

Trumpet Weekly

JULY 24, 2015

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivers a statement regarding the nuclear agreement with Iran, on July 14.



GETTY IMAGES

Four Responses to the Iran Nuclear Deal

Callum Wood | July 20

FOLLOWING THE SIGNING OF THE NUCLEAR DEAL WITH IRAN, OPINIONS for and against were quickly vocalized by many world leaders and analysts. We should take a vested interest in what is being said, because different leaders believe the deal is either a harbinger of peace or of destruction. Can we accurately gauge the truth?

1) Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

We begin with Israel's response. "The world is a much more dangerous place today than it was yesterday." These first words of Netanyahu's grave-faced address set the tone for the ensuing four somber minutes.

Netanyahu spoke about the enormous risk leading international powers have now undertaken. When the deal was signed, the P5+1 nations took the gamble that in 10 years' time Iran's terrorist regime will have changed. But in reality, when those same nations

signed the deal they *removed* any incentive for Iran to change. "In fact," warned Netanyahu, "the deal gives Iran every incentive *not* to change."

He then explained how the coming decade is set to reward Iran with hundreds of billions of dollars. "Amazingly this bad deal does not require Iran to cease its aggressive behavior in any way," he said.

Netanyahu then pointed to statements made by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. On March 21, Khamenei said that the deal does not limit Iran's aggression in any way: "Negotiations with the United States are on the nuclear issue and nothing else." Then just last week he said, "The United States embodies global arrogance, and the battle against it will continue unabated even after the nuclear agreement is concluded."

In summing up, the prime minister solemnly stated, "What a stunning historic mistake."

2) U.S. President Barack Obama

Mr. Obama also thought this was a historic moment, but his description was altogether different. He labeled it a “historic understanding.”

After a brief explanation of the changes in Iran since he came to office, President Obama took the time to highlight the positive impact of sanctions on Iran. He spoke of how the world rallied together to bring Iran to the negotiating table.

Then came a surprising statement: “And recall that at the time, skeptics argued that Iran would cheat, that we could not verify their compliance, and the interim agreement would fail. Instead, it has succeeded exactly as intended. Iran has met all of its obligations.”

Unfortunately, this clashes with reports from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). In a damning report released on July 1, the IAEA said that Iran had failed to comply with the Joint Plan of Action. Iran had not converted recently enriched uranium gas to powder form.

The Institute for Science and International Security backed this up, releasing a report saying that Iran had “definitely not” converted the uranium hexafluoride into uranium dioxide. The White House let Iran off the hook by blaming technical problems.

Mr. Obama continued, “[I]t is a good deal, a deal that meets our core objectives.” If his objectives are to preserve the regime in Iran, invigorate its quest for regional domination and the destruction of the West, and also provide it with a legitimate nuclear program capable of producing a nuclear arsenal, then, yes, this is a good deal.

3) Iranian President Hassan Rouhani

“The international community is removing the sanctions and Iran is keeping its nuclear program,” Rouhani stated July 14. It is ironic that the clearest summation of the ludicrous nature of the deal comes from Iran’s leaders, not Washington. They are the ones who stand to gain everything and lose nothing. Rouhani announced to

the Iranian public that “all our objectives” have been met.

Rouhani is excited about what has happened. Iran went in seeking the removal of all sanctions while maintaining its nuclear program. According to Iranian reports, that is exactly what it has received!

The president’s jubilation was echoed by the ayatollah, who had to sign off on the final agreement. In a letter posted eight minutes after Mr. Obama’s address, Khamenei is the one crying “death to America.”

4) The Trumpet

Following President Obama’s infamous Cairo speech in 2009, *Trumpet* editor in chief [Gerald Flurry](#) wrote the following: “After visiting Saudi Arabia, [Mr. Obama] delivered his keynote foreign-policy speech at Cairo University in Egypt to define America’s relationship with the Muslim world. Iran is the most important part of that subject. Iran is *the king of terror* and makes the Middle East tremble! But President Obama didn’t even mention the word *terrorism* in his speech! ... Will it be a problem when the Iranians get nuclear weapons? *They will use them*—they have *said* as much! Their plan is to wipe Israel off the map! If they have a chance, that is what they will do.”

That was written in 2009! Look at the deal that has just been agreed upon. Look at the overwhelming victory Iran has gained. Apologetic words and soft diplomacy have handed Iran billions of dollars with which it can fund its reign of terror. Iran has been given the opportunity to maintain and even *advance* its nuclear program!

The signing of the nuclear deal is a historic moment—but as *Trumpet* managing editor Joel Hilliker writes, “most people fail to understand why. A full appreciation for its significance requires viewing events from the unique perspective of how it fulfills biblical prophecy.”

For a detailed look into Iran’s role in these earth-shaking Bible prophecies, request our free booklet [The King of the South](#).

MIDDLE EAST

Why Israel?

Stephen Flurry,
The Trumpet Daily | July 20

GOD RAISED UP ISRAEL AS HIS CHOSEN NATION FOR A SPECIAL service preparatory for the Kingdom of God.



Why Is the Iran Deal Bad? Think North Korea.

Los Angeles Times | July 21

IN 1994, AFTER THREATENING TO WITHDRAW FROM THE NUCLEAR Nonproliferation Treaty, Pyongyang signed the Agreed Framework pledging to freeze the construction and operation of its plutonium reactors. In return, the United States agreed to provide it with substantial aid, including fuel oil deliveries and help in constructing

two light-water reactors that could be used for nuclear energy but not nuclear weapons. Inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency, or IAEA, were supposed to monitor compliance.

The U.S. duly provided North Korea with \$1.3 billion in food and energy assistance. In 2001, ground was broken on the first of the

light-water reactors. Although it was not tied to the Agreed Framework, North Korea received even more largesse from South Korea, which, under its “sunshine policy,” delivered \$8 billion in economic assistance from 1996 to 2008.

We now know, however, that North Korea never had any intention of abiding by its commitments. Before and after signing the Agreed Framework, Pyongyang was secretly enriching uranium. In 2002, North Korean officials brazenly admitted as much to a visiting American delegation.

The admission sparked a crisis. The U.S. suspended oil shipments and ended its construction work on the light-water reactor. North Korea left the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. To bring it back into compliance, the George W. Bush administration launched six-party talks with Pyongyang. As a sweetener, the U.S. even agreed to unfreeze a North Korean bank account in Macao (2006) and to take North Korea off the list of state sponsors of terrorism (2008).

That effort failed. North Korea tested its first nuclear weapon in 2006. Recent reports from China suggest that North Korea may have as many as 20 nuclear warheads, and U.S. military officials suspect that North Korea is close to being able to place those warheads on long-range ballistic missiles that could hit the West Coast of the United States. ...

Though Iran has agreed to reduce the number of operational centrifuges from 9,500 to 6,000, to shrink the amount of low-enriched uranium in its possession from 10,000 kilograms to 300, and to make changes at several facilities to prevent them from being used to create nuclear weapons, all of these steps are reversible. Iran is not destroying its nuclear weapons infrastructure Nor is it giving up ballistic missiles, renouncing terrorism, or making restitution for past attacks. It is only freezing its nuclear program, as North Korea did.

Monitoring Iran’s compliance will require on-site IAEA inspections. Obama’s deal has more intrusive inspections procedures than the Agreed Framework with North Korea, but that doesn’t

mean the procedures are sufficient. There will be continuous monitoring of a few declared nuclear sites, but Iran will be able to delay inspections of disputed facilities for at least 24 days, which would give it time to sanitize a site.

The larger problem is that, like North Korea, Iran is a big country: If the government wants to hide something, it will likely succeed. Compliance depends on voluntary cooperation. Perhaps Iran will cooperate, but so far, it has not come clean with the IAEA about 12 existing “areas of concern” regarding the “possible military dimensions” of its nuclear program.

That is not a good sign. It suggests that Iran, like North Korea (or, for that matter, Iraq during the 1990s), is likely to play a game of cat-and-mouse with inspectors—and that if it does cheat, as North Korea did, the world will again discover it is too late to do anything about it.

When the Agreed Framework unraveled, the U.S. cut off some benefits to North Korea while offering fresh incentives for cooperation. South Korea continued to bankroll North Korea until a more conservative government took office in Seoul. Military action wasn’t a serious option because war would have been too destructive.

The U.S. won’t have any more leverage to compel Iranian compliance than it has had with North Korea. Iran will most likely reap the lion’s share of economic benefits—gaining access to more than \$100 billion in frozen oil funds—in the next six months. That wind-fall couldn’t be revoked. And military action against Iran would become increasingly risky once the embargo on selling conventional weapons and ballistic missiles to Tehran is lifted.

Of course, none of this may matter because of a significant difference that makes the Iran deal even more generous than the one reached with North Korea. The Agreed Framework didn’t have an expiration date. The Iran deal does. Even if Iran fully complies with its terms, the agreement will expire in 10 to 15 years, and Iran will be left a nuclear threshold state.

John Kerry Answers Whether U.S. Will Help Protect Iran’s Nuclear Program From an Israeli Cyberattack

Business Insider | July 23

SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN KERRY, SECRETARY OF ENERGY ERNEST Moniz and Secretary of the Treasury Jack Lew appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Thursday to answer senators’ questions on the historic nuclear agreement reached with Iran last week.

Republican presidential candidate and U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Florida) asked about a provision of the agreement that seems to obligate the US and its negotiating partners to help protect Iranian nuclear sites against potential outside attack.

According to Annex III, the agreement’s section on “civil nuclear cooperation,” the signatories commit to “cooperation through training and workshops to strengthen Iran’s ability to protect against, and respond to nuclear security threats, including sabotage, as well as to enable effective and sustainable nuclear security and physical protection systems. ...

Rubio wondered if this was included in the deal because of

Iranian concerns related to a specific U.S. ally.

“If Israel decides it doesn’t like this deal and it wants to sabotage an Iranian nuke program or facility, does this deal that we have just signed obligate us to help Iran defend itself against Israeli sabotage or for that matter the sabotage of any other country in the world?” Rubio asked. ...

Kerry then jumped in to explain the provision’s specific purpose: “To be able to have longer-term guarantees as we enter a world in which cyberwarfare is increasingly a concern for everybody—that if you are going to have a nuclear capacity, you clearly want to be able to make sure that those are adequately protected.”

Of course, one of the most effective acts of geopolitical cyberwar in modern history was launched by Israel at the Iranian nuclear program. In 2010 the computer bug Stuxnet, which is believed to have been a U.S.-Israeli creation, caused Iranian centrifuges to malfunction and slowed down the growth of Iran’s uranium enrichment

capacity. Stuxnet sewed confusion inside the Iranian nuclear program and arguably bought the U.S. and its partners the critical time and political maneuverability needed to pressure Iran into a negotiated solution to the nuclear issue. ...

"If Israel conducts a cyberattack against the Iranian nuclear program are we obligated to help them defend themselves against an Israel cyber attack?" Rubio asked Kerry.

Kerry didn't exactly say no. He was, however, confident that Israel wouldn't attempt a cyberattack on Iran without U.S. help. ...

"I don't see any way possible that we would be in conflict with Israel with respect to what we might want to do there and we just have to wait until we get until that point," Kerry said, cryptically—"that point" referring to a future time at which Israel believes

it's necessary to sabotage Iran's nuclear program. It seems that at that juncture, the U.S. would have to determine whose side to take.

Kerry's statement highlights some of the Iran deal's unknowns. The deal actually obligates the U.S. to render various forms of assistance to Iran's nuclear program, as the signatories also committed to helping Iran construct a fuel fabrication facility that would let Iran convert enriched uranium into fuel assemblies for civilian nuclear reactors.

In the deal, the U.S. and its partners actually agree to help build and protect the nuclear program of a country whose leaders openly talk about destroying a major U.S. ally—and that represents a potential security threat to several other U.S. regional partners as well. ...

In Hamas's Embrace of Sunni Saudi Arabia, a Slap to Iran **Times of Israel | July 21**

AFTER YEARS OF ALIGNMENT WITH SHIITE IRAN AND ITS ARAB allies, the Palestinian Hamas group is bidding for Sunni patronage from Saudi Arabia in a dramatic shift to its geostrategic orientation.

A high-level Hamas delegation headed by the group's politburo chief, Khaled Mashaal, visited Riyadh last Friday to meet with King Salman, Crown Prince Mohammad bin Nayef, and a host of Saudi officials. The makeup of Hamas's team was noteworthy, as it included Mashaal's deputy, Moussa Abu Marzouk, and Saleh al-Arouri, the movement's Turkey-based official suspected of guiding recently exposed terror cells in the West Bank as well as the abduction-killing of three Israeli teenagers last summer. Arab media rushed to note that it was the first such meeting in over three years.

The Hamas daily *al-Resalah* cleared some of the fog surrounding the visit on Sunday, reporting that Saudi King Salman had requested that Hamas and Fatah empower him to replace Egypt as mediator in the reconciliation efforts between the two groups. Mashaal, the report said, came to Riyadh carrying a written "letter of empowerment" for Salman, while Fatah leader and PA President

Mahmoud Abbas refused to do so.

The sudden, overt rapprochement between revolutionary Hamas and conservative Saudi Arabia—both followers of Sunni Islam—is unsurprising given the gradual decline in Hamas's relations with Iran in recent years. It is not just money that Hamas is after (although given its financial pitfalls, some cash certainly couldn't hurt), but more importantly, a new patron in a region increasingly defined by its sectarian divides.

As Gaza-based Hamas leader Khalil Haya appealed to Muslim and Arab states on Monday night for money and arms "with no political price," Abu Marzouk struggled to explain that his movement's trip to Saudi Arabia was not intended as a snub to Iran.

"Hamas's compass will remain directed to Jerusalem, with the liberation of Palestine the basis of its strategy," he wrote on Facebook. "We will maintain relations with everyone." ...

Hamas's public appeal ... does not please Iran. ... "Hamas takes a step toward Riyadh and two steps away from Tehran," read the headline of pro-Hezbollah — and, by extension, pro-Iran—Lebanese daily *al-Akhbar* on Sunday. ...

In Shift, Turkish Jets Strike Islamic State Targets in Syria **Associated Press | July 24**

THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY SAYS TURKEY HAS AGREED TO allow U.S.-led coalition forces to use its air bases in the southern part of the country for operations targeting Islamic State group extremists.

A ministry statement says Friday that Turkey's air force will also be taking part in the operations. It says it expects Turkey's cooperation to "make a difference" to the campaign against the Islamic State group. ...

TW IN BRIEF

U.S. 'disturbed' by Iranian leader's criticism after deal: United States Secretary of State John Kerry said today that he was disturbed by anti-U.S. hostility voiced by Iran's top leader in the wake of the recently announced nuclear deal. Kerry said a speech by Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei on Saturday vowing to defy American policies in the region despite a deal with world powers

over Tehran's nuclear program was "very troubling." Khamenei, the highest authority in Iran, told supporters on Saturday that U.S. policies in the region were "180 degrees" opposed to Iran's, in a Tehran speech that was punctuated by chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel."

Pope Francis Ignites a Revolt That Will Overthrow American Capitalism

Paul B. Farrell, MarketWatch | July 21

YES, POPE FRANCIS IS ENCOURAGING CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE, LEADING a rebellion. Listen closely, Francis knows he's inciting political rebellion, an uprising of the masses against the world's super-rich capitalists. And yet, right-wing conservatives remain in denial, tuning out the pope's message, hoping he'll just go away like the "Occupy Wall Street" movement did.

Never. America's narcissistic addiction to presidential politics is dumbing down our collective brain. ... Pope Francis is the only real political leader that matters this year. Forget the rest. Here's why:

Pope Francis is not just leading a "Second American Revolution," he is rallying people across the Earth, middle class as well as poor, inciting billions to rise up in a global economic revolution, one that could suddenly sweep the planet, like the 1789 French storming the Bastille.

Unfortunately, conservative capitalists ... are blind to the fact their ideology is on the wrong side of history, that by fighting a no-win battle they are committing suicide, self-destructing their own ideology.

The fact is: The era of capitalism is rapidly dying, a victim of its own success, sabotaged by greed and a loss of a moral code. In 1776, Adam Smith's capitalism became America's core economic principle. We enshrined his ideal of capitalism in our constitutional freedoms. We prospered. America became the greatest economic superpower in world history.

But along the way, America forgot Smith's original foundation was in morals, values, doing what's right for the common good. Instead we drifted into ... narcissistic "mutant capitalism"

In the generation since the Reagan revolution, America's self-centered, consumer-driven, mutant capitalism lost its moral compass, drifting: Inequality explodes, income growth stagnates, the poor keep getting poorer. Yet across the world, billionaires have exploded from 322 in 2000 to 1,826 in 2015

But not for much longer, as Pope Francis's revolution accelerates, as his relentless socialist message of sacred rights for all people makes clear. Why? Our mutating capitalist elite have triggered a massive backlash, a "profound human crisis, the denial of the primacy of the human person. The worship of the ancient golden calf has returned in a new and ruthless guise in the idolatry of money."

An aggressive Pope Francis is on a mission to transform the mutant ideology of today's capitalist world

Pope Francis's recent trip to South America revealed a clear anti-capitalism, socialist message calling for a "structural change to a global economy that runs counter to the plan of Jesus," as reported in *Time* by Christopher Hale. Francis warned: "The future of humanity does not lie solely in the hands of great leaders, the great powers and the elites." The future "is fundamentally in the hands of peoples and in their ability to organize. It is in their hands, which can guide with humility and conviction this process of change. I am with you." The pope is warning all capitalists everywhere. As Jesus says in the Bible, the poor will always be with you, but the rich may not be after the coming revolution.

Yes folks, Pope Francis is a revolutionary destined to end up in the history books right up there with Lenin and Marx, Mao and Castro. He is obviously inciting revolution, wants civil disobedience and political insurrection, he is egging the poor into rebellion against a vastly outnumbered rich.

In fact, Francis has become one of the world's great revolutionary leaders. He not only is inciting an uprising of the masses against wealthy capitalist billionaires, he's out in front of the emerging global revolution, encouraging the masses, shouting battle cries, a leader

So the media should stop mistaking Francis's congenial nature, his perpetual smile, dismissing his true intentions. His is an aggressive call to arms

Hollande Calls for Vanguard of States to Lead Strengthened Eurozone

EU Observer | July 20

FRENCH PRESIDENT FRANÇOIS HOLLANDE HAS CALLED FOR A stronger more harmonized eurozone following a politically turbulent few weeks in which crisis with Greece has exposed the fault-lines in how the single currency is managed.

"What threatens us is not too much Europe, but too little Europe," he said in a letter published in the *Journal du Dimanche*.

He called for a vanguard of countries that would lead the eurozone, which should have its own government, a "specific budget" and its own parliament.

"Sharing a currency is much more than wanting convergence. It is a choice that 19 countries have made because it is in their interest," he wrote adding that this "choice" requires a "strengthened"

organization.

French Prime Minister Manuel Valls Sunday said the vanguard should include the six founding countries of the EU: France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

He said France would prepare "concrete proposals" in the coming weeks. "We must learn the lessons and go much further," he added, referring to the Greek crisis.

"Europe has let its institutions weaken and the 28 governments struggle to agree to move forward. Parliaments are too far from decisions. People turn away because they have been bypassed," said Hollande. ...

The eurozone's setup meant that it boiled down to the question

of a legitimately elected government in Berlin arguing against another legitimately elected government in Athens.

The end result, with Greece essentially under eurozone tutelage, has exposed Germany to criticism that it is a too powerful member of the club. ...

Last month, the European Commission published a “five presidents” report on just this topic—it foresees a common deposit insurance scheme for eurozone banks under supervision of the

European Central Bank, a bank resolution fund and eventually a euro area treasury.

However, these are controversial ideas and require more pooling of sovereignty at the EU level. This is at odds with the tone of the eurozone debate over the last weeks, which, amid an erosion of trust, has seen a rise in nationalist rhetoric that pitted one state against another.

Europe Puts Its Finger on the Trigger

Nathan Siegel, *Today's Ozy* | July 21

HEDGEHOG. SEEMINGLY INNOCENT, THIS WORD TAKES ON EXTRAORDINARY significance in a tiny Northern European country, reminding their population of barely 1 million of the constant threat of invasion by their former conquerors. You see, Hedgehog is the code name of Estonia's largest-ever military exercise, which took place in early May, where tanks and aircraft from around the world joined with some 13,000 Estonians to practice avoiding the same fate that has befallen Ukraine. Government video shows everyday volunteers, who make up about half of the Estonian Defense Forces, firing automatic weapons from wooded hideouts and tossing smoke grenades before calling out, “The battle is over, all are friends!” But the message to Russia is clear and backed by unprecedented force: We are not friends.

But it's not just Estonia that's hiding behind an armor of troops and tanks. At the same time, Operation Lightning Strike brought out 3,000 troops in Lithuania, while Operation Dynamic Mongoose included another 5,000 in the North Sea off Norway. It's Europe's latest show-and-tell of military capability, which, in a reversal of a trend that has lasted many years, is increasing dramatically. From Germany to Scandinavia to the Balkans, there arguably hasn't been this much activity in European barracks since the end of the Cold War, some experts say.

Military budget spending from European nations with the biggest increases will total some \$51 billion over the next seven years, according to a report by the Royal United Services Institute, a think tank. That's almost a 50 percent increase from their total defense spending in 2013, according to European Defense Agency data. ...

While most think that Russian President Vladimir Putin wouldn't be bold enough to invade a NATO nation like Estonia, most were also surprised at his adventure in Ukraine. So you can take the increases in spending as simultaneously symbolic—i.e., “Don't mess with us, Russia”—and prep for a worst-case scenario, says Henrik Heidenkamp, senior research fellow of defense, industries and society at the Royal United Services Institute.

While Putin's brazen land grab in Ukraine, perceived threats from the Islamic State group to the south and an influx of immigration understandably put European nations on high alert, it's

surprising that all of this is happening on the coattails of a crippling economic crisis that has made millions cringe at the mention of “debt” and “austerity.” With social services being slashed while unemployment skyrockets, some are far from thrilled that their governments are beefing up infantry units and spy networks.

Naturally, it's in the countries nestled snug against Mother Russia's borders, mostly the Baltic and Scandinavian states, where the biggest increases in defense are happening. ...

Then there's Poland, which is quickly becoming one of the Continent's most prominent military and economic powers. ...

What is a bit more surprising than countries at Russia's doorstep arming themselves is the fact that Western Europeans, like the war-averse Germans and economically strapped French, are doing the same. In March, Germany passed an \$8.5 billion increase through 2019 on military spending. Over the same period, France will up its budget by about \$3.5 billion. It could be seen as sending a message to the Kremlin that the NATO agreement holds weight, but remember: If Russia invades a NATO-member nation, other members must go to war.

In March, both European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker and German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen threw their weight behind a proposal for a European Union army, which would be in addition to existing NATO forces. ...

So tanks and missiles on the border regions are sure to make Putin think twice about marching soldiers into European countries. But the big, bad shirtless horseman to the east isn't the only thing making Europeans get defensive.

From the south, the rise of the Islamic State group has sparked fears of extremism breeding on European soil, particularly from fighters who have traveled to Syria and Iraq, only to return radicalized, says Anthony Glees, director of the Center for Security and Intelligence Studies at the University of Buckingham.

Some of this funding is much more under the radar. Then there's France, which has just passed an ambitious surveillance bill—the “French Patriot Act”—that allows for sweeping intelligence gathering in the wake of extremist attacks in Paris in January, much like the Patriot Act did after the U.S. passed it following 9/11. ...

Germany Confronts U.S. Over New Spy Scandal

The Local | July 22

BERLIN “CONFRONTED” WASHINGTON WITH GERMAN MEDIA reports based on Wikileaks documents indicating that the National Security Agency (NSA) “systematically” spied on Foreign Minister Steinmeier, a ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman, Martin Schaefer, told reporters that the revelations, “if true,” were “damaging” relations between Germany and the United States.

A high-ranking ministry official, Stefan Steinlein, phoned the U.S. ambassador to Berlin, John Emerson, Tuesday.

“He confronted him with the accusations and stressed that we

expect the necessary clarifications and explanations on this case and all the other cases that remain unresolved,” Schaefer said. ... “I cannot see what sensible balance—if the reports are true—you could have between the findings of such espionage and the major diplomatic damage caused by this.”

The daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and public broadcasters NDR and WDR reported this week that the NSA had tapped a mobile phone number used by Steinmeier as early as 2005, at the beginning of his first term as foreign minister. ...

ASIA

Russia's Littlest Soldiers

Meduza | July 16

SUPPORT FOR THE ARMY AND THE DESIRE TO SERVE THE NATION have reached an all-time high in Russia. The Defense Ministry says that applications to military universities have doubled since 2014. The competition for places has reached six applicants for every slot available. Among girls, that figure is 30 applicants. This kind of militarization starts very early in Russia, many years before kids start applying to college. Today, Russians are sending their children to military-patriotic clubs which get boys and girls ready for military service, teach them to love their country and to fight for

it, using a rich variety of weapons. ...

Military-patriotic education of the population, as it's known in Russia, is regulated by the government through a special program. The current arrangement came into effect in 2010, but the Ministry of Defense is preparing a new plan for 2016-2020.

The aims of the program are ambitious: It should make citizens feel great responsibility for the fate of their country, prepare them to defend the Motherland, spark interest in the history of Russia, and make Russians proud of historical heroes. ...

Kyrgyzstan Tears Up Cooperation Accord With U.S.

AFP | July 21

EX-SOVIET KYRGYZSTAN ON TUESDAY ANNOUNCED IT WAS TEARING up a long-running cooperation agreement with the United States after Washington awarded a rights prize to a jailed ethnic minority campaigner.

Central Asian Kyrgyzstan and the United States inked a cooperation deal in 1993 and the strategically located nation hosted a key U.S. military base supplying the war effort in Afghanistan until 2014.

Kyrgyzstan, however, has pursued a strongly pro-Russian foreign policy since incumbent President Almazbek Atambayev was elected in 2011.

Washington warned Monday that any move to sever the

agreement “could put assistance programs that benefit the Kyrgyzstani people in jeopardy.” ...

The bilateral cooperation agreement is expected to be officially terminated from August 20.

“Russia has been trying for years to convince Kyrgyzstan to evict the United States from its air base at Manas, but prior to 2012, Kyrgyzstan—like all the Central Asian nations—tried to maintain a balance between Moscow and Washington. If the Kremlin's efforts to fashion Kyrgyzstan into a client state are successful, U.S. influence would quickly be routed from the former Soviet nation”

July 16, 2013, *theTrumpet.com*

China's Record Dumping of U.S. Treasuries Leaves Goldman Speechless **Zerohedge | July 22**

ON FRIDAY, ALONGSIDE CHINA'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT HAD bought over 600 tons of gold in "one month," the PBOC released another very important data point: its total foreign exchange (FX) reserves, which declined by \$17.3 billion to \$3,694 billion.

We then put China's change in FX reserves alongside the total Treasury holdings of China and its "anonymous" offshore Treasury dealer Euroclear (aka "Belgium") as released by TIC, and found that the dramatic relationship which we first discovered back in

May, has persisted—namely virtually the entire delta in Chinese FX reserves come via China's U.S. Treasury holdings. As in they are being aggressively sold, to the tune of \$107 billion in Treasury sales so far in 2015. ...

[I]f China's selling is only getting started, just what does this mean for future Fed strategy? Because one can easily forget a rate hike if in addition to rising short-term rates, China is about to dump a few hundred billion in paper on a vastly illiquid market. ...

Seoul Will Not Impose Sanctions on Russia—South Korean M.P. **Sputnik News | July 22**

SOUTH KOREA WILL NOT JOIN THE U.S. AND EU-IMPOSED SANCTIONS on Russia despite strong outside pressure to do so, a leading M.P. said on Wednesday.

"Despite the outside pressure we stick to our position on this issue," Kim Han Gil, who chairs the Korea-Russia Inter-Parliamentary Council ...

Igor Zuga, who represents the Omsk region in the Federation Council, ... urged his Korean colleagues to more actively implement

trilateral economic cooperation projects with China, including the Khasan-Rajin transport route, which opens up good prospects for cooperation between Russia and the countries of the Asia-Pacific region.

Senator Zuga said that despite the slowing pace of the global economic development Russia and South Korea managed to ensure a hefty 8.5 percent increase in their bilateral trade, which now exceeds \$27 billion.

India, China and Iraq Become Biggest Russian Weapons Importers Amid Western Sanctions **IB Times | July 22**

INDIA, CHINA AND IRAQ HAVE BECOME THE BIGGEST IMPORTERS OF Russian military equipment, according to the 2014 annual report of Russia's state-run weapons exporter Rostec. Russia has been forced to diversify its customer base amid sanctions imposed on Moscow in the wake of its annexation of Crimea and involvement in the East Ukraine war over the past 16 months.

"The deliveries of military equipment were sent to 59 countries," the report read. "The company's main importers were India (25 percent), China (22 percent), Iraq (22 percent), Syria (5 percent) and Venezuela (5 percent). Geographically, the main exports of military equipment went to Asia (75 percent), Latin America (9 percent) and the Middle East (7 percent)." ...

[T]he company fulfilled 9,400 contracts in 2014; an increase of

54 percent more than the previous year. ...

Rosoboronexport, one of Rostec's larger subsidiaries, also announced Wednesday that it expects to export in excess of \$13 billion and continue to build on its portfolio of \$40 billion, reported Tass, a pro-Russian news agency.

"These Asian powerhouses have made clear that they support Putin. ... When these Asia nations—extremely powerful nuclear-armed countries—begin to show solidarity with each other regarding moves like that, what does that portend for the world? I tell you it is woe to the world."

—Gerald Flurry, *Trumpet*, May-June 2014

PLA Simulates Siege on Taiwan's Presidential Office **Want China Times | July 22**

CHINA'S ONGOING STRIDE-2015 ZHURIHE SERIES MILITARY EXERCISE may have included simulating a siege on Taiwan's presidential office building, reports the Shanghai-based Guancha Syndicate. ...

Footage from the exercise was aired on China's national broadcaster CCTV on July 5

At around three minutes into the segment, according to Guancha, the video captured a large white and red structure that appears extremely similar in appearance to Taiwan's presidential office building. The five-story building situated in Taipei's Zhongzheng

district has been the ROC presidential office since 1950 after the Nationalists fled to Taiwan after their defeat at the hands of the Communists in the Chinese civil war. It has a front facade of 140 meters and a side length of 86 meters. The tower at the center of the building measures 60 meters high.

Guancha stated that the footage of the structure may have inadvertently revealed the PLA's true mission in staging the exercise: to prepare for a potential military conflict against Taiwan, which Beijing continues to regard as a renegade Chinese province.

The People's Liberation Army Daily, a China-based media outlet for the PLA, reported that the red squad utilized new combat capabilities in securing the city target and grabbing victory, adding that the exercise featured the coordination of military aircraft, drones,

special forces and reconnaissance units.

"How could anyone fail to see that Taiwan is destined to become a part of mainland China?"—Gerald Flurry, *Trumpet*, August 1998

U.S. Decides Against Publicly Blaming China for Data Hack

Washington Post | July 21

MONTHS AFTER THE DISCOVERY OF A MASSIVE BREACH OF U.S. government personnel records, the Obama administration has decided against publicly blaming China for the intrusion in part out of reluctance to reveal the evidence that American investigators have assembled, U.S. officials said.

The administration also appears to have refrained from any direct retaliation against China or attempt to use cybermeasures to corrupt or destroy the stockpile of sensitive data stolen from the Office of Personnel Management.

"We have chosen not to make any official assertions about attribution at this point," said a senior administration official, despite the widely held conviction that Beijing was responsible. The official cited factors including concern that making a public case against China could require exposing details of the United States' own espionage and cyberspace capabilities. The official was among several who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations.

As a result, China has so far escaped any major consequence

for what U.S. officials have described as one of the most damaging cyberthefts in U.S. government history—an outcome that also appears to reflect an emerging divide in how the United States responds to commercial vs. traditional espionage. ...

U.S. officials have privately said that forensic evidence leaves little doubt that China was responsible. ...

A reluctance to retaliate could encourage adversaries to continue targeting U.S. government networks, said Robert K. Knake, a former White House cyberofficial. He noted that arrests and expulsions of suspected spies were seen as important deterrents throughout the Cold War.

"We're effectively saying you can do in cyberspace a volume of spying that is far greater than we ever could have during the Cold War and there will be fewer consequences for it," said Knake, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. "Nobody is going to be put in a jail cell for these cyberintrusions. The operator in China or Russia isn't putting themselves at personal risk in any way." ...

TrumpetDaily

RADIO SHOW

Russia Threatens War if Sweden Joins NATO

Value Walk | July 20

THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN HAS CLAIMED THAT Moscow would take "countermeasures" should Sweden join the military alliance.

Viktor Tatarinstev made the threat during an interview with Swedish newspaper *Dagens Nyheter*. He said that there would be "consequences" if Sweden became the latest nation to join NATO, writes Zachary Davis Boren for the *Independent*.

Potential NATO membership provokes opposition from Russia. Tatarinstev claimed that "Sweden is not a target for our armed

TRUMPET DAILY: THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT CRIME WAVE IN TEXAS | JULY 24

TRUMPET DAILY: NEVER A BETTER TIME FOR AMERICA'S ENEMIES | JULY 23

TRUMPET DAILY: IS THERE ANYTHING TO PRAYER? | JULY 21

TRUMPET DAILY: RADICAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE | JULY 21

TRUMPET DAILY: OBAMA ADMINISTRATION: WE MEANT TO SAY 'MANAGED ACCESS' TO IRAN'S NUCLEAR SITES | JULY 20

troops," despite what he called an "aggressive propaganda campaign" in the Swedish media.

The Swedish public has increasingly displayed support for the country to join NATO, and Tatarinstev warned "if it happens, there will be countermeasures."

"Putin pointed out that there will be consequences, that Russia will have to resort to a response of the military kind and reorientate our troops and missiles," he said. "The country that joins NATO needs to be aware of the risks it is exposing itself to." ...

Trumpet Hour

TRUMPET HOUR: PRESIDENT OBAMA'S GIANT NEW RACE DATABASE—
AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A NUCLEAR BOMB IS DETONATED? | JULY 22



President Obama's Vast New Anti-Racism Database

Robert Morley | July 22

UNITED STATES PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA WANTS TO KNOW how often your kids get disciplined at school. And he wants to put it in a national database. He also wants to know the details of your mortgage, health records, where you live, what jobs you have applied for, how much debt you have, places of work, incarcerations, and any arrest records. He wants it all—for every person living in America—and he wants it in one big mineable database.

He wants to know one more critical thing too: your race.

People went ballistic over the National Security Administration's spying scandal. But this new data grab puts America's spy agencies to shame. The *New York Post* called it the "largest consolidation of personal data in U.S. history."

What is going on? According to President Obama, in an interview with the Marc Maron show in June, the legacy of racism in America is in "almost every institution of our lives."

This giant new race database is President Obama's keynote effort to ferret out inequalities between whites and minorities. And enforce "racial and economic justice."

It's already being used to build cases and target offenders.

It works like this. The government searches the reams of data for evidence of what it calls "disparate impact." It looks for cases where expected racial outcomes don't match the percent of races within the population. And then—offenders are targeted.

For example: The new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is providing everyone's credit card accounts categorized by race to the government. Credit card companies supposedly charge higher interest rates on average to minorities. If it is found to be true, the companies will be prosecuted by the Justice Department. It won't matter if minorities on average have lower credit scores and higher default rates than whites, thus justifying higher interest rates. The racial disparity itself is the *proof of racism*.

Target: Banks

Under Consumer Financial Protection Bureau guidelines, big banks have to report the race of their employees and all job applicants. Blacks make up 13 percent of America's population. If blacks make up less than 13 percent of Wall Street employees, these corporations are targeted for prosecution.

Again, "racial disparity" is the crime. Qualification of applicants or lack of qualified applicants does not matter. To remedy this, these companies have to hire minority applicants instead of whites, regardless of who is better qualified. In this case, whites will be discriminated against to produce the racial quota expected by population.

Target: Schools and Colleges

The new Civil Rights Data Collection project targets the education system. It is collecting data on every student in America based on race. The government says that because black and Latino students are suspended at rates higher than white and Asian students, the education system is biased against them.

The Justice Department refuses to consider outside factors that could cause black students to be more likely to misbehave and thus to warrant discipline. For example, it does not believe that broken families could be the major cause of student misbehavior. So now, for example, only white and Asian students are allowed to be suspended in Minneapolis and St. Paul schools.

Target: Police and Correctional System

President Obama's Justice Department is also targeting police forces and the correctional system. It is well known that blacks make up 40 percent of inmates in federal prisons—far beyond their 13 percent within the general population. To the Obama administration, this is "disparate impact" and thus proof of entrenched racism within the police and the justice system.

Recently some people have been pushing back against this idea that police are, on average, racists, or that teachers are, on average, racists. As a response, the White House has promoted the concept of "unconscious racism" and "unconscious bias." This is the idea that police, teachers—white people in general—are racist in their actions, but not knowingly so. It is similar to the idea that white people can't fully understand what racism is because they have never collectively experienced it.

Drug and alcohol abuse is higher within the African American community than the general populace. Thus it would be expected that more African Americans would be arrested for drug use. But this does not matter. What matters is that *arrests and convictions match race population profiles*.

Target: Cities, Suburbs and Neighborhoods

Perhaps the most Orwellian of these new government surveillance programs is the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing database. It charts neighborhoods by racial groupings to identify the ones that need *rebalancing*. It is an effort to diversify America's wealthier neighborhoods.

Cities and suburbs that are not sufficiently economically integrated will lose federal funding used to fight blight. To continue to receive federal dollars, these communities must agree to build houses in rich neighborhoods for poor people. If the communities are also not sufficiently racially integrated, these communities must use the federal money to build houses for minorities in white neighborhoods.

Target: America

“Even if no one has complained about discrimination, even if there is no other evidence of racism, the numbers themselves will ‘prove’ that things are unfair,” writes the *New York Post*’s Paul Sperry.

“Such databases have never before existed. Obama is ... creating a diversity police state where government race cops and civil-rights lawyers will micromanage demographic outcomes in virtually every aspect of society. The first black president, quite brilliantly, has built a quasi-reparations infrastructure perpetually fed by racial data that will outlast his administration.”

America’s first national database is set to revolutionize race relations in America.

“All this is doing is fanning the flames of racial strife,” said Stephen Flurry. “Don’t take my word for it. That is what God prophesies.”

If you want to understand where President Obama’s new race database is taking America, you need to read the booklet [America Under Attack](#). Read it online or order a free copy by clicking on the link.

New Documents Show IRS Used Donor Lists to Target Audits

Judicial Watch | July 22

JUDICIAL WATCH ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT IT HAS OBTAINED DOCUMENTS from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that confirm that the IRS used donor lists to tax-exempt organizations to target those donors for audits. The documents also show IRS officials specifically highlighted how the U.S. Chamber of Commerce may come under “high scrutiny” from the IRS. ...

In early May, once the media began reporting on the IRS audits of donors, IRS officials reacted quickly. One official acknowledges the issue “is a biggy” when a reporter from the *New York Times* contacts the IRS on May 9. ...

Later that day, then-Director of the Exempt Organizations Lois Lerner weighs in with an e-mail that confirms that she supported the gift tax audits. ... Lerner’s involvement and support for the new gift tax contradicts the IRS statement to the media at the time that audits were not part of a “broader effort looking at donations 501(c)(4)s.” ...

“These documents that we had to force out of the IRS prove that the agency used donor lists to audit supporters of organizations

engaged in First Amendment-protected lawful political speech,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “And the snarky comments about the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the obsession with Karl Rove’s Crossroads GPS show that the IRS was targeting critics of the Obama administration. President Obama may want to continue to lie about his IRS scandal. These documents tell the truth—his IRS hated conservatives and was willing to illegally tax and audit citizens to shut down opposition to Barack Obama’s policies and reelection.” ...

Additionally, we now know that the IRS targeted not only right-leaning applicants, but also right-leaning groups that were already operating as 501(c)(4)s. At Washington, D.C.’s direction, dozens of groups operating as 501(c)(4)s were flagged for IRS surveillance, including monitoring of the groups’ activities, websites and any other publicly available information. Of these groups, 83 percent were right-leaning. And of the groups the IRS selected for audit, 100 percent were right-leaning.

Obama Admin Plans More Executive Action on Immigration

Washington Free Beacon | July 22

THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION IS MOVING FORWARD WITH PLANS TO expand a waiver program that will allow additional illegal aliens to remain in the country rather than apply for legal status from abroad.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a proposed rule on Tuesday that would make changes to a waiver program created by President Barack Obama’s executive action on immigration in 2013. The action created a waiver that primarily allowed illegal immigrants with a U.S. citizen spouse or parent to stay in the country instead of having to leave the United States

The new rule expands eligibility to a host of other categories of illegal immigrants beyond those with citizen spouses and parents.

“DHS proposes to expand the class of aliens who may be eligible for a provisional waiver beyond immediate relatives of U.S. citizens

to aliens in all statutorily eligible immigrant visa categories,” the proposed rule stated. “Such aliens include family-sponsored immigrants, employment-based immigrants, certain special immigrants, and Diversity Visa program selectees, together with their derivative spouses and children.”

The waivers allow illegal immigrants to stay in the country while they await visas, and avoid a penalty under U.S. law that bars persons who entered the country illegally from returning for at least three years. ...

“It’s a very bad policy,” said Jessica Vaughan, director of policy studies at the Center for Immigration Studies. “It makes it possible for illegal aliens to avoid the consequences established by Congress to deter people from settling here illegally and then laundering their status by adjusting to a green card.” ...

“It is a slap in the face to the many legal immigrants who abide by the law, follow the process, and wait their turn,” she said. “In addition, it will increase the likelihood of fraud in the marriage categories, which produce tens of thousands of new green cards each year.”

“Green cards are the golden ticket. Once you get a green card, you get welfare, you get tax credits, you get entitlements,” said a GOP Senate aide. “The U.S. hands out 1 million green cards every year, and these documents are bankrupting the country.” ...



Black Officer in South Carolina Helps White Supremacist Suffering From Heat Exhaustion at KKK Rally

Jeremiah Jacques | July 21

ANXIETIES ABOUNDED IN COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON SATURDAY as white supremacists rallied to protest the removal of the Confederate flag from the statehouse. The friction culminated in a Ku Klux Klan group facing off against a New Black Panthers protest, which resulted in five arrests.

Yet not everyone on the scene allowed the tensions or the scorching summer heat to override their humanity and compassion.

One photograph taken at the rally depicts a black police officer helping an elderly white supremacist who was apparently battling heat exhaustion.

The unidentified white man in the photo is wearing a T-shirt bearing a swastika and symbols associated with the National Socialist Movement, a neo-Nazi group. Officer Leroy Smith is holding the white man's arm as he helps him up a set of stairs to take refuge from the sun. Temperatures reached the upper 90s.

This photograph is going viral on social media because of the example of forgiveness and compassion set by Smith. Many onlookers were surprised that a black officer would not hesitate to assist an outspoken white supremacist. But Smith said the photo shows

“who we are in South Carolina.”

“I consider myself like every other officer who was out there braving the heat on Saturday to preserve and protect,” he said to the *Inquisitr*. He added that his obligation is to assist everyone, “regardless of the person's skin color, nationality or beliefs”

Smith's noble example and words echo the sentiments expressed last month by some of his fellow South Carolinians after a white racist psychopath killed nine black people in a church. The tragedy happened in Charleston on June 17, and *Trumpet* editor in chief [Gerald Flurry](#) said the response of the victims was “one of the most amazing stories in American history.” He wrote: “The members of the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston and the relatives of the victims of that church shooting showed the whole world the solution to our race-relations crisis—if only people would pay attention.”

To understand the importance and the deep value of the example those victims set, watch Mr. Flurry's *Key of David* program “[Charleston, S.C.—How to Solve Race Relations](#).”