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Trumpet Weekly AUGUST 7, 2015



Feds Taking Over Policing in Baltimore?

Stephen Flurry | August 7



STEPHEN FLURRY

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



HILE THE MEDIA'S ATTENTION ON Baltimore slowly tapered down after Freddie Gray's death in April, violence in the city hasn't. Baltimore is now a war zone, and city and law enforcement

officials are begging the federal government to step in and help. That's exactly how the *Trumpet* said events would play out!

The *Baltimore Sun* published an article on August 2 titled "Federal Agents to Embed With Baltimore Homicide Cops to Quell Unprecedented Violence." It wrote, "Ten federal agents will join the Baltimore police homicide unit, commanders announced

Sunday, after the city followed its deadliest month in decades with a night in which 10 people were shot—seven of them in one incident."

That one incident was evidently a case of inter-gang violence. Interim Police Commissioner Kevin Davis mentioned the different federal agencies that will join his police unit: the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the Drug Enforcement Agency; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the United States Marshals Service; and the U.S. Secret Service. Davis said that the addition of these special agents represents a "flipping of the script of sorts."



The script indeed has been flipped. Historically, it was the local law enforcement officials who would embed into the feds to provide assistance at the local level. Now, it has reversed.

This is exactly the way the federal government wants it!

My father explained this in his August *Trumpet* article "Police Under Attack": "America's law enforcement is under attack. On one side people in communities are developing a mistrustful, hostile, antagonistic attitude, yelling at police, assaulting and even killing officers in some cases. Police are pulling back from doing their jobs for fear of attack, or losing their jobs or going to prison for doing anything that could be perceived as racist. On the other, the federal government is undermining local law enforcement and stripping it of power in an effort to *centralize policing power on the federal level*."

He then went on to exhort readers to recognize just how dangerous these trends really are.

The homicide clearance rate for Baltimore's police department is 36 percent. That's why Commissioner Davis said "the agents will use federal resources to help homicide detectives solve killings," as the *Baltimore Sun* reported.

"A total of 191 people have been killed in Baltimore in 2015. Forty-five people were killed in July alone, matching the all-time monthly high from 1972, when the city had 275,000 more residents. Forty-two people were killed in May, the month after the

death of Freddie Gray in police custody sparked riots.

"The violence this year is in some ways unprecedented: No previous year has had two months with more than 40 killings, and the 116 killed from May to July is a three-month high in data kept since 1970."

This is what happens when the police feel handcuffed. One Baltimore police officer who spoke to CNN said one reason for the spike in violence is that the police force is no longer proactive but reactive.

In his July *Trumpet* article "Your Cities Are Burned With Fire," my father warned that "[t]he effect of responding to lawlessness by handcuffing law enforcement is very dangerous. It is certain to add fuel to the fire that is burning cities like Baltimore."

Now, Baltimore is so bad that local law enforcement is begging the federal government to come in and solve the problem—a problem the federal government is partly to blame for causing!

A spokesman for Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake commented on the move to bring in federal agents saying that it's "exactly the kind of all-hands-on-deck approach that the mayor has been calling for."

You may recall that this is the same mayor who essentially handcuffed the police from the beginning of the Baltimore crisis. She called on police to stand down during the riots in April. "[W] hile we tried to make sure that [police officers] were protected from the cars and the other things that were going on, we also gave those who wished to destroy space to do that," she said.

Baltimore's city and law enforcement officials gave these criminals way too much space to destroy the city. It's so bad now that they are calling in the feds! But this will only make matters worse. Read Gerald Flurry's article "Police Under Attack" for more on this critical subject.

Follow Stephen Flurry

MIDDLE EAST



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New Suez Canal to Boost Trade, Bait Iran

theTrumpet.com | August 4

GYPT IS SET TO ALTER THE FLOW OF GLOBAL TRADE WHEN IT COMpletes its expansion of the Suez Canal this month. The \$8.5 billion project is expected to dramatically speed trade between Asia and Europe—if Iran doesn't interfere.

The capacity of the canal is set to double from 49 transits from per day to 97 by 2023. Two-way traffic that will exist for the first time will drastically reduce transit times from 18 to 11 hours per vessel.

The Suez Canal is one of the world's most important trade corridors. It is the fastest shipping route between Europe and Asia, and it handles 7 percent of global seaborne trade—a number that is now set to grow dramatically. Because it links the Mediterranean Sea to the Indian Ocean, the Suez Canal has always played a key role in world affairs.

The expansion of the canal may put it back into the global spotlight. The current war between Saudi Arabia and Iran in Yemen is essentially a war over who will control the Bab el-Mandeb Strait—the narrow entrance to the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. It is not far-fetched to envision Iran ramping up its efforts to secure this region once the nuclear deal is signed and American focus shifts elsewhere.

On January 17, the Iranian state-sponsored Tasnim News Agency published an article that said boldly: "Today, all the arteries of oil transport—from Bab el-Mandeb Strait to Suez Canal and the Strait of Hormuz—are under Iranian control, by means of Syria, Yemen and Bahrain, and within range of Iranian missiles."

With the expansion of Suez and the increased trade that is sure to follow, Iranian influence in this region has just become a lot more dangerous.

For information on Iran's grand strategy in this region and how Europe is prophesied to r

espond militarily, read Gerald Flurry's article "Iran Gets a Stranglehold on the Middle East."

Iran Already Sanitizing Nuclear Site, Intel Warns

Josh Rogin and Eli Lake, Bloomberg View | August 4

THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY HAS INFORMED CONGRESS of evidence that Iran was sanitizing its suspected nuclear military site at Parchin, in broad daylight, days after agreeing to a nuclear deal with world powers.

For senior lawmakers in both parties, the evidence calls into question Iran's intention to fully account for the possible military dimensions of its current and past nuclear development. ...

Intelligence officials and lawmakers who have seen the new evidence, which is still classified, told us that satellite imagery picked up by U.S. government assets in mid- and late July showed that Iran had moved bulldozers and other heavy machinery to the Parchin site and that the U.S. intelligence community concluded with high confidence that the Iranian government was working to clean up the site ahead of planned inspections by the IAEA. ...

"I am familiar with it," Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr told us Tuesday. "I think it's up to the administration to draw their conclusions. Hopefully this is something they will speak on, since it is in many ways verified by commercial imagery. And their actions seem to be against the grain of the agreement."

Burr said Iran's activities at Parchin complicate the work of the IAEA inspectors who are set to examine the site in the coming months. IAEA's director general, Yukiya Amano, was in Washington on Wednesday to brief lawmakers behind closed doors about the side agreements.

"They are certainly not going to see the site that existed. ..." Burr said. "I think it's a huge concern."



A senior intelligence official, when asked about the satellite imagery, told us the IAEA was also familiar with what he called "sanitization efforts" since the deal was reached in Vienna, but that the U.S. government and its allies had confidence that the IAEA had the technical means to detect past nuclear work anyway. ...

According to the overall nuclear agreement, sanctions relief for Iran can come only after the IAEA and Iran resolve their outstanding concerns about possible military dimensions of past and current work. But the agreement does not specify how the issue must be resolved, only that it be resolved to the IAEA's satisfaction. ...

"You have to worry that this could be an attempt by Iran to defeat the sampling, that it's Iran's last-ditch effort to eradicate evidence there," [David Albright, the president of the Institute for Science and International Security,] said. "The day is coming when they are going to have to let the IAEA into Parchin, so they may be desperate to finish sanitizing the site." ...

Secretary of State John Kerry has said that the U.S. government has "absolute knowledge" about what Iran has done in the past. Ahead of the vote on the agreement next month, many law-makers don't share Kerry's confidence. Iran would seem to have its doubts as well, since it's still trying to cover its tracks.

"The United States has crowned a new king of the Middle East.

Not a liberal democracy. Not a stable ally. Not a respected hegemon. A nuclear-pursuing terrorist threat whose slogan is, 'Death to America."

Trumpet, September 2015

Obama: If Congress Kills Iran Deal, Rockets Will Fall on Tel Aviv

Times of Israel | August 5

THE U.S. CONGRESS SHOOTS DOWN THE IRANIAN NUCLEAR DEAL, America will eventually be pressured into a military strike against Tehran's nuclear facilities, which will in turn increase terror against Israel, U.S. President Barack Obama told Jewish leaders Tuesday, a source who was present at the meeting said.



During the two-hour meeting, Obama said it was legitimate for opponents of the deal to lobby lawmakers to reject it, but added that a discussion focused on personal attacks, rather than the merits of the deal, could jeopardize the coherence of the American Jewish community and ultimately the resilience of U.S.-Israel relations, according to Greg Rosenbaum, the chair of the National Jewish Democratic Council.

In a bid to convince the U.S. Jewish community to support the deal, Obama and Vice President Joe Biden hosted 20 Jewish leaders from across the political and religious spectrum at the White House's Cabinet Room, hours after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged members of the Jewish Federations of North America in a video address to fight the deal. ...

If Congress succeeds in killing the deal and Iran were to subsequently walk away from the agreement and start enriching uranium again to weapons-grade levels, the opponents of the deal will pressure the U.S. government into launching a preemptive strike against the Islamic Republic's nuclear facilities, the president was said to have argued.

"But the result of such a strike won't be war with Iran," Rosenbaum said, quoting the president.

Iran is not going to launch a full-fledged assault on America,

knowing that its military, with an annual budget of \$15 billion, stands no chance against the U.S. Army and its budget of close to \$600 billion, the president said. Rather, Iran's terrorist proxies will attack American and Israeli targets, for instance by ramming aircraft carriers or arming terrorist groups along Israel's borders.

"They will fight this asymmetrically. That means more support for terrorism, more Hezbollah rockets falling on Tel Aviv," Rosenbaum quoted Obama as saying. "I can assure that Israel will bear the brunt of the asymmetrical response that Iran will have to a military strike on its nuclear facilities." ...

"Can't we see that there is no human solution to this crisis? Matthew 24:21-22 tell us exactly that. Without the return of Jesus Christ, mankind would war all the way to the point that there would not be a single human being left alive on Earth! This is talking about the nuclear war just ahead of us!"

Gerald Flurry, Trumpet, September 2015

Report: China Set to Provide Iran With Fighter Jets in \$1 Billion Deal

Jerusalem Post | August 6

T APPEARS THAT IRAN IS BEGINNING TO REAP THE FRUITS OF ITS nuclear deal with the world powers.

According to a report in the Taiwanese press, China is set to provide the Islamic Republic with 24 J-10 fighter jets [worth \$1 billion]. In exchange, Iran will permit China access to its largest oilfield

for the next 20 years....

The J-10 is a single-engine aircraft that has a flight range of 2,900 kilometers. Iran is believed to be interested in procuring the jet in order to defend its skies as well as to attack targets throughout the Persian Gulf. ...

He's Back: Ahmadinejad Launches Political Campaign

Arutz Sheva | August 4

RAN'S FORMER PRESIDENT MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD HAS launched a political campaign in hopes of returning to power in February's parliamentary elections, the Associated Press (AP) reported on Monday.

The report noted that while many former allies have turned on Ahmadinejad, and two of his former vice presidents have been jailed for corruption, he is believed to command strong support in the countryside, and could be seen by Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as a counterbalance to reformers who have tried to reverse Ahmadinejad's confrontational legacy since the election of President Hassan Rouhani.

At a gathering of his supporters Thursday, Ahmadinejad broke two years of silence, vowing to "redefine revolutionary ideals" laid out by the leader of Iran's 1979 revolution, the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, according to AP.

"God willing, victory and a very bright future awaits us. However, there will be bumps and satanic obstacles in our path," he was quoted as having told some 400 supporters in Tehran. "One should not forget that the U.S. is our enemy." ...

Many conservatives and hardliners turned on Ahmadinejad in the latter years of his rule, but they could come to see him as a much-needed ally, fearing a repeat of the landslide victory in the 2000 elections by reformists committed to transforming the Islamic republic into a Western-style democracy, noted AP. ...

In February, Ahmadinejad launched an official website, as well as a Google+ page and an account on Instagram, in a signal that he was planning a return to politics. ...

TW IN BRIEF

Tran warns of 'Third World War': A senior Iranian official has said that an impending World War III will be sparked by terrorists. The statement was made on Wednesday by Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the chairman of Iran's powerful Expediency Council. Rafsanjani warned that the "outbreak of World War III" is coming in the near future during a meeting with

Italy's foreign minister. Rafsanjani blamed the United States and NATO for fostering the conditions that will lead to World War III. Italy's foreign minister was quoted as saying that he hoped their mutual proposal to fight terrorism and terrorist groups like the Islamic State will be a starting point in inflicting a historical defeat on terrorism.

TrumpetHour

FEDS TAKING OVER POLICING IN BALTIMORE, OBAMA THREATENS JEWISH LEADERS, EUROZONE TAX-BREAKING TABOO, AND MORE | AUGUST 7

PLANNED PARENTHOOD'S LUCRATIVE SIDE BUSINESS, THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE, AND MORE | AUGUST 5

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Building a United States of Europe

Richard Palmer | August 4

MASSIVE BANKING CRISIS IN THE UNITED STATES "COULD SUDdenly result in triggering European nations to UNITE AS A NEW WORLD POWER larger than either the Soviet Union or the U.S." So wrote Herbert W. Armstrong, founder and editor in chief of the *Plain Truth* magazine, in 1984.

This was one of the most detailed descriptions of a forecast he'd made for decades.

On May 9, 1945, for example, just two days after Germany formally surrendered to the allies, Mr. Armstrong spoke to listeners of his *World Tomorrow* radio program in San Francisco. Germany was utterly and completely ruined. Yet Mr. Armstrong spoke of "a European Union" that would emerge out of the rubble. This union, he said, would be led by Germany and ultimately become a "United States of Europe."

Compare his forecasts with the news we see today. "Are We on the Threshold of a United States of Europe?" asked a headline in Real Clear World last week. The president of France is calling for a new eurozone government.

The United States of Europe that Mr. Armstrong spoke of 60 years ago is being built right now.

"What threatens us is not too much Europe, but too little Europe," wrote French President François Hollande on July 19. He called for a new parliament to govern the eurozone, a new eurozone government that would have its own budget.

Most importantly, it has strong support in Berlin. German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble called for a eurozone parliament and a "European budget commissioner" a year ago.

But it is more than merely people pushing for unity. The design of the euro itself is also forcing it. As the *Trumpet* and many others have reported, the euro was designed to cause a crisis. A common currency cannot work without some kind of common government.

The plans for European unity go much further than rhetoric. The groundwork for this unity is being prepared in the most concrete way possible: plans for a eurozone tax.

At first sight, this may not seem so important. But money and power are intimately tied together. Germany controlled the money loaned to Greece—and so they also controlled Greece.

"[I]n Brussels and Berlin alike, financial experts are devising plans to provide the Eurogroup with the same tool that has proven to be so successful throughout history: its own tax," wrote *Spiegel*.

Former Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti currently heads a task force dedicated to finding ways to strengthen the eurozone's economy. *Spiegel* reports that in July, Monti suggested that his task force considers a euro tax. *Spiegel* claims that European



Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker supports the idea.

A push toward a superstate still has its opponents, however. If Germany signs up to a democratic superstate, then southern Europe can vote itself access to more of Germany's money.

Germany will not support a United States of Europe unless there are rules in place that stop this from happening. And since Germany is the de facto leader of Europe right now, there will be no United States of Europe unless it happens on Germany's terms.

Uniting the 19 nations of the eurozone into a single superstate is a tall order. Which is why the French president suggested that a smaller group of nations form a "vanguard" and press ahead, even if other members of the eurozone aren't ready to take this step. This too may be part of Germany's agenda. Former Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis recently explained how he saw Germany's aims: "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. ... 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."

This shrinking is also part of the forecasts made far in advance by Herbert W. Armstrong. All along, he said this superstate would be made up of 10 nations or groups of nations. Germany, he wrote "will be the heart and core of the united Europe that will revive the ROMAN EMPIRE."

The superstate that we're seeing European leaders attempt to build matches exactly what Herbert W. Armstrong described decades ago.

There is still much that is yet to happen. As Varoufakis stated, it will require more crises and nations being forced out of the euro until the 10 nations are desperate enough to go all the way to superstate. But in the early stages of this state, we can already see Mr. Armstrong proved right.

If you've never heard of Mr. Armstrong's forecasts, you can find out how and why he was able to predict the rise of this state

before the dust had even settled on the ruins of the Third Reich.

Millions heard these forecasts, but most have forgotten them or dismissed them. They need to reacquaint themselves with what he said would happen.

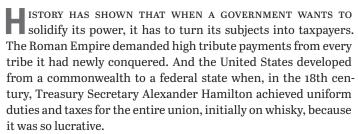
Our free booklet He Was Right details Herbert W. Armstrong's

forecasts for Europe and the rest of the world. Request it, read it, and compare it with the world you see around you. As every year goes by, he is being proved more and more astonishingly right.

Follow Richard Palmer

Breaking a Taboo: Plans for Eurozone Tax Take Shape

Spiegel Online | July 30



Politicians in the eurozone are now seeking to emulate the historic model from the early years of the United States. The unnerving bargaining over the latest Greece bailout program has led the leaders of the monetary union to conclude that the eurozone has to become more tightly joined together politically.

European Central Bank (ECB) President Mario Draghi wants stricter rules for the banking union. French President François Hollande is calling for a separate economic government for the monetary union. And in Brussels and Berlin alike, financial experts are devising plans to provide the Eurogroup with the same tool that has proven to be so successful throughout history: its own tax.

If the plans were implemented, it would constitute the breaking of a taboo for the Continent. The people are used to the fact that some powers are shifted to Brussels as part of European unification. But there is one thing even the most devoted proponents of Europe had shied away from until now: giving the EU the right to impose taxes, a power many felt the member states should retain. It had long been a given that this was something the European people would never accept.

But with European leaders shuttling regularly back and forth to Brussels to attend crisis meetings on an almost weekly basis, public opinion has shifted. Proponents of a European tax say that if revenues and expenditures were centrally administered, at least in part, a single government could no longer blackmail the others. It would also finally give the European Commission the funds it needs to pursue its own economic policy. If the economic climate



worsened, Brussels could also lower taxes throughout Europe, in order to "better counteract recessions," says Marcel Fratzscher, head of the German Institute for Economic Research. ...

Although Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble, a member of the center-right Christian Democratic Union (CDU), is open to the proposals [for a common eurozone government] from Paris, he believes that they don't go far enough. ...

Instead, it is important to the Germans that the euro finance minister have access to a permanent and, in particular, abundant source of income. Schäuble's people are willing to relinquish substantial national revenues to the euro finance minister. It would be possible for the member states to divert portions of their value-added tax or income tax revenues into the new Brussels finance minister's budget. Both are seen as relatively stable income sources. ...

Behind the scenes, a task force headed by former Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti is already developing plans.

The experts were originally asked to discuss "self-funding" for the EU's total budget. But during a luncheon with Juncker and his commissioners in early July, Monti suggested that the group also consider a "fiscal capacity" for the eurozone. He meant the eurozone assessing its own taxes. Juncker supported the idea. Potential sources of funding include the planned tax on financial transactions or shares in a European-wide, harmonized business tax. ...

The only question is: Are the member states willing to relinquish their national sovereignty rights to Brussels, at least in part, in such important areas as budgets and taxation? And how will this sit with citizens who already feel that EU technocrats are controlling their lives?

The hurdles are high, and yet there is a growing recognition that a new principle will probably have to be added to the principles of Chancellor Merkel's crisis policy soon. If the economic government fails, so will the euro.

TW IN BRIEF

pope Francis reaches out to Hollywood: Pope Francis has invited some top movie stars to the Vatican, the *Hollywood Reporter* claimed yesterday. He has invited celebrities such as Oprah Winfrey and Matt Damon to a special meeting to improve the church's portrayal in Western media. Ari Emanuel, brother of Chicago mayor Rahm Emanuel, has also been invited.

Germany hits immigration record: Eleven million immigrants are now living in Germany—the highest number ever—according to official statistics released yesterday. For the last three years Germany has been the second-biggest destination for migrants in the world, after the United States. The country is set to take in a half-million refugees this year, its highest

number ever. This level of immigration has prompted a backlash, with over 200 attacks on shelters for asylum seekers already this year. Far-right marches are becoming more common. Immigration is now a major political issue in Germany.

REEK MARKETS PLUNGE: Greece's stock market plunged over 22 percent as it reopened Monday after a five-week closure. This was investors' first opportunity since late June to react to

the country's latest economic crisis. Bank shares suffered most, hitting or nearing the daily trading limit of a 30 percent loss. Markets in the rest of the world, however, were largely unaffected—a sign that investors outside Greece have now largely cut off ties with the country. Greece is currently in intense negotiations with bailout lenders in an effort to negotiate the terms of a new rescue package in the next two weeks.

ASIA

Russia Bids for Vast Arctic Territories at UN

Associated Press | August 4

RUSSIA HAS SUBMITTED A REVISED BID FOR VAST TERRITORIES IN the Arctic to the United Nations, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

The ministry said in a statement that Russia is claiming 1.2 million square kilometers (over 463,000 square miles) of Arctic Sea shelf extending more than 350 nautical miles from the shore.

Russia, the U.S., Canada, Denmark and Norway have all been trying to assert jurisdiction over parts of the Arctic, which is believed to hold up to a quarter of the planet's undiscovered oil and gas. ...

Russia was the first to submit its claim in 2002, but the UN sent it back for lack of evidence. It submitted a partial revision regarding the Okhotsk Sea in 2013 and the commission issued a recommendation the following year, UN deputy spokesman Farhan Haq said.

The ministry said that the resubmitted bid contains new



arguments. "Ample scientific data collected in years of Arctic research are used to back the Russian claim," it said. ...

Russia expects the UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf to start looking at its bid in the fall, the ministry said. ...

In 2007, Moscow staked a symbolic claim to the Arctic seabed by dropping a canister containing the Russian flag on the ocean floor from a submarine at the North Pole.

The Kremlin also has moved to beef up Russian military forces in the Arctic. The effort has included the restoration of a Soviet-era military base on the New Siberian Islands and other military outposts in the Arctic. Earlier this year, the military conducted sweeping maneuvers in the Arctic that involved 38,000 servicemen, more than 50 surface ships and submarines and 110 aircraft. As part of the drills, the military demonstrated its capability to quickly beef up its forces on the Arctic Novaya Zemlya and Franz Josef Land archipelagos.

China's New 'Great Game'

Legal Insurrection | August 3

As President Obama is busy waging "Quixotic" war on greenhouse gases, China is making real geostrategic and territorial gains in the Indian Ocean and South China Sea. China is not only reclaiming islands in its backyard—furnished with airstrips and naval bases in the South China Sea, but also building a corridor connecting the western Chinese city of Kashgar to the Arabian Sea.

China's plans are so aggressive and ambitious that it would make even a seasoned foreign policy expert's head spin—don't expect that from anyone in the current U.S. administration. While the Obama administration spends big on climate change and works to shrink the U.S.'s carbon footprint, the administration is equally committed to shrinking the U.S.'s geostrategic footprint in the world.

Sensing the U.S.'s disengagement from the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean, China is pasturing aggressively in the Indian Ocean to encircle its Asian rival, India. China and India share historic

rivalries. After invading Tibet, China attacked India in 1962—successfully pushing back Indian defenses and occupying roughly 40,000 kilometers (nearly 25,000 miles) of Indian territory. Since the 1960s, China has made further territorial claims in India. ...

A recent report by policy research institute Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative (AMTI) describes the "construction of an artificial island near the Colombo South Harbor." ...

The cornerstone of China's overall expansionist policy is Pakistan's deep-sea port of Gwador. The Arabian Sea port of Gwador would not only open a new route for China's oil and gas imports, but create a full-fledged Chinese naval base overlooking India's Western Coast.

Sri Lanka's leading weekly, *The Nation*, explained this ambitious Chinese strategy: "Pakistan's location has been a key factor in the geopolitical alliance. On the edge of the Persian Gulf, Pakistan offers a bridging role for China. Pakistan's ports overlooking the busiest oil shipping lanes have been a key element in China's

implementation of its 'string of pearls' strategy linking the South China Sea, South Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean."

There's no love lost between Communist China and Islamist Pakistan. In 2011, Pakistan's ambassador to China, Masood Khan described the bilateral relations as "higher than the mountains, deeper than the oceans, ... dearer than eyesight, sweeter than honey"

China is aggressively shoring up its coastal defenses and encroaching on neighboring countries while doing so. According to AMTI, Beijing's efforts to reclaim islands in maritime sea is part of "China's massive and controversial program to create a 'Great Wall of Sand' across the South China Sea." ...

With the U.S. under President Obama unceremoniously abdicating the leadership of the free world, China flexes its military

muscles unmolested. China's neighbors (India, Japan, Philippines, Myanmar, etc.) are starting to get the foretaste of things to come once China start calling the shots in the world.

"Part of the Communist plan [is] to place India and Pakistan in a giant vice between Russia and China. ... Red China insists it has a legal right not only to Tibet but [also] to many parts of India and Southeast Asia. ... Their constant dream for centuries has been ultimate world conquest! ... China knows, however, that in this highly industrialized age she can accomplish this dream only as an ally of Russia. ... China is now ready to begin devouring the rest of Asia with Russia's secret military backing."

Plain Truth, December 1959

Japan Defense Chief Says SDF Could Deal With Nukes Under Security Bills

Japan Times | August 5

NDER THE RULING BLOC'S SECURITY BILLS, THE SELF-DEFENSE Force would theoretically be allowed to transport, repair or store nuclear, chemical and biological weapons for a foreign or multinational force, Defense Minister Gen Nakatani told the Upper House on Wednesday. ...

In reality, Nakatani emphasized, Japan would never actually

carry out such an operation because the United States, Japan's main military ally, would not ask Tokyo to do so, given the "unique nature" of nuclear weapons and Washington's policy of not forward-deploying nuclear weapons in the Pacific. ...

RELATED: "WHY WE WATCH JAPAN'S MARCH TOWARD MILITARISM"

China's Military Needs to 'Upgrade Weaponry, Extend Surveillance in Western Pacific' South China Morning Post | August 3

CHINA'S AIR FORCE NEEDS TO BROADEN ITS AIR SURVEILLANCE and attack capabilities in the western Pacific including the area near Japan to ensure its command of the skies, according to an official study.

The report, prepared by the Air Force Command Academy in November, also stressed the need to develop and enhance nine types of "strategic equipment" with an eye specifically towards the United States and its "pivot" to Asia. ...

Listing the U.S., Japan, Taiwan, India and Vietnam as "threats" in military airspace until 2030, the report proposed broadening Beijing's scope of surveillance from the so-called "first island chain" to the "second island chain."

Ukrainian President: Putin Wants the 'Whole of Europe'

ValueWalk | August 5

KRAINIAN PRESIDENT PETRO POROSHENKO HAS CLAIMED THAT Russian President Vladimir Putin is out to conquer the "whole of Europe." ...

Speaking to French radio station RFI, Poroshenko voiced the fear that the Russian president, who has quickly earned a reputation for his bellicose tactics, is unlikely to be satisfied with his triumph in Crimea and will likely look to expand territory across Europe. He went on to warn that Putin would push the envelope as far as he is allowed to, possibly moving on other European states like the Baltics and Finland next. ...

This interview follows in the wake of growing discomfort across Europe, and the rest of the world, over Putin's actions. The mounting geopolitical tensions in Europe are making headlines everyday; as recently as August 3, NATO has been reported to execute aircraft "scrambles" to intercept Russian airspace violations

and unusual activity with rising frequency. As of 2014, NATO has carried out 500 air-policing procedures, four times the number of missions in 2013. Statistical data shows that 85 percent of these attempts were aimed at thwarting Russian aircrafts. This has been the highest recorded activity in aerial policing since the close of the Cold War. ...

Experts have cautioned against alarm, stating that these random isolated incidents could be just that—random. NATO officials have clarified that incursions into other states' airspace might not always equal military intimidation and could be influenced by other factors, like fluctuations in the weather and poor visibility.

However, the fact that there has been a significant upsurge in these "random" occurrences in the last two years has not gone unnoticed by the international community. Russian aircrafts have been observed passing over military vessels belonging to various European and other countries. Russian bombers have also been spotted outside of their usual routes, flying close to British, Portuguese and U.S. airspace. ...

Apart from the overt security concerns in the aftermath of 2014's Crimean crisis, Putin's decisions and actions have also raised questions about the long-game: Is the Russian president moving to resurrect the erstwhile Soviet Union? ...

The fast-accelerating tensions in Europe, NATO's wariness, the United States' dedication to upholding democratic ideals globally, and Putin's political choices are all coming together to recreate a geopolitical atmosphere that harks back to another era, namely, the Cold War. ...

NATO'S growing unease with the Kremlin is sparking a greater debate on international security and the European situation, even though member states like Germany are unenthusiastic about a formal policy change at this juncture; the alliance does not wish to provoke Russia into military action and jeopardize the potential for cooperation. ...

"Since the election of President Vladimir Putin in 2000, Moscow has increasingly grown more powerful and belligerent. Many nations and leaders are becoming concerned—and none more so than those in Europe.... Russia's newfound global power and influence is triggering European leaders to demand a strong leader capable of striking back. Few things unite a nation or group of nations more than a mutual external threat.... Bible prophecy reveals that this is precisely what we can expect to occur. Russia will be a catalyst for the formation and empowerment of a united European power!"

Trumpet, July 2007

Japan Eyeing 5 Trillion Yen Defense Budget

Nikkei | August 2

APAN'S MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WILL LIKELY MAKE A RECORD BUDget request for fiscal 2016 as it seeks to buy new airborne refueling aircraft and continue building an Aegis destroyer. Soaring procurement costs due to the weaker yen will also be factored into the request.

The ministry expects to request a budget of more than 5 trillion yen (US\$40.3 billion) for fiscal 2016. The request is part of a two-step system. After each ministry submits its request, by the

end of August, the government will debate the overall budget. After this process, the government compiles budget proposals, at the end of the year. For the first time, the government's defense proposal to the Diet is expected to top 5 trillion yen.

It will be the first time for the Defense Ministry to request money for—and spend it on—airborne refueling and transport aircraft....

Russia Hacks Pentagon Computers

CNBC | August 6

"S. OFFICIALS TELL NBC NEWS THAT RUSSIA LAUNCHED A "sophisticated cyberattack" against the Pentagon's Joint Staff unclassified e-mail system, which has been shut down and taken off line for nearly two weeks. According to the officials, the "sophisticated cyberintrusion" occurred sometime around July 25 and affected some 4,000 military and civilian personnel work for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Sources tell NBC News that it appears the cyberattack relied on some kind of automated system that rapidly gathered massive amounts of data and within a minute distributed all the information to thousands of accounts on the Internet. The officials also

report the suspected Russian hackers coordinated the sophisticated cyberassault via encrypted accounts on social media.

While the officials say its not clear whether the attack was sanctioned by the Russian government or conducted by individuals, given the scope of the attack, "It was clearly the work of a state actor."

The officials stress that no classified information was seized or compromised and that only unclassified accounts and e-mails were hacked....

TW IN BRIEF

apan is cross about WikiLeaks: Washington is working to reduce tension with Tokyo after WikiLeaks published documents showing the U.S. spying on Japanese officials and companies. Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Wednesday that U.S. Vice President Joe Biden had apologized to Japan for "causing trouble." The U.S. response came

after Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe expressed deep concern about the WikiLeaks reports and vowed to raise the issue with Washington. The Japanese prime minister's office said that Abe told Biden that if the allegations are true it would threaten the trust between the two countries—so he expected the U.S. to investigate the reports and respond appropriately.

Venezuela Increasingly Looks Like a War Zone

Tyler Durden, Bullion Management Group | August 5

VENEZUELA HAS BEEN MOCKED AS A "SOCIALIST UTOPIA," AN economy in a state of terminal collapse, where the destruction of the currency (one black market Bolivar is now worth 107 times less than the official currency's exchange rate) and the resulting hyperinflation is only matched by the barren wasteland that local stores have transformed into now that conventional supply chains are irreparably broken.

These days, the hyperinflationary collapse in Venezuela is reaching its terminal phase. With inflation soaring at least 65 percent, murder rates the second highest in the world, and chronic shortages of food and necessities, there is major social unrest. More importantly, Venezuela shows us what the end game for every flat money system looks like.

Unfortunately, while mocking socialist paradises everywhere

is a recurring theme—especially once they have completely run out of other people's money to burn through—what always follows next is far less amusing. Complete social collapse, with riots, civil war and deaths not far behind.

A video clip shows a demonstration against Venezuela's poor transportation services that quickly turned violent. End result: one person dead from a gunshot wound, more than 80 arrested and four shops looted on the Manuel Piar Avenue in San Felix. What was once a vibrant, rich and beautiful Latin American country has become like an open war zone.

This is just the beginning. ...

RELATED: "SOCIALIST 'PARADISE' FACES COLLAPSE"

ANGLO-AMERICA



Psalm 83 Is Being Fulfilled Gerald Flurry, The Key of David | August 7

The first visible sign of this prophecy has now been manifested in the little Mediterranean country of Lebanon in the Middle East.



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Huntington Park and the Slippery Slope of Illegal Immigration

Anthony Chibarirwe | August 6

LLEGAL IMMIGRANTS USED TO BE JUST THAT—ILLEGAL ALIENS who, we were told, came to America to do those jobs the average American wouldn't. Not any more. Now, they are "undocumented immigrants" who can be appointed commissioners on city advisory boards.

The Huntington Park, California, City Council appointed Francisco Medina and Julian Zatarain to advisory roles on the city's health and education commission and parks and recreation commission, respectively. City Council member Jhonny Pineda announced the appointment at a council meeting on Monday night.

Medina and Zatarain are both illegal Mexican immigrants who have been in the United Sates for almost a decade. Neither met the requirements for the Obama administration's reprieve program for illegal aliens—the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals—so, by law, they should be deported. Instead, they have been given leadership positions.



Councilman Jhonny Pineda praised them for their volunteer activities and involvement in programs relating to immigrants. Which is no surprise: Pineda himself immigrated to the U.S. at 13 years old. When he campaigned for office, he promised that he would generate opportunities for "undocumented immigrants."

Before appointing Medina and Zatarain, the city attorney didn't find any technical breach of law in appointing illegal, or "undocumented," immigrants to public office.

Robin Hvidston, executive director of We the People Rising, has a much different view. "To appoint commission seats to individuals who are breaking federal laws demonstrates [a] lack of respect for U.S. law," she said.

Such appointments "[send] the wrong message to other cities that you can be illegal, and you can come and work for a city," said community activist Sandra Orozco.

Yet Huntington Park Mayor Karina Macias said she's "hoping other cities are looking at what we're doing here." She thinks Huntington Park is setting an example for the nation to follow.

Actually, Huntington Park is late getting to the party. Several Californian cities have long since declared themselves "sanctuary cities" for illegal aliens, and, in a sense, the United States government has essentially declared itself a de facto illegal immigrant sanctuary nation.

California has also already started issuing driver's licenses to illegal immigrants. This summer, the state began offering healthcare plans to illegals as well.

The United States is on a slippery slope of lawlessness, and our immigration problem exemplifies this well. Never has there been a greater need to understand the vital importance of law, the painful kickback of compromising with it, and the tendency of human nature to ignore that law.

For more on the negative impact illegal immigration has on nations, read "Borderline Breakdown."

"He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail."

Deuteronomy 28:44

Puerto Rico Confirms It Failed to Make \$58 Million Debt Payment

Associated Press | August 3

THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO CONFIRMED MONDAY THAT IT failed to make a \$58 million debt payment in a significant escalation of the debt crisis facing the U.S. island territory. ...

The government ... argued that it should not be considered a default under a technical definition of the term, an argument rejected by Moody's Investor Service and others.

"This event is consistent with our belief that Puerto Rico does not have the resources to make all of its forthcoming debt payments," said Emily Raimes, a vice president at Moody's. "This is a first in what we believe will be broad defaults on commonwealth debt." Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla warned in July that the government and state agencies cannot repay the \$72 billion in public debt that hangs over the U.S. territory, which is struggling with a nearly decade-long economic slump.

Garcia's administration has pushed for the right for Puerto Rico public agencies to file for bankruptcy under Chapter 9, which officials say would allow an orderly restructuring of the debt, but the proposal has not drawn any Republican cosponsors in the U.S. Congress. The White House has said that no federal bailout is planned.

The Economy Chugs Along With Consumers Going Into Deep Credit Card Debt mybudget360 | August 5

CREDIT CARD DEBT IS LIKE CRACK FOR THE AMERICAN CONSUMER. A cheap alternative to pure spending cocaine but enough to keep you on the hamster wheel of consumption. I recently discussed how credit card debt while remaining subdued since the Great Recession suddenly made a 180 degree turn. Americans are spending money they don't have on shiny plastic.

Total outstanding credit card debt recently surged beyond the \$900 billion mark. ... And with the average nationwide interest rate of 14 percent, that means spending hamsters are probably dropping tens of billions on interest costs alone. ... Keep in mind people pray to the hedge fund gods for a 7 percent annual return. Getting a 14 percent return is like finding El Dorado had a sister name AmEx. It is amazing to get a 14 percent return (and with some cards, you are getting close to usury). Equifax released credit card data on 25 U.S. metro areas and the results are startling. ...

[M]ost people don't realize that buying a \$1,000 TV at 14 percent interest and paying the minimum can easily turn that TV into a \$2,000 or \$3,000 purchase. And many people do this while obviously neglecting retirement savings. How do we know

this? Because half of retirees rely on Social Security as their primary source of income and would be out on the streets living under a bridge if it were not for Social Security. Credit card debt is like junk food. Easily accessible, easy to use, but hard to work off. We all know junk food is bad but most of the country is overweight. ...

Adjusting for inflation, U.S. household income is back to where it was nearly 30 years ago. So to keep up the pretense that things are perfectly fine with the middle class, people are spending money they don't have. This, by the way, was at the core of the Great Recession. It was truly a massive credit bubble led by casino banking. Americans buying homes and cars they couldn't afford and using real estate as a piggy bank. Banks were happy to oblige and when everything went bust, it was corporate welfare and bailouts for the banks and Greek-style austerity for the broke public (aka vast oceans of foreclosures and bankruptcies that seem to have been forgotten recently). ...

Apparently many Americans thought those corporate profits were going to trickle down into their paychecks. The joke is on them! We have a sea of low-wage jobs and this is why, politically,

we have candidates with populist rhetoric gaining traction. While people in high-paid metro areas shop at Whole Foods and pretend everything is fine, most of the country is feeling the economic pain deep in their wallets. And by the way, we've been on a ridiculous stock market bull run and the housing market is

reflecting bubble-like behavior.

All of this might make your average Americans feel confused but spending money feels good. Spending on a credit card feels even better. Just wait until that credit card statement arrives in the mail.

NASA Signing \$490 Million Contract With Russia

The Hill | August 5

ASA INFORMED LAWMAKERS ON WEDNESDAY THAT BECAUSE Congress has failed to fully fund its Commercial Crew Program for the last five years, it is signing a \$490 million contract extension with Russia to send Americans to space.

The new contract, running through 2019, means that NASA will continue to depend on Russia to get its astronauts to space even as tensions between Washington and Moscow escalate.

It will put money in Russia's pockets even as U.S. economic sanctions seek to put pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin's government over the conflict in Ukraine.

It will also make the U.S. susceptible to threats from Russia, which in the past has suggested it could stop taking U.S. astronauts to the International Space Station. The U.S. has relied on Russia since retiring its space shuttle program.

In a letter to a key House appropriator on Wednesday, NASA administrator Charles F. Bolden Jr. also warned that the space program is in danger of missing a 2017 deadline to send U.S. astronauts to space on vehicles created by Boeing and SpaceX.

To meet that deadline, he wrote that Congress needs to meet President Obama's \$1.24 billion budget request for the program.

"The fastest path to bringing these new systems online, launching from America, and ending our sole reliance on Russia is fully funding NASA'S Commercial Crew Program in [fiscal year] 2016," Bolden wrote in a letter to Rep. John Culberson (R-Texas), who oversees NASA funding in the House. ...

A spokeswoman for NASA said if Obama's request is fully funded, and if NASA can fully pay its contracts, the U.S. commercial vehicles could still be ready by the 2017 date.

"At this point, because of the lack of funding, our commercial partners will likely not be ready by 2017," the spokeswoman said.

Republicans in both chambers have blamed tight spending ceilings enforced by a 2011 budget deal for the problems. Democrats and the White House want to raise those ceilings for a variety of programs. Some Republicans are against raising any of the ceilings, while others in the GOP want to just raise the ceilings for certain programs, such as defense spending.

OTHER NEWS

Goliath Gates: Entrance to Famous Biblical Metropolis Uncovered

LiveScience | August 4

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS

A MASSIVE GATE UNEARTHED IN ISRAEL MAY HAVE MARKED THE entrance to a biblical city that, at its heyday, was the biggest metropolis in the region.

The town, called Gath, was occupied until the ninth century

The town, called Gath, was occupied until the ninth century B.C. In biblical accounts, the Philistines—the mortal enemies of the Israelites—ruled the city. The Old Testament also describes Gath as the home of Goliath, the giant warrior whom the Israelite King David felled with a slingshot.

The new findings reveal just how impressive the ancient Philistine city once was, said lead archaeologist of the current excavation, Aren Maeir, of Bar-Ilan University in Israel.

"We knew that Philistine Gath in the 10th to ninth century [B.C.] was a large city, perhaps the largest in the land at that time," Maeir told Live Science in an e-mail. "These monumental fortifications stress how large and mighty this city was." ...

The gates were uncovered in Tel es-Safi, which was occupied almost continuously for nearly 5,000 years, until the Arab village at the site was left in 1948, Maeir said. ...

Both the impressive settlement size and mentions in biblical accounts suggest to scholars that the site is the historic city of Gath, which was ruled by the Philistines, who lived next to the Jewish kingdoms of Judah and Israel. ...

The team was digging trenches to look for the ancient city's fortifications when they found the top surface of a monumental gate and fortifications. Because the remaining walls are so massive, it may take several seasons to fully uncover them, Maeir said. So far, only the top surface of the structures are visible, but based on the size and shape of the stones used to make them, the city walls must have been quite large. The mighty fortifications would have formed a rather imposing boundary that prevented the Kingdom of Judah from expanding westward, he added.

The team also found ironworks and a Philistine temple near the monumental gate, with some pottery and other finds typically associated with Philistine culture. Though the pottery represents a distinctive Philistine style, it also shows elements of Israelite technique, suggesting the cultures did influence each other in ways unrelated to war.

"This mirrors the intense and multifaceted connections that existed between the Philistines and their neighbors," Maeir said. Though the Philistines were often seen as the absolute enemies of the Israelites and Judahites, he added, in reality, "it was much more complex."

RELATED: "ARCHEOLOGY PROVES BIBLE HISTORY ACCURATE"