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How the Global Financial Crisis Will Produce Europe's Ten Kings





GERALD FLURR

NE OF THE GREATEST PROPHECIES IN all the Bible is about the union of European nations. More specifically, it's about the *political* union of 10 European nations.

For decades, people in Europe have tried to forge a cohesive political union. To that end, they have created the present, loosely hinged 28-nation European

Union. Yet Revelation 17 says there are going to be 10 kings there that are going to unite politically and form a real superpower: a modern-day Holy Roman Empire.

Bible prophecy also reveals that this European superpower will be led by a strong German leader who will essentially hijack the European Union.

The United States is playing a key role in that union—in a negative way, as Herbert W. Armstrong predicted *three decades ago!*

Mr. Armstrong wrote in 1984 that a massive banking crisis in America "COULD suddenly result in triggering European nations to unite as a new world power, larger than either the Soviet Union or the U.S." (emphasis mine throughout).

He explained how American and European banks are tied very closely together as one financial structure, and how a financial crisis would *cause* these 10 European nations to unite.

Events are beginning to move rapidly in that direction. This world is going to be shocked when this great European superpower bursts on the scene very, very soon!

Flashback of the 2008 Banking Crisis

"Five years ago ... when I was the Speaker, I gathered the other



Democratic House leaders in my office to discuss the latest financial news." Nancy Pelosi wrote those words in *USA Today*, Sept. 17, 2013. She was talking about a time when America's biggest financial corporations were filing for bankruptcy and seeking bailouts.

She continued: "After the meeting at 3 p.m., I placed a call to Secretary Paulson and asked him to come the next morning to brief the leadership. Then came his STUNNING response: 'Madam Speaker, tomorrow morning will be too late."

It's important that we remember how precarious America's financial situation was back then.

Pelosi wrote about Secretary Paulson describing "a meltdown and financial crisis from the depths of hell." When she asked Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke what he thought of the secretary's characterization, he said: "If we do not act immediately we will not have an economy by Monday." This was Thursday night. "Everyone in the room was Flabbergasted," wrote Pelosi.

Many experts said the financial crisis in America was within HOURS of totally wrecking the economy.

In a Sept. 18, 2008, article for Spiegel Online titled "U.S. Financial Crisis: 'The World as We Know It Is Going Down,'" Marc Pitzke assessed: "[I]t really does look as if the foundations of U.S. capitalism have shattered." When the foundation of something is shattered, it will never be restored. That is certainly true for our economy.

The 2008 financial meltdown was fueled primarily by America's outrageous debt. Yet the U.S. has done absolutely nothing to correct that problem. The national debt currently stands at \$18.1 trillion, and it is soaring and growing worse every day to the tune of \$3 billion!

Yet many authorities are warning that a worse crisis is coming.

A Worse Crisis

The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) is one of the world's leading financial authorities. It warned June 28 that when the next crisis strikes, central banks won't be able to save the day again because the life preservers have all been used. According to the BIS, "[I]n some jurisdictions, monetary policy is already testing its outer limits, to the point of stretching the boundaries of the unthinkable."

The BIS report noted that "the policy mix has relied too much ... on the very *debt-fueled growth model* that lay at the root of the crisis." And the United States has by far the worst debt of all in the world.

Famed investor Jim Rogers warned just days prior to the BIS report: "I expect that within the next year or two we will see some major, major problems in the world financial markets."

Europe's Reaction

Greece is the latest European victim of America's debt crisis. That nation's troubles are threatening trouble to other nations in Europe. But they are also presenting opportunities for a more compact Europe.

The prophecy in Revelation 17 discusses the seven times that the Roman Empire would be resurrected as the Holy Roman Empire—from the Middle Ages all the way up to our present day. These resurrections are depicted as the seven heads of a beast. Our free new book, *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy*, will shock and inspire you with an understanding of those prophecies.

Revelation 17:12-13 is about a more streamlined Europe, and Greece's crisis is showing us how it all will happen. These verses say, "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast."

This is the last head of that Holy Roman Empire, and it's going to have 10 kings. It won't have 28 kings—it will have 10, and that is what this financial crisis is going to trigger and promote in a powerful way.

Verse 17 further explains: "For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled." It is God's WILL that this happens. Why? The Bible shows that this is going to happen because of America's sins! America leads the world in vile sins, and this is the means by which God is going to correct this nation!

The German Question (and the German Solution)

How exactly do America's problems tie in with Europe, Greece and Germany? How are they bringing about the 10 kings of the final Holy Roman Empire?

"Europe, once again at a moment of crisis, faces the quandary of how to deal with German power. The German question is back," wrote the *New York Times*'s Roger Cohen on July 13. "Precisely the thing that Germans were most uneasy about, and their neighbors too, has now occurred. Germany dominates Europe to a degree unimaginable even 15 years ago."

The American-European financial crisis is empowering Germany to dominate Greece and the rest of Europe in a way that will ultimately pare the European Union down to 10 nations!

In his article on July 13 titled "Greece Is Being Treated Like a Hostile Occupied State," the *Telegraph*'s Ambrose Evans-Pritchard wrote that the new deal for Greece's bailout is "the worst of all worlds. They have solved nothing. Germany and its allies have for the first time attempted to eject a country from the euro" In other words, it's going to unravel and, as the Bible prophesied, it's going to lead to those 10 nations.

Greece's former finance minister, Yanis Varoufakis, said in a July 13 interview with the *New Statesman* that the EU's monetary union is "utterly and completely" controlled by Germany. "It is all like a very well-tuned orchestra, and [Germany's finance minister] is the director."

Germany has power that was supposed to be dispersed among and controlled by all of these EU members. They were supposed to control a dangerous Germany, but look at what Germany is doing today.

Reuters quoted one diplomat saying that the austerity

measures imposed on Greece are tantamount to turning Greece into a "German protectorate."

Herbert W. Armstrong predicted years ago that the collapse of the Western world's financial system, led by the United States, would unite those 10 nations into what is called the Holy Roman Empire—led by Germany.

It is a development that will shock the world! But if you study these events within the bigger picture of Bible prophecy, you realize that it is going to lead to Jesus Christ returning to personally DESTROY that great empire and to usher in peace and joy and happiness for all eternity!

MIDDLE EAST



HAMAS TERRORIST GROUP FULFILLS BIBLE PROPHECY | JULY 31

A WORLD GONE MAD | JULY 30

BRITAIN AHEAD OF SCHEDULE ON MILITARY CUTBACKS | JULY 29

TRUE EDUCATION BEGINS IN THE HOME | JULY 27

Syria's Assad Admits Manpower Shortage, Says Army Forced to Cede Territory

Jerusalem Post | July 26

SYRIAN PRESIDENT BASHAR ASSAD SAID ON SUNDAY THE ARMY had been forced to give up areas in order to hold onto more important ones in its fight with insurgents, and the scale of the war meant the military faced a manpower shortage. ...

"Sometimes, in some circumstances, we are forced to give up areas to move those forces to the areas that we want to hold onto," Assad said in a televised speech. "We must define the important regions that the armed forces hold on to so it doesn't allow the collapse of the rest of the areas." ...

The Syrian government's territorial control stands at no more than 25 percent of the country, with the rest divided among an array of armed groups including Islamic State, other rebel groups and a well-organized Kurdish militia, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which tracks the war. ...

Assad said increased support from states backing the rebels—including Turkey—was the reason for recent setbacks that had created "a state of despair" among Syrians. Syria is in a war funded by the richest and most powerful states, he said. ...

In the assessment of many diplomats and analysts, Assad has

been forced to forgo some far-flung parts of the country to focus efforts on protecting more defensible areas in the west [primarily the cities of Damascus, Homs Hama, and the coastal region forming the heartland of his Alawite sect].

Some diplomats say that Iran, his main regional ally, has advised him to retrench....

The government's military setbacks have triggered renewed pledges of support from Assad's main regional allies, the Shiite Islamist government of Iran and the Lebanese group Hezbollah, which is fighting alongside the Syrian Army.

Assad said Iran's role was limited to the provision of military experts, while publicly crediting Hezbollah for its "important" and "effective" role for the first time. ...

Western officials have said the military pressure on Assad could pave the way to a political deal that would see Assad step down as demanded by the United States and other Western states....

RELATED: "AN IMPORTANT TREND TO WATCH AS ASSAD'S RULE WEAKENS IN SYRIA"

Iran Announces Two New Nuclear Facilities

Arutz Sheva | July 30

JUST HALF A MONTH AFTER THE IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL WAS SIGNED in Vienna on July 14, the Islamic republic of Iran announced on Thursday that it plans to build two new nuclear facilities in its southeastern Makran region on the Indian Ocean.

Mohammed Ahmadian, deputy head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), announced the plans as quoted by the semi-official Fars News Agency.

"Two 100 mw (megawatt) nuclear reactors will be constructed on Makran coastline of the Sea of Oman to generate electricity," Ahmadian declared.

Describing the project, he said, "[A]t present, necessary

studies to build the two power plants are being carried out through cooperation with 17 research institutes and consulting engineers companies."

The nuclear deal stipulates that Iran will not build any new uranium enrichment facilities for a period of 15 years.

While the newly announced nuclear power plants will not necessarily be used to enrich uranium—although they will at the least require enriched uranium in order to operate—Iran has a long history of lying about the military aspects of its nuclear program.

Ascertaining the usage of the new plants will be made all the more difficult because the deal gives Iran 24 days before any

inspection.

It was revealed last Thursday in a Senate hearing that in classified sections of the deal the U.S. agreed to let Iran test its own covert nuclear facilities.

Those facilities include the highly secretive Parchin military base, which Iran has admitted to using to test exploding bridge wire nuclear detonators and has refused requests by international inspectors to see the site. ...

Pro-Islamic State, Salafi Groups Seek Presence in the Gaza Strip

Middle East Monitor | July 29

SALAFIST GROUPS ACTIVE IN THE GAZA STRIP HAVE BEEN SUSpected of carrying out the series of attacks in recent months targeting both foreign-owned offices and Hamas. A bomb on July 19 targeting vehicles belonging to Hamas and Islamic Jihad follows a series of four such targeted attacks in May. Despite their small number, the campaign of bombings and assassinations by Salafi militants has caused tension within the territory and threatened the ceasefire with Israel. ...

Salafi groups critical of Hamas in the Gaza Strip have threatened to fire rockets at Israel to put pressure on the movement in response to what they claim is a crackdown on their activities in Gaza following the series of bombings. ...

Many groups aiming to adopt an Islamic discourse have accused Hamas of pursuing political nationalism and being insufficiently stringent over religious law enforcement. A recent video statement by a Palestinian [Islamic State] fighter in Syria threatened to topple Hamas for its moves against Salafis. "We will uproot the state of the Jews [Israel] and you [Hamas] and Fatah, and all of the secularists are nothing and you will be overrun by our creeping multitudes," he claimed.

While the different Salafist groups seem to be small and loosely structured, and lacking clear policies and leadership, they have been unafraid to threaten attacks. ...

RELATED: "IS IRAN ABOUT TO LOSE ITS PROXY HAMAS?"

Islamic State Recruitment Document Forecasts Terrorist Army, World Takeover

Washington Free Beacon | July 29

A N ISLAMIC STATE RECRUITMENT DOCUMENT DEEMED LIKELY authentic by multiple U.S. intelligence officials suggests that [the Islamic State] has designs to build a terrorist army in Afghanistan and Pakistan and cause a war in India to incite an "end of the world."

Sarah A. Carter, an award-winning investigative reporter for the American Media Institute, reported for *USA Today*: "The undated document, titled 'A Brief History of the Islamic State Caliphate, The Caliphate According to the Prophet,' seeks to unite dozens of factions of the Pakistani and Afghan Taliban into a single army of terror. It includes a never-before-seen history of the Islamic State, details chilling future battle plans, urges al Qaeda to join the group, and says the Islamic State's leader should be recognized as the sole ruler of the world's 1 billion Muslims under a religious empire called a 'caliphate.'"

"Accept the fact that this caliphate will survive and prosper

until it takes over the entire world and beheads every last person that rebels against Allah," it proclaims. "This is the bitter truth, swallow it."

Spanning 32 pages and written in the language Urdu, the document explains that [the Islamic State] wants to attack U.S. soldiers withdrawing from Afghanistan as well as organize attacks against American diplomats and Pakistani officials.

The literature, which was discovered in Pakistan, also hints of "preparations" for an attack on India that would result in a "final battle" between the Muslim global community and the United States with "all its allies."

Moreover, it describes the [Islamic State] strategy as focusing on harnessing powers in the Arab world. "Instead of wasting energy in a direct confrontation with the U.S., we should focus on an armed uprising in the Arab world for the establishment of the caliphate," the document reads. …

Strengthened U.S.-Turkey Relations Solidify Ankara's New Strategy in Syria Middle East Monitor | July 29

Larget Those who target Turkey," said Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu on Monday, in reference to his country's change in posture in the Syrian war. Turkey initiated its first airstrikes on [the Islamic State] last week, declaring war against the extremist militia and demonstrating an utterly new strategy toward its war-torn southern neighbor. This comes after years of deliberate resistance to engaging militarily in the conflict.

The Turkish strategy is being implemented rapidly and has already pushed for the establishment of a [20-mile deep] "safe zone" in areas that will be cleared of [Islamic State] fighters in northern Syria. ...

[Mustafa Gurbuz, a research fellow at Rethink Institute in Washington] identifies gains made by Kurdish groups in Syria as the reason behind Turkey's crackdown on [the Islamic State]....

Historically, Turkey and the United States have never experienced strong relations, and tensions have escalated in recent years over the disparity in the two countries' intentions and responses to the war in Syria. ...

Erdoğan has maintained that if the U.S. wants Turkey's help in fighting [the Islamic State], the U.S.-led coalition must target the Assad regime, in addition to [the Islamic State]. ...

These strained relations, however, have been loosened in

recent months with compromises carried out by both governments....

The U.S. has finally agreed "in principle" to Turkey's long-made demand for the establishment of a "safe zone" on its border. In return, Erdoğan confirmed on Friday that his country would

allow the U.S.—"within a certain framework"—to use the Incirlik Air Base in southern Turkey for military operations against the militant extremists.

RELATED: "A MYSTERIOUS ALLIANCE"

Saudi Arabia Wants to Buy a Lot of Missiles

War Is Boring | July 30



THE P5+1 DEAL WITH IRAN PROMISES TO HALT TEHRAN'S ABILITY TO produce a nuclear bomb. But one condition is that the world roll back its arms embargoes, allowing Iran to shop for weapons—even ballistic missile technology—from Russia and China.

Now Saudi Arabia is reacting. On July 29, the Pentagon's Defense Security Cooperation Agency—which announces major arms sales—disclosed that Saudi Arabia wants to spend \$5.4 billion on 600 U.S.-made PAC-3 missiles. The primary purpose of these missiles is to shoot down incoming *ballistic* missiles.

It's a tremendous number of PAC -3s, the most advanced missile for the Patriot launcher on the market. If the sale happens, it'll allow Saudi Arabia to make the skies above the Persian Gulf an exceedingly deadly place to be.

Suffice to say, it's hardly a coincidence. The world may have averted a nuclear crisis or a military showdown. But it hasn't averted an arms race. ...

Iran has the largest military in the region, which is equipped with hundreds of ballistic missiles, but spends only \$15 billion per year on its military, according to data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. ...

Of the GCC's six members, at least five of them—including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain—field Patriot missiles. In June 2014, the U.S. announced that Qatar would also buy Patriots. Lush oil wealth, a willingness to spend it on weapons and an eager seller in the United States makes it possible.

But the technology and spending is split between six countries, which makes the alliance vulnerable, analyst Anthony Cordesman noted in a recent report for the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Interceptor stocks will be limited and easy to exhaust, and there will not be time to work around a lack of automated command and control and immediate authority to fire." Cordesman wrote.

"The problems caused by the lack of integration and interoperability are bad enough in other military missions, in the case of nuclear-armed or precision guided missiles, they could be suicidal."

With so many missile-defense systems in the region, one of the problems is making sure the different operators can coordinate with each other. If Iranian missiles began screaming across the Persian Gulf, multiple countries fearing attack would start shooting back at the same targets—a redundant waste.

Further, U.S. allies in the region are not just buying up Patriots—but defenses for smaller, shorter-range and shoulder-fired missiles of the kind that can bring down a jumbo jet. ...

Netanyahu, Abbas May Address the EU in Bid to Reinvigorate Peace Process

Jerusalem Post | July 29

PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU AND PALESTINIAN Authority President Mahmoud Abbas could address European heads of state in the near future as part of a push by the international community to jump-start the peace process.

It would be Netanyahu's first address to the EU Council as premier, even though he has spoken three times before a joint session of Congress.

To date, no Israeli prime minister has addressed the EU since its inception in 1993. In 1995, Shimon Peres, who was then the

foreign minister and acting prime minister, visited Brussels, but did not formally speak to the body as a whole.

The possibility of an EU address was first raised by Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades during his visit to Jerusalem last month, and he raised it again during Netanyahu's visit to his island country on Tuesday.

"I would welcome the opportunity to present Israel's position to the EU," Netanyahu said. "I think this is a very worthwhile initiative that you, Nicos, have brought up." ...

EUROPE



PRESSURE ON EUROPE TO UNITE, AND SHIFTING POLITICS IN THE MIDDLE EAST \mid JULY 31

EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN | JULY 29

Varoufakis Reveals Cloak-and-Dagger 'Plan B' for Greece

Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, Telegraph | July 26

A SECRET CELL AT THE GREEK FINANCE MINISTRY HACKED INTO government computers and drew up elaborate plans for a system of parallel payments that could be switched from euros to the drachma at the "flick of a button."

The revelations have caused a political storm in Greece and confirm just how close the country came to drastic measures before premier Alexis Tsipras gave in to demands from Europe's creditor powers, acknowledging that his own cabinet would not support such a dangerous confrontation.

Yanis Varoufakis, the former finance minister, told a group of investors in London that a five-man team under his control had been working for months on a contingency plan to create euro liquidity if the European Central Bank cut off emergency funding to the Greek financial system, as it in fact did after talks broke down and Syriza called a referendum. ...

Mr. Varoufakis claimed the cloak-and-dagger methods were necessary since the Troika had taken charge of the public revenue office within the Finance Ministry. "It's like the Inland Revenue in the UK being controlled by Brussels. I am sure as you are hearing these words your hair is standing on end," he said in the leaked transcripts.

Mr. Varoufakis said any request for permission would have

tipped off the Troika immediately that he was planning a counterattack. He was ready to activate the mechanism the moment he received a "green light" from the prime minister, but the permission never came. ...

"[German Finance Minister Wolfgang] Schäuble believes that the eurozone is not sustainable as it is. He believes there has to be some fiscal transfers, some degree of political union. He believes that for that political union to work without federation, without the legitimacy that a properly elected federal parliament can render, can bestow upon an executive, it will have to be done in a very disciplinary way.

"And he said explicitly to me that a Grexit is going to equip him with sufficient terrorizing power in order to impose upon the French that which Paris has been resisting: a degree of transfer of budget-making powers from Paris to Brussels."

Mr. Varoufakis told the *Telegraph* that Mr. Schäuble had made up his mind that Greece must be ejected from the euro, and is merely biding his time, knowing that the latest bailout plan is doomed to failure. ...

"Schäuble will then say it is yet another failure. He is just stringing us along. He has not given up his plan to push Greece out of the euro," he said.

Are We on the Threshold of a United States of Europe?

Matthew Del Santo, Real Clear World | July 27

COUR DAYS AGO, FRENCH PRESIDENT FRANÇOIS HOLLANDE declared his in-principle commitment to the creation of a "euro government, with the addition of a specific budget and a parliament to ensure democratic control."

This is more an opening gambit in a debate about the terms of putative federalization (a term Hollande was careful to avoid), than a statement of French commitment to it at all costs.

If some form of federalization comes about, it will not be because the French especially desire it, but because the logic of the euro ultimately demands it.

There has been talk of political and fiscal union since the crisis erupted five years ago. It was one of two options for resolving the eurocrisis that the German government seriously considered, before ultimately rejecting it in favor of the inter-state negotiations that produced the treaties creating the European Fiscal Compact and the Single Supervisory Mechanism, or banking union.

But the Greek debacle has demonstrated the limits of the inter-governmental approach. In the final resort, enforcing eurozone rules requires a form of political control over member-states.

Germany is also in a better position to dictate the kind of federalism the eurozone might adopt. Though German taxpayers have become more exposed to other eurozone members' debts, Berlin has put that money to good effect, using it to extend its reach over afflicted countries' fiscal affairs.

In Hollande's formula, the emphasis lies on "democratic control" of the "common budget." For Germany, however, the aim

would not be to create a European "demos," but to gain control of (wayward) members' fiscal policies.

Thus, German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble—Germany's most popular politician—called a year ago for "a European budget commissioner with powers to reject national budgets if they do not correspond to the rules ... jointly agreed" and a "eurozone parliament" comprising the M.E.P.s of eurozone countries to strengthen the democratic legitimacy of decisions affecting the single currency bloc."

For Berlin, then, the ideal form of European political and fiscal union would offer indirect, but reliable, control over the fiscal policies of other eurozone members to ensure their "competitiveness" and the euro's long-term stability, but the retention of national control over those issues that underpin Germany's position as Europe's paramount power. ...

To make it an instrument for policies hatched in Berlin, Germany could write the rules of the 2012 Fiscal Compact into any potential eurozone constitution that established the parliament: mandated balanced budgets, the elimination of structural deficits, maximum debt-to-gdp ceilings, etc. The same constitution could also empower a federal finance ministry to rewrite national budgets that fell short.

In return, a common eurozone treasury, financed by indirect taxes—a classic compromise for nascent federations (for example, the 19th-century U.S., the German Empire after 1871, and the Australian Commonwealth before 1942)—could issue common

euro bonds to mutualize a portion of member-states' debts.

With direct taxes still collected by national governments, and with Germany remaining the biggest of those, ultimate financial firepower would remain in the hands of the Bundestag, meaning the German chancellor would remain Europe's de facto leader for as long as Germany remained Europe's strongest economy.

For the same reason, the independent European Central Bank would also be beyond the control of the eurozone parliament, but not much less heedful of the German chancellor than today.

This might sound like an odd form of federalism (and such a eurozone would still be more a con-federal than fully federal state).

But Prussia's leading role within the post-1871 German Empire—an "emphatically devolved" "confederation of sovereign principalities" that left the sovereignty, parliaments, armies and diplomatic corps of the smaller German kingdoms and duchies intact—offers a historical model. (Since the foundation of Imperial Germany's power was the Prussian Army, Chancellor Otto von Bismarck was often more powerful as chancellor of Prussia than of Germany.)

The trick would be in getting the rest of the eurozone to agree to it.

Here, Chancellor Merkel could again take a leaf out of Bismarck's book. Indeed, perhaps she already has.

19th-Century Germany and Federalism

In 1859, Germany was a collection of some 39 sovereign states, loosely gathered in a "German Confederation" (like the EU, a customs union but not a state). Helped by an economic boom from

1850, Bismarck united them by demonstrating the indispensability of Prussian leadership of a nascent but disunited German nation in Europe that had never before existed as a political entity.

In the Danish War (1864), the Austrian War (1866) and the Franco-Prussian War (1870), Bismarck ensured that each crisis drew the minor German states into closer political and economic dependence on Prussia, until in 1871 a federal German Empire with Prussia as its largest state was at last proclaimed.

By design or default Germany has followed a similar path today, using its economy—the world's fourth largest—rather than its army. ...

Nationalism, the Missing Ingredient

But no iron law says a federal, or more federalized, Europe must come into being. By comparison with the 19th century, the essential ingredient of nationalism is missing.

Yet while anti-EU sentiment has grown, what has been remarkable during the crisis are the sacrifices that European peoples have been prepared to endure in the name of the common currency.

Greeks (so, at least, it seems for now) preferred capitulation to being cast out of the euro, partly suggesting their hard-won identity as modern "Europeans" was dearer to them.

A majority of Germans might believe the latest bailout "bad" or "very bad" for Germany. But if the government will not fall over it, it's partly because Germans have learned to see their future as bound up, for better or for worse, with Europe's. The only long-term alternative to federalization, Germany's departure from the euro, attracts little support. ...

Refugees Live in Fear of German Far-Right

Agence France-Presse | July 30

WANT TO RETURN TO SYRIA—VERY AFRAID HERE," HE SAID this week, speaking outside a refugee center in the small eastern town of Freital, which has gained national notoriety for ugly protests against asylum seekers.

Since arriving a month ago, after a long odyssey, the 27-yearold said he was attacked by a group that piled out of a car and hit him

"I come from Syria because I was afraid—but here big afraid," said Taher, who did not want to give his full name, speaking in halting English.

Germany, struggling with a huge influx of refugees, has been gripped by a spate of anti-foreigners rallies, violence and arson attacks against refugee homes or would-be shelters.

The country now faces a paradox: A generous asylum system originally meant to help atone for its Nazi past has opened the gates to Europe's biggest influx of refugees—sparking ugly reactions that recall Germany's darkest days.

This year has already seen about 200 arson and other attacks against refugee housing—roughly the same as all of last year, when numbers were already up sharply.

In recent days Freital—an economically depressed town of 40,000 in Saxony state in what was once Communist East Germany—has become a symbol of the upsurge in hostility.

In protests against the imminent arrival of 280 refugees outside a converted hotel, neo-Nazis raised their arms in Hitler

salutes, mingling in larger crowds of people shouting "criminal foreigners" and "asylum-seeker pigs."

Stickers on lampposts advise the refugees to "keep fleeing," with the English-language message "Refugees not welcome."

The newcomers are part of a wave of a record 500,000 refugees expected this year in Europe's largest economy, fleeing war and poverty in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, African nations and recession-stricken Balkan countries.

Across Germany, volunteers have given food, clothes, toys and German lessons in over-crowded refugee camps, some of which house thousands in converted sports halls, former military bases and even tent cities.

But the unprecedented influx has also sparked a darker, xenophobic response—marked by the rise of the Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the Occident, or PEGIDA, movement in Dresden, where rallies peaked early this year at 25,000.

Dresden—a magnet for neo-Nazi groups embittered by the city's war-time destruction—again made headlines last week when far-right thugs attacked Red Cross staff setting up a tent city for 800 mostly Syrian refugees. ...

This week, tensions escalated when unknown assailants blew up the unoccupied car of a pro-refugee politician of the far-left Linke Party. Michael Richter. ...

Amid the heated debate, the German Institute for Human Rights warned that "we are increasingly hearing statements that

recall the early 1990s"—when newly reunified Germany was gripped by a wave of attacks on foreigners.

Freital's Brachtel said what has changed is that "the typical

Nazi no longer sports army boots, a shaved head and dark clothes. Now there are many people of whom you wouldn't expect it. That's what makes it all the more dangerous."

ASTA



A Tale of Two Militaries

Jeremiah Jacques | July 29

T IS THE BEST OF MILITARIES, IT IS THE MOST MISMANAGED OF militaries. It is a force of wisdom, it is a force of confusion. It is a military of nobility, it is a military of hypocrisy.

The first half of each of those sentences reflects the way the people of Russia increasingly see their county's military. The second half of each reflects the view many Americans have toward the United States military.

This dichotomy reveals a great deal about each nation.

'The Best of Militaries'

Among the people of Russia, military enthusiasm is reaching a fever pitch—especially among the young. The Riga-based *Meduza* reported on July 16 that "[s]upport for the Army and the desire to serve the nation have reached an all-time high in Russia."

Just in the last year, the number of applications submitted to military universities has doubled. Six men apply for every available position. Among women, 30 applicants try for every available slot. This means that the military is able to accept just the very best applicants.

Meduza says the main tool the Russian government uses to prepare "young Russians to give their lives for the motherland" is a system of "[m]ilitary-patriotic education of the population." This begins as early as age 5 for many Russians. It entails participation in state-run clubs and programs.

This zeal of Russians for their armed forces is not likely to diminish anytime soon. Beginning next year, the Russian government plans to double down on these programs, greatly boosting their funding and emphasis. The new initiatives will see children begin to participate before they reach their first birthday.

This trend provides insight into what is fueling Russia's resurgence. The stratospheric zeal the Russians have for their military is soaring on a trajectory that parallels their support for Russian President Vladimir Putin. He is harnessing the deep-seated belief among many that they are not sufficiently respected by Westerners.

China Destroyed 17 Reefs in Spratlys

Global Nation | July 29

HINA HAS DESTROYED 17 REEFS IN ITS MASSIVE RECLAMATION activities in the Spratly Islands (Kalayaan Island Group) in the South China Sea (West Philippine Sea), Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio revealed on Wednesday.

"China occupies seven reefs in the Spratlys. It is reclaiming on all seven reefs. Although it occupies seven reefs, it is using filling

A Mismanaged Force

The Russian trend is also significant because of how it contrasts with the view the American people have of the U.S. military. According to a recent Gallup poll, a minority of Americans say they would be willing to fight for the U.S. if it was attacked.

This was well below both the global average and the Russian percentage. As political infighting keeps dividing Americans, the people lose pride in the country. They are not willing to risk their lives to support it. This dwindling American pride is reflected in the military.

Not long ago, the American military was forced to basically accept anyone who would walk through its doors to enlist. Recruitment standards were set lower and lower so that more people from the dwindling pool of applicants could be accepted. The military issued all kinds of waivers to applicants for misconduct and health issues. That's all because so few Americans wanted to enlist.

At present, the U.S. forces are again turning more applicants away, but it's not because more and higher quality applicants are enthusiastic about enlisting. It's mostly because the government is working to shrink the size of the military, especially the Army.

This year, many more young Americans will study abroad than will enlist in the armed forces.

Americans support the troops and respect their sacrifice, but as for the military and its endless campaigns, they don't take it seriously. The country's foreign policy often handcuffs soldiers, issuing orders that lead to anything but victory. This demoralizes troops and perpetuates public ambivalence. In terms of power, there is no question that U.S. forces are unmatched. But without a will to use it, power becomes irrelevant.

This tale of two militaries shows that the curtain is closing on the era of U.S. global dominance. It indicates that, in the next scene, Russia will be positioned to play a lead role.

To understand the significance of the impending scene change, read "What Happens After a Superpower Dies."

Follow Jeremiah Jacques

materials from 10 other reefs so China has actually destroyed 17 reefs in total," he said in a forum sponsored by the Department of National Defense on the West Philippine Sea dispute at Camp Aguinaldo.

Rapid progress has been made in China's reclamation activities in recent months

Carpio said China is getting materials from 10 other reefs for dredging activities. He did not identify the 10 reefs, however.

China has previously said that its activities are "lawful, reasonable and justified." It said their activities would help in maritime search and rescue, disaster prevention and mitigation, among others. ...

"China's illegal operations present a difficulty for the United States. That's not just because the Philippines is a U.S. treaty ally, but also because Beijing is building the islands very rapidly. At the current pace, Beijing's claim of owning the South China Sea could become reality before anything can be done to challenge it."

Russia Vetoes Bid to Set Up Tribunal for Downed Flight MH17

Reuters | July 29



RUSSIA VETOED A UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL DRAFT resolution on Wednesday that would have set up an international tribunal to prosecute those suspected of downing a Malaysia Airlines passenger airliner last year in eastern Ukraine.

Eleven countries on the 15-member council voted in favor of the proposal by Malaysia, Australia, the Netherlands, Belgium and Ukraine, while three countries abstained: China, Angola and Venezuela. A resolution needs nine votes in favor to pass and no veto by Russia, the United States, China, Britain or France.

Flight MH17 was shot down in July 2014 with 298 passengers on board, two thirds of them Dutch. It crashed in Ukrainian territory held by Russian-backed separatists. ...

Dutch Foreign Minister Bert Koenders said the case had been made for a prosecution mechanism that transcended politics.

"I find it incomprehensible that a member of the Security Council obstructs justice in a tragedy that has affected so many. Impunity will give a very dangerous signal," he said. ...

"Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 was shot down by a surface-to-air missile in eastern Ukraine on July 17. The tragedy killed 298 people in what was either a disgusting mistake made by some of Russian President Vladimir Putin's zealots, or an intentional act of terrorism. Either way, Putin created the conditions that led to the disaster and bears responsibility. The outcry from the West was loud, but toothless. And Putin didn't back down or show even a hint of remorse. He was utterly unfazed by Western protests over the tragedy. ... Putin knows the West is weak! He doesn't fear other nations. He is totally undeterred in his quest to destabilize Ukraine. He is single-handedly preventing that former Soviet republic from aligning itself with Europe."

Gerald Flurry, Trumpet, September 2014

China Is Stripping Crosses From Christian Churches

Business Insider | July 29

COMMUNIST PARTY CAMPAIGN DURING WHICH CROSSES HAVE been stripped from the roofs of more than 1,200 Chinese churches is being conducted "for the sake of safety and beauty," a government official has claimed.

Human rights activists accuse authorities in Zhejiang province in eastern China of using the protracted campaign to slow Christianity's growth in what is one of the country's most churchgoing regions. ...

Since the government campaign began in late 2013, hundreds of places of worship have had bright red crosses removed. Some churches have been completely demolished, while civil servants have been banned from practicing religion. Some observers suspect the campaign has the backing of the Chinese president, Xi Jinping, and could be a "pilot project" before a nationwide crackdown. ...



Russian Submarine Wreck Found in Sweden's Territorial Waters Jeremiah Jacques | July 27

WRECKED MINI-SUBMARINE WAS FOUND LAST WEEK IN WATERS off of Sweden's eastern coast, media in Sweden reported on July 27. Authorities believe it is a Russian model, primarily because of Cyrillic letters on the hull. They have not disclosed the exact location of the wreckage, but say it is around 1.5 nautical miles from the Swedish coast.

Reports say the sub is some 60 feet long and 10 feet wide, and holds a crew of three to six men.

Since the hatches are unopened, experts believe the crew perished inside the vessel sometime after it crashed. "The submarine is completely intact, has no visible damage to the hull and the hatches are closed. Therefore do we fear that the crew members

were not able to save themselves when the sub went down," said Ocean X diver Stefan Hogeborn.

Security consultants say the submarine has not been crashed long, and speculate that it was part of an unsuccessful secret test or mission. "I imagine it has been tested and failed," said security consultant Joakim yon Braun.

Russian media have said it is an antique Russian Som-class sub from the World War I era. But photos of the wreckage support the view of von Braun and other experts who say it was a "fresh" crash.

The report comes during a time of increasingly provocative behavior from Russia toward Sweden.

Follow Jeremiah Jacques

TW IN BRIEF

Russians and Chinese navies to drill once more: The Chinese and Russian navies will hold joint drills in August, the Chinese government announced Thursday. The drills called Joint Sea 2015 II follows the successful military drills held between the two in the Mediterranean Sea earlier this year. The latest drills will take place in the Peter-the-Great Gulf as well as the Sea of Japan. Chinese officials said the aim of the drills is to "strengthen and develop the strategic relations between the two countries, deepen cooperation, and increase the ability of the two countries' navies to jointly deal with maritime security threats and organize landing operations." China will send seven vessels—including destroyers, frigates, landing ships and supply ships; and five aircraft—including airborne early-warning aircraft and fighters. Russia will send surface ships, submarines and aircraft to the drills. The drills will run for a week in late August.

North Korea not interested in nuke deal: North Korea's ambassador said today his country is not interested in dialogue over the country's nuclear program. At a rare news conference in Beijing, the North Korean envoy said his country is a "nuclear-weapon state both in name and in reality." Six-party talks involving the United States and key allies on North Korea's nuclear program have stalled since the last round of talks with the Communist nation in 2008.

Philippine military seeks almost triple defense spending: Philippine generals asked Congress on Wednesday to almost triple the nation's annual defense budget. They asked for increased spending over the next five years to upgrade military equipment. The inquiry comes as the Philippine Army struggles to cope with increased aggression by China in the disputed South China Sea. The Philippines is currently in the midst of a nearly \$22 billion, 15-year plan to modernize its Army. However, they still spend less than 1 percent of gross domestic product on defense. The military requests that Congress increase defense spending to at least 2 percent of GDP, which it believes will help solidify the nation's position as a strong power in the region.

Wreckage of Flight MH370 found, probably: The first piece of wreckage from the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 may have been found. A 2-meter long piece of wreckage washed up on Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean yesterday. Experts say it is almost certainly from a Boeing 777. MH370 is the only known missing Boeing 777. It was lost on March 8, 2014, with 239 on board. A discovery of debris from the missing plane would confirm the prevailing belief—based on satellite data—that the plane turned south into the Indian Ocean after vanishing from radar. It would also put to rest other theories that it traveled north or landed somewhere after being hijacked.

ANGLO-AMERICA



President Obama's Plan to Revamp Discipline in Schools

Robert Morley | July 27

N JULY 22, THE WHITE HOUSE TWEETED TO ITS 6.5 MILLION Twitter followers: "The number of students suspended in America each year could fill 45 Super Bowl stadiums. It's time to #RethinkDiscipline in our schools."

United States President Barack Obama highlighted a troubling statistic. Almost 3.5 million students were suspended from school during 2011-2012, according to the U.S. Department of Education; another 3.5 million were suspended in-school, meaning they were not sent home but were not allowed to go to class; and a whopping 130,000 students were expelled.

President Obama says the solution is to rethink discipline—especially when it comes to disciplining black and minority students. According to the White House, black students are 3.5 times more likely to be suspended than white students. This

"disproportionality" in suspensions is evidence of systemic racism within the educational system, it says.

But are teachers really, on average, racist? And will President Obama's solution fix things?

Schools that have been found to suspend black students disproportionately are increasingly finding themselves under Justice Department prosecution. In Minneapolis for example, it was found that black and Latino students were suspended more often than white and Asian ones. According to the Justice Department, this is evidence that Minneapolis's 2,300 teachers are racist, or at least *unconsciously* racist.

The school district has since agreed to only suspend white and Asian students until the percentages match up.

Schools found to be disciplining black students

disproportionately are often forced to adopt the curriculum of Justice Department-approved Pacific Educational Group or similar organizations. This is the group used by St. Paul schools to develop their curriculum ever since they were found to be disproportionately disciplining minority students.

Consider what the Pacific Educational Group and its founder, Glenn Singleton, teach—which is now being taught in schools across America, according to the Competitive Enterprise Institute:

- The achievement gap between black and white students can be explained by—and only by—racism.
- The educational system in America is racist against minorities.
- Parents are not a main factor in how well students do at school.
- Even black and minority teachers are racist against black students, because they have been co-opted into the white power structure.
- The emphasis on individualism in schools, as opposed to collectivism, is a form of cultural racism.
- Teachers don't understand the "special ways blacks and Hispanics communicate."
- Defining one form of the English language as a standard, or grammatically correct, is racist.
- Planning ahead is a white cultural phenomenon, and it is racist to expect minorities to exhibit this. Being intellectual or task-oriented is a white cultural phenomenon.
- Punctuality and respect are cultural traits. Minorities shouldn't be held to the same standard.
- Blacks are loud and need to have their loudness accommodated in schools.
- · Colorblindness is bad.
- · Only white people can be racists.

This is what is now being taught in many American schools—especially those in inner cities.

But it is also coming to a school near you. President Obama

has authorized a Civil Rights Data Collection project to collect the disciplinary records of every public school student in America. Its purpose is to ferret out supposed disparate racial disciplinary rates so that schools can be fixed.

Taxpayers are paying *millions of dollars* to be indoctrinated with this rubbish.

And oh—so far there is *no evidence* that the Pacific Educational Group's racial hatred programming (operating since 1992) has done anything to close the achievement gap in any of the schools it works with.

Should we really be surprised that telling students that their loudness needs to be accommodated hasn't helped their grades? That being punctual is a white cultural trait? That using correct grammar is white-man's language?

Yet the Justice Department continues to push these racist policies on schools—all in an effort to supposedly reduce racism.

Which brings us back to the new "#RethinkDiscipline" campaign pushed by the White House.

What is this campaign really about? Do its authors really think that banning suspensions and expulsions of minority students will help children? It certainly won't help the children who are stuck in classrooms with the bad apples who continue to disrupt classes, monopolize teacher time, and refuse to listen.

And it won't help troublemakers either. By breaking the link between cause and effect—or action and consequence—these students are being taught how to fail in life.

One thing this kind of racist teaching will do is create a generation of angry black and minority students who believe that society is institutionally racist and that their failures are due to a society run by white people.

Is that what America needs or wants?

Read editor in chief Gerald Flurry's article "'Your Cities Are Burned With Fire'" to see where this is leading.

Follow Robery Morley

More Young Adults Are Living With Their Parents, With One in Three Failing to Move Out Despite Wage Increases and Strong Job Market

Daily Mail | July 29



O NE IN THREE YOUNG ADULTS IS STILL LIVING AT HOME WITH [HIS or her] parents, despite years of economic recovery which have seen more of them bag jobs and bigger pay packets.

Some 20.4 million adults age 18-34 are staying with parents or other relatives—a new high which has kept rising despite young people being richer than they have in years.

The figures, based on U.S. Census Bureau data, show that having more money hasn't made so-called Millennials more likely to set up their own household.

Even though the number of people in the 18-34 age bracket has gone up by around 3 million since recession started to bite in 2007, half a million fewer of them are now living independently.

In 2010, the U.S. economy's lowest ebb, 69 percent of young adults

lived apart from their families, but five years on the proportion has fallen to 67 percent—leaving a full third still in the family nest.

The findings, published by the Pew Research Center, come as youth unemployment fell from 12.4 percent in 2010 to 7.7 percent now, while average weekly earnings have increased to \$574, from a low of \$547 in 2012. ...

It is not clear what is driving the change, as the economic factors which could have prompted the slowdown in 2007 have largely been reversed now—with no change in behavior.

Recent research from the UK—which is experiencing a similar rise in adults living with their parents—suggested that some simply prefer an easier life with mom and dad.

A sixth of those still at home admitted they lived a cushy

Feds: 664,607 Illegals Granted Amnesty, Some Linked to Terrorism, Gangs

Washington Examiner | July 29

THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM TO GRANT AMNESTY TO ILLE-gal immigrants under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival program has given the green light to 664,607 since 2012, including several linked to fraud, terrorism and gangs, according to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services agency.

What's more, applications for permanent residence have surged from 3,000 to 7,500 a month, far above projections, according to agency answers provided to Senate Judiciary Immigration and the National Interest Subcommittee Republicans and obtained by Secrets.

USCIS said it is also producing 144,275 "employment

authorization documents" each month, and has the capability to approve 400,000 work permits a month.

President Obama proposed DACA in 2012. It allows younger illegals who entered prior to June 2007 to get a renewable work permit and exemption from deportation. Since then, 243,872 renewals have been granted.

As of March, 664,607 of applications derided by critics as "amnesty" were approved. Of those granted amnesty, at least 49 had gang ties, six had a possible link to terrorism and 3,959 had indicators of fraud. Just 43,375 have been denied. ...



The War of the Churches Stephen Flurry,

Trumpet Daily | July 31

Follow Stephen Flurry



TW IN BRIEF

Pritish police chief: Every police force is giving up on enforcing cannabis laws: Britain's national police chief has said that every police force in the nation is giving up on enforcing laws that criminalize cannabis. Sara Thornton said on Tuesday that officers are now more concerned with "sexual offences, concerns about terrorism, [and] cybercrime." She said police forces are thinking less about personal cannabis use and more about "harm and risk and really protecting the public." According to Britain's Home Office, cannabis is still a Class B drug and "remains illegal for UK residents to possess ... in any form." But police forces are choosing to turn a blind eye to both growing and using the drug. The Daily Mail said Thornton's statements regarding cannabis seem to confirm "growing suspicions that the drug is being decriminalized by the backdoor."

an dies in Channel Tunnel during migrant crisis: A Sudanese man was killed during an attempt by thousands of migrants to enter the Channel Tunnel in France on Wednesday. Thousands of migrants from Africa and the Middle East have been camping in the Calais area, trying to board trucks and trains bound for Britain. Britain and France have agreed to strengthen security in the area, sending in 120 more police officers and

erecting a 9-foot-high fence around the train terminal. Eurotunnel is asking Britain and France to reimburse it for its loss of \$11 million used in increasing security to cope with the migrant crisis. The movement of migrants has caused major traffic disruptions in Calais and Southern England.

hicago debt downgraded: At long last, credit rating agency **▶** Fitch downgraded Chicago Board of Education General bonds to junk status. The rating change, which went into effect Monday, impacts approximately \$6 billion worth of city debt that the agency says is on watch for further downgrades. The third-largest city in America is facing a massive budget shortfall caused largely by years of opulent union pensions and retirement related promises. Mayor Rahm Emanuel is trying to plug the gap by raising taxes even though the city is already among the most taxed in the nation. Sitka Pacific Capital's Mike Shedlock said the reason it took Fitch so long to downgrade Chicago was because there is money to be made by purposely pretending a manure factory is a rose garden. The state of Illinois is also suffering financial problems, with a proposed budget that will take the state a further \$4 billion into the hole. According to Shedlock, Mayor Emanuel's budget assumes a \$500 million contribution from the state. He may be smelling the roses.