as distribution,” the Investigative Committee, an FBI-like organization that functions as Russia’s de facto political police, replied to the original tweet, since deleted. “Get ready.”

Russia has blocked 185 sites this year after prosecutors found them to be “extremist,” according to an unofficial online database. Most of them are linked to political opposition figures who tried to organize protests against Russia’s annexation of Crimea. Courts have banned over 2,300 “extremist

materials” since the law was passed in 2002, according to the Justice Ministry website.

“History proves that once a dark rider becomes Russia’s ruler, he uses every possible measure to secure the nation: Domestic challengers are crushed, economic life is completely subjugated to Moscow’s needs, and Russia’s military is built up with the goal of securing and expanding the nation’s borders. Putin has long been working to rebuild Russia’s influence in its former Soviet periphery, and analysts believe his reelection will intensify these efforts.”

—Trumpet, May-June 2012

Related: “Russia’s Dark Rider”

LATIN AMERICA/AFRICA

African Leaders Vote Themselves Immunity From War Crimes

ASSOCIATED PRESS | July 1

AFRICAN LEADERS gathered for a continent-wide summit voted to give themselves and their allies immunity from prosecution for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide at a new African Court of Justice and Human Rights.

The decision comes as the continent confronts human rights violations and has two sitting presidents and one ousted president facing charges at the International Criminal Court. ...

The decision came Friday at an African Union summit vote in Equatorial Guinea from which journalists were excluded, Amnesty International said. News of the vote was imparted obliquely in a statement Monday night about the summit outcomes. ...

[Simon Allison of the South African-based Institute for Security Studies] noted that there is an argument to be made that guaranteed immunity for presidents and senior officials might actually encourage African states to engage more enthusiastically with the proposed new court,

and to abide by its rulings.

“If Africa’s leaders aren’t worrying about their own fate, they won’t have anything to lose by cooperating,” he wrote.

And it might keep the court clear of the complicated political issues that have bogged down the International Criminal Court at The Hague.

That court has been accused of unfairly singling out African leaders. Earlier this year the African Union urged its members to “speak with one voice” to prevent criminal proceedings at ICC against sitting presidents. Only Botswana objected then, as it has now to the promised impunity at the African court. ...

Red Cross Flees Ebola Operations

REUTERS | July 2

THE RED Cross in Guinea said on Wednesday it had been forced to suspend operations tackling Ebola in the country’s southeast after staff there were threatened by a group of men armed with knives.

The incident on Tuesday in Gueckedou, about 650 kilometers (403 miles)

southeast of the capital Conakry, is the latest in a series against health workers, undermining efforts to help the region’s weak health systems fight one of the world’s deadliest diseases.

A Medecins Sans Frontieres center in nearby Macenta was attacked by youths two months ago after staff there were accused of bringing the disease to Guinea.

“Locals wielding knives surrounded a marked Red Cross vehicle. We’ve suspended operations for safety reasons,” a Red Cross official in West Africa said, asking not to be named.

“I imagine this won’t be the last time this happens,” he added.

The outbreak of the disease in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone is the largest and deadliest ever, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). The organization has recorded 467 deaths from 759 known cases since February.

Local and foreign doctors are battling a deep-rooted fear and lack of understanding of the disease, which has driven dozens of victims to evade treatment and made it harder to track patients. ...

WHO has flagged three main factors driving the spread of Ebola—the burial of victims in accordance with

cultural practices and traditional beliefs in rural communities, the dense population around the capital cities of Guinea and Liberia and the bustling

cross-border trade across the region.

Ebola causes fever, vomiting, bleeding and diarrhea and can kill up to 90 percent of those it infects.

Highly contagious, it is transmitted through contact with the blood or other fluids of infected people or animals. ...

ANGLO-AMERICA

Keep Mouths Shut About Illegals or Face Arrest

Todd Starnes, FOX NEWS | July 2

A GOVERNMENT-CONTRACTED security force threatened to arrest doctors and nurses if they divulged any information about the contagion threat at a refugee camp housing illegal alien children at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, sources say.

In spite of the threat, several former camp workers broke their confidentiality agreements and shared exclusive details with me about the dangerous conditions at the camp. They said taxpayers deserve to know about the contagious diseases and the risks the children pose to Americans. I have agreed not to disclose their identities because they fear retaliation and prosecution.

My sources say Americans should be very concerned about the secrecy of the government camps.

"There were several of us who wanted to talk about the camps, but the agents made it clear we would be arrested," a psychiatric counselor told me. "We were under orders not to say anything."

The sources said workers were guarded by a security force from the Baptist Family and Children's Services, which the Department of Health and Human Services hired to run the Lackland Camp.

The sources say security forces called themselves the "Brown Shirts."

"It was a very submissive atmosphere," the counselor said. "Once you stepped onto the grounds, you abided by their laws—the Brown Shirt laws."

She said the workers were stripped of their cell phones and other

communication devices. Anyone caught with a phone was immediately fired.

"Everyone was paranoid," she said. "The children had more rights than the workers."

She said children in the camp had measles, scabies, chicken pox and strep throat as well as mental and emotional issues.

"It was not a good atmosphere in terms of health," she said. "I would be talking to children and lice would just be climbing down their hair."

A former nurse at the camp told me she was horrified by what she saw.

"We have so many kids coming in that there was no way to control all of the sickness—all this stuff coming into the country," she said. "We were very concerned at one point about strep going around the base."

Both the counselor and the nurse said their superiors tried to cover up the extent of the illnesses.

"When they found out the kids had scabies, the charge nurse was adamant—'Don't mention that. Don't say scabies,'" the nurse recounted. "But everybody knew they had scabies. Some of the workers were very concerned about touching things and picking things up. They asked if they should be concerned, but they were told don't worry about it."

The nurse said the lice issue was epidemic—but everything was kept "hush-hush."

"You could see the bugs crawling through their hair," she said. "After we would rinse out their hair, the sink would be loaded with black bugs."

The nurse told me she became especially alarmed because their files indicated the children had been transported to Lackland on domestic charter buses and airplanes.

"That's what alerted me," she said.

"Oh, my God. They're flying these kids around. Nobody knows that these children have scabies and lice. To tell you the truth, there's no way to control it." ...

The counselor told me the refugee camp resembled a giant emergency room—off limits to the public. ...

The counselor kept a detailed journal about what happened during her tenure at the facility. "When people read that journal they are going to be astonished," she said. "I don't think they will believe what is going on in America."

So it was not a great surprise, she said, when she received a call from federal agents demanding that she return to the military base and hand over her journal.

She said she declined to do so. ...

"They're going to crush the system," the nurse told me. "We can't sustain this. They are overwhelming the system and I think it's a travesty." ...

American-Made Cars: Fewest Ever

CARS.COM | July 1

A STEADY decline in cars with high domestic-parts content had us wondering when the American-Made Index would have fewer than 10 cars. This year, that nearly happened. For the 2014 model year, there are no "honorable mentions" In fact, just 13 models built in the U.S. reported domestic-parts content of 75 percent or higher, but three of those are going to be discontinued, meaning they're disqualified from our list. Three model years ago, 30 cars met the 75 percent threshold.

It's a clear trend, and it comes despite increased domestic car production. In 2013, automakers built 11

U.S. Scientist Creates Deadly Superbug

INDEPENDENT | July 1

A CONTROVERSIAL scientist who carried out provocative research on making influenza viruses more infectious has completed his most dangerous experiment to date by deliberately creating a pandemic strain of flu that can evade the human immune system.

Yoshihiro Kawaoka of the University of Wisconsin-Madison has genetically manipulated the 2009 strain of pandemic flu in order for it to “escape” the control of the immune system’s neutralizing antibodies, effectively making the human population defenseless against its reemergence.

Most of the world today has developed some level of immunity to the 2009 pandemic flu virus, which means that it can now be treated as less dangerous “seasonal flu.” However, *The Independent* understands that Professor Kawaoka intentionally set out to see if it was possible to convert it to a pre-pandemic state in order to analyze the genetic changes involved.

The study is not published, however, some scientists who are aware of it are horrified that Dr. Kawaoka was allowed to deliberately remove the only defense against a strain of flu virus that has already demonstrated its ability to create a deadly pandemic that killed as many as 500,000 people in the first year of its emergence.

Professor Kawaoka has so far kept details of the research out of the public domain but admitted today that the work is complete and ready for submission to a scientific journal. ...

“Through selection of immune escape viruses in the laboratory under appropriate containment conditions, we were able to identify the key regions [that] would enable 2009 H1N1 viruses to escape immunity,” Professor Kawo-ka said in an e-mail. ...

“He took the 2009 pandemic flu virus and selected out strains that were not neutralized by human antibodies. He repeated this several times until he got a real humdinger of a virus,” said one scientist who was present at Professor

Kawaoka’s talk.

“He left no doubt in my mind that he had achieved it. He used a flu virus that is known to infect humans and then manipulated it in such a way that it would effectively leave the global population defenseless if it ever escaped from his laboratory,” he said.

“He’s basically got a known pandemic strain that is now resistant to vaccination. Everything he did before was dangerous but this is even madder. This is the virus,” he added.

The work was carried out at Wisconsin University’s \$12 million Institute for Influenza Virus Research in Madison, which was built specifically to house Professor Kawaoka’s laboratory, which has a level-3 agriculture category of biosafety: one below the top safety level for the most dangerous pathogens, such as Ebola virus.

However, this study was done at the lower level-2 biosafety. The university has said repeatedly that there is little or no risk of an accidental escape from the lab, although a similar U.S. government lab at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta with a higher level-3 biosafety rating was recently criticized over the accidental exposure of at least 75 lab workers to possible anthrax infection. ...

Some experts cite the unexpected emergence of a new H1N1 strain of flu in 1977, which spread globally over three decades, as an early example of a flu virus being accidentally released from a lab. Genetic evidence points to it having escaped from a lab in China or the Soviet Union.

There are many examples of other infectious agents escaping from labs. Smallpox virus escaped from Birmingham Medical School in 1978 and killed a medical photographer, Janet Parker, the last person to die of smallpox. Foot and mouth virus escaped in 2007 from a veterinary lab in Surrey and in 2004 the SARS virus escaped from a high-containment lab in Beijing, infecting nine people before it was stopped.

million vehicles in the U.S., including passenger cars and medium/heavy-duty trucks, according to Automotive News. ...

You’d think all of that would contribute toward a banner crop of cars with high percentages of domestic content, but for the 2014 model year, 90 models were built in the U.S. with an average domestic-parts content (not sales-weighted) of 57.1 percent, according to Cars.com’s analysis of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data. That decline has been steady: In the 2013 model year, 93 U.S.-built cars averaged 57.7 percent domestic content. In the 2012 model

year, 86 U.S.-built cars averaged 60.5 percent domestic content. ...

The continuing drop in domestic parts is “here to stay for the long term,” [Ed Kim, vice president of industry analysis at AutoPacific] said. ...

UN to Intervene in Detroit Water Shutoffs

WORLD NET DAILY | July 1

WND HAS learned that after issuing a statement last week condemning Detroit’s decision to send water shut-off notices to tens of thousands of

customers behind in their payments, the UN now plans to conduct confidential policy discussions with the Obama administration to be followed by a formal public report to the UN Human Rights Council.

On Monday, the UN Human Rights Council’s office in Geneva confirmed to WND that the UN plans to intervene directly in the Detroit water crisis, determined to apply international law to judge the U.S. in violation of human rights to safe water.

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, DWS&D, announced in March it would send shut-off notices to customers with balances more than

Major Global Economic Breakdown

KING WORLD NEWS | June 28

TODAY, A 42-year market veteran warned King World News about massive worldwide fires and a major global economic breakdown. Below is what Egon von Greyerz, who is founder of Matterhorn Asset Management out of Switzerland, had to say in this extraordinary interview.

Greyerz: I've just come back from the United States. What surprised me was how bullish some people are about the U.S. economy and the equity markets. The mainstream media continues to fuel this totally misplaced optimism ...

I was watching one mainstream media news channel when the revised GDP figures came out at minus 2.9 percent for Q1. The reporter stated that in a survey of 25 economists, every one said the drop was due to climate and therefore was an aberration.

When a guest argued that this was a real drop and an important one, the reporter said, "Let's stick to the facts." She was referring to the forecast of the 25 economists. So now on mainstream media the forecasts have become the "facts." No economist has ever correctly forecast a turn in the economy and they will all be wrong this time too.

I also met with a number of high-net-worth individuals in the U.S. Not one was concerned about the economy or the dollar, nor do they have any interest in gold. I think a lot of people will be very surprised in coming months and years.

But if you speak to ordinary people like taxi drivers, they have real problems making ends meet. This is

the same problem in the entire Western world. The gap between the rich and the poor is bigger than ever and this will create major social unrest when the economy turns.

In my view, the negative Q1 GDP number was not an aberration. The real U.S. economy is weak and debt-laden. Money printing and zero interest rates are not having any effect. GDP adjusted for inflation is now a staggering 8 percent below the 2005 level. And real wages for workers have been falling for decades.

I see some major turns in markets and the economy happening soon. The optimism based on the stock market exuberance will soon turn. The market does not reflect the real economy but only that all printed money has flowed into the financial markets. Based on any rational criteria the stock market is a massive bubble. ...

And once the psychology turns, the fragility of the world economy will be exposed. ...

Eventually, worldwide bonds will be good only for lighting fires. In the meantime, governments will tax the people to death. Spain, for example, is now proposing a tax on bank deposits. What a great incentive for people to save. They actually have to pay a tax for saving.

In addition to the economic fires worldwide, the geopolitical problems are now flaring up everywhere. The problems in Ukraine and the Middle East are extremely serious and a major threat to world peace. ...

\$150 overdue or who are more than two months behind in their payments. The department, which said nearly half of the 324,000 water and sewerage accounts are overdue, has put out 46,000 notices since March. About 4,500 accounts have had their water shut off. ...

Although the United States signed the UN's International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on Oct. 5, 1977, during the administration of President Jimmy Carter, the U.S. Senate never ratified the treaty. ...

In the same press release, the UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Leilana Farha, expressed concern that children are being removed from their families and homes because, without access to water, their housing is no longer considered adequate.

"If these water disconnections disproportionately affect African Americans they may be discriminatory, in violation of treaties the United States has ratified," Farha added, strongly suggesting standards established by

the UN's International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights may not be the only international law the UN seeks to apply to the water shutoff crisis in Detroit. ...

"By the way, folks, I checked. Apparently water bills in Detroit are the one thing not subsidized by government. That, I think, is probably why so many in Detroit are now up in arms. They get pretty much every social service free; they can't understand why they've gotta pay for water. I think that's largely true," [said talk radio host Rush Limbaugh]. ...

"The UN is thinking about going in there and make sure the water is turned on for everybody, even though they can't afford it," he said. ... "Does Obama know that they've cut the water off to so many people in Detroit? Does Obama know that the UN says that Detroit's violating international standards in his country? Does he know this? You'd think he would be mad about this and would go tell the UN to pound sand. ..."

However, DWSB spokeswoman Curtrise Garner told *cbs Detroit* that the department has programs to help customers who are "totally in need." She argued that not paying the water bill has simply become a habit among many of Detroit's ... residents.

"But we also know that there are people who can afford it, and we know this because once we shut the water off, the next day they are paying the bill in full." ...

America's Birthday

Thomas Sowell,
JEWISHWORLDREVIEW.COM | July 1

AMERICA'S UPCOMING birthday on the Fourth of July is a time when the gift most needed is an urgent warning about the dangers of losing the things that have made this country America—and have long made "America" a ringing word of freedom, not only in this country but to people around the world.



GERALD FLURRY

The Point of No Return

Why is there so much division in our country? Why is our economy failing? Why is the threat of war rampant on this Earth? Why are we at the point of no return?



[T]oo many of us take freedom for granted and focus our attention on other things, like electronic gadgets and the antics of celebrities, while ignoring such dangers as nuclear weapons in the hands of suicidal fanatics, with a track record of savagery, whom we are too squeamish to call anything stronger than “militants.”

Nor are all the dangers abroad. Within our own country there are all too many signs of people blithely ready to sacrifice the interests or freedom of Americans for the sake of symbolism or passing fashions.

When a former Speaker of the House of Representatives announces that she is going down to our border to greet and welcome masses of people crossing that border illegally, you know that something is fundamentally wrong.

No one knows, or apparently cares, what diseases these floods of illegals are bringing into the country, including diseases that have been largely stamped out in the U.S., and which American doctors have seldom seen enough to know how to spot them or treat them.

No one knows, or apparently cares, how many of these “children” include teenage criminal gangs to whom murder is no big deal. Worst of all, no one knows, or apparently cares, that the

elected representatives of the American people were cut out of the loop when it came to making these decisions.

All that matters to people like Nancy Pelosi is the symbolism of welcoming the oppressed, especially if they represent more votes for Democrats, who will shower the taxpayers’ money on them.

As if to make clear the elite’s contempt for ordinary Americans’ intelligence, President Obama tells us that the people crossing the border “love” America. How could he possibly know that, any more than he could know how to “invest” the taxpayers’ money in “the industries of the future,” which have in fact gone bankrupt?

What is involved are not just bad policy choices. What is involved are policies imposed unilaterally by the president, in defiance of Congress’s authority to legislate and in contempt of the Constitution’s separation of powers—on which all our freedoms ultimately depend.

The people who wrote the Constitution of the United States understood what dangers there are to the freedom of the people—and that freedom can be quietly eroded by degrees, rather than taken all at once.

Too many people today seem

oblivious to such dangers. So what if the government used the muscle of the Internal Revenue Service to keep groups opposed to the Obama administration tied up in red tape or litigation in an election year? Enough games like that can make our elections meaningless. ...

California, Water Fetching Record Prices

ASSOCIATED PRESS | July 2

THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA’s desperately dry Central Valley, those with water to spare are cashing in.

As a third parched summer forces farmers to fallow fields and lay off workers, two water districts and a pair of landowners in the heart of the state’s farmland are making millions of dollars by auctioning off their private caches.

Nearly 40 others also are seeking to sell their surplus water this year, according to state and federal records.

Economists say it’s been decades since the water market has been this hot. In the last five years alone, the price has grown tenfold to as much as \$2,200 an acre-foot—enough to cover a football field with a foot of water.

Unlike the previous drought in 2009, the state has been hands-off, letting the market set the price even though severe shortages prompted a statewide drought emergency declaration this year.

The price spike comes after repeated calls from scientists that global warming will worsen droughts and increase the cost of maintaining California’s strained water supply systems.

Some water economists have called for more regulations to keep aquifers from being depleted and ensure the market is not subject to manipulation such as that seen in the energy crisis of summer 2001, when the state was besieged by rolling blackouts. ...

In California, the sellers include those who hold claims on water that date back a century, private firms who are extracting groundwater and landowners who stored water when it was plentiful in underground caverns known as water banks. ...

MILITARY from page 1

in defense of its allies, and never in any conflict away from Japan.

But on July 1, Japan's cabinet reinterpreted the ban, which essentially scrapped it. The move marks the largest shift in Japan's defense policy since 1954, when the nation established its postwar armed forces. It was a great stride away from the pacifism that has defined Japan for the last 70 years, and a historic win for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe who has pushed hard for the change despite some opposition.

Japan can now use its large, cutting-edge military in ways that would have been unthinkable just a few years ago. If a U.S. ship is under fire, Japan can assist it. If a North Korean missile is aimed at an Australian ship, Japan can shoot it down. If the United Nations is involved in a "gray zone" activity, Japanese troops can participate.

The United States welcomes the change for three main reasons: North Korea is a loose cannon, China is increasingly belligerent, and the war-weary people of America are tired of policing every corner of the world. In light of these realities, many in Washington see Japan's willingness to take on a more assertive military posture in Asia as a decidedly positive shift.

What's the Big Deal?

Is there anything wrong with America letting Japan expand its military power so it can help look after U.S. interests in the region? Isn't Japan a reliable, trustworthy, peaceful nation?

For the answer, consider why Article 9 was written in the first place. Many nations—especially those that neighbor Japan and experienced the wartime behavior that led to Japan's forced pacifism—view a rearming Japan with deep anxiety.

Japan is notorious not only for wartime savagery, but also for failing to express much remorse for pitilessly invading its neighbors. It has also rewritten history to downplay its crimes.

In the Massacre of Nanking, for example, Japanese troops slaughtered over 200,000 Chinese civilians. The cruelty was known among the military's highest officers, including the chief commander of the invasion, Emperor Hirohito's uncle. These atrocities were committed with the royal stamp of approval for the purpose of burning fear into the hearts of those living in the cities and nations Japan planned to invade next.

Postwar Tokyo has apologized for instigating aggressive wars, but the apologies have been regularly undercut by revisionist statements from leading voices, including that of Mr. Abe.

"The Nanking Massacre is a lie made up by the Chinese," Japanese Cabinet Minister Shintaro Ishihara said in 1990. "The Nanking Massacre is a fabrication," Japanese Justice Minister Nagano Shigeto said in 1994. "The Americans brainwashed the postwar Japanese into believing they had committed terrible war crimes," said Tokyo University Prof. Nobukatsu Fujioka in 1997.

Textbooks used in Japan's school system are also notorious for glossing over or ignoring the country's wartime barbarism. Some fear that since Japanese students aren't learning this history, the nation is forgetting its past and new generations could be likelier to repeat it. Mr. Abe has addressed this, saying he wants to further beautify Japan's wartime history so Japanese children can be proud of their past.

The people of Japan embody many exceptionally noble and admirable traits. Their cultural and technological contributions have enriched the human experience for millions around the globe. But as a result of historic revisionism, a dangerous number of modern Japanese view their nation's wartime atrocities with pride. In light of this pride, it is easy to see why the July 1 constitutional reinterpretation is a matter of concern to many of Japan's neighbors.

The Secret

Japan's decision to scrap the ban on collective self-defense is of profound significance, but the reality is that Japan has long been building toward a military capable of more than defense. Narushige Michishita, a former adviser to Japan on defense and now director of the security and international program at Tokyo's National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, explains: "We are not pacifist in that sense. ... Japan isn't remilitarizing—we are already there."

Michishita says it was "very convenient" that the U.S. has pushed long and hard for Japan to take up a more assertive military posture. "We didn't have to get involved in conflicts. But now the U.S. wants Japan to be more proactive," he said.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur and the U.S. officials who wrote Japan's constitution were experienced and world wise. If they were around today, they would recognize Japan's shifting tides and take action to reverse them. But U.S. leaders today are snubbing history, turning inward and pushing for dangerous geopolitical shifts. The barriers established to prevent another world war are being systematically dismantled.



Protests erupted in Tokyo and Seoul over Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's decision to reinterpret Article 9 of the constitution on July 1.

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