

Trumpet Weekly

OCTOBER 30, 2015

Adolf Hitler (1889-1945)



How Many Germans Secretly Admire Hitler?

Brad Macdonald | October 29

IMAGINE IF ADOLF HITLER WERE RESURRECTED AND PLUNKED down in the center of Berlin or Dusseldorf or a sleepy German village in rural Bavaria. What would the 19th-century despot think of modern Germany? More interestingly, what would modern Germans think of Hitler?

This is the plotline of *Look Who's Back*, a new film recently released in Germany. *Look Who's Back* is based on the bestselling novel by Timur Vermes, and is a *Borat*-style satirical film in which Adolf Hitler comes to life and attempts to start a life in modern Germany. In the film, the resurrected Hitler travels the country, making

observations, stirring up trouble, and, most interestingly, interviewing ordinary Germans.

Look Who's Back has been a massive hit, at least by German standards.

Although it's only a movie, more than a few commentators—many of whom are Germans, including the film's director, David Wnendt—have expressed concern at what this movie has apparently uncovered. *Deutsche Welle* explained the reception Hitler and his film crew received as they traveled across Germany. "Everywhere they went, they got similar reactions: passersby who cheer Hitler on as he drives past, stand upright and make the Hitler salute. Many took photos." The *Washington Post* interviewed Wnendt: "Most of these people react to the sight of one of the 20th century's vilest leaders with EXCITEMENT and AMUSEMENT."



BRAD MACDONALD

HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES

They pose for selfies with the feared Nazi leader and perform the famous Hitler salute for him” (emphasis added).

The Hitler salute is actually illegal in Germany, but these people didn’t mind—and neither did the authorities, it would seem.

I realize that we’re talking about a movie, and a comedy at that. But isn’t this a little odd and somewhat disconcerting? What should we make of the fact that most of the people Hitler came into contact with greeted him warmly and enthusiastically?

Of the 300 hours of video footage of Hitler conversing with the German public, there were only two incidences of individuals responding negatively to this actor playing Hitler. One occurred in Bayreuth, Bavaria, where a man walked up to Hitler and said: “In the year 2014, if someone comes to the central square in Bayreuth pretending to be Hitler, and if that is tolerated by the general public, then I have to say: ‘This is bad for Germany’ ... ‘and if it were up to me, I would have you chased off.’”

This man’s point is absolutely legitimate, but what’s incredible is that only one man expressed it!

During his interview with the Post, Wnendt—a German himself—shared how surprised he was by how many ordinary Germans had no qualms about conversing with Hitler, and at the same time expressed xenophobic, racist views about foreigners living in Germany. One woman complained that Germany’s problems were the result of foreigners living in Germany. One man explained that immigrants from Africa had caused Germany’s IQ to drop by 20 percent. Another complained that foreigners could do whatever they wanted because Germans were too full of guilt

about World War II. “We Germans are not allowed to open our mouths because we still have that stigma,” he said.

These people made these remarks on camera, while in conversation with a man made to look like Adolf Hitler.

Another thing too: This entire movie was filmed in the summer of 2014—long before the current migrant crisis!

One scene in particular caught Wnendt by surprise. The aim of the scene was to see if Hitler could persuade a group of soccer fans to assault a man (another actor) who was making anti-German remarks. Wnendt recalled how surprised he was by how quickly Hitler was able to incite the young Germans to violence. If Hitler didn’t step in, Wnendt recalls, they would have beaten up this man.

“The largely positive reaction to Hitler among Germans may remind some of the way Mao Zedong is treated in China, or Joseph Stalin in some parts of Russia—as a kitsch curio,” the *Post* reported. “These extreme opinions are not coming from the fringes, but from the center,” Wnendt explained. [They’re] not neo-Nazis, but normal middle-class people.”

Again, isn’t this disconcerting? According to Wnendt, “If you put him [Hitler] on a T-shirt, I think people would buy it.” This film, and its terrific success, reveals an alarming complacency—and even an affinity—for Hitler.

“It’s hard to say just how many people in Germany openly, or behind closed doors, support the NPD [a far-right party with neo-Nazi views] and how many would tell you over a beer that things under Hitler really weren’t that bad,” *Deutsche Welle* wrote.

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MIDDLE EAST

TrumpetDaily

RADIO SHOW

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PUTIN ISN’T ‘BAD,’ HE’S EVIL, VILE, TERRIFYING ... | OCTOBER 28

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HITLER’S RESURRECTION IN GERMANY AND DEVELOPING A KEEN SENSE OF CRISIS | OCTOBER 26

Tehran and Moscow: A Shaky Alliance

NOW | October 27

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



ALTHOUGH IT LOOKS LIKE MOSCOW AND TEHRAN HAVE A CLEAR, common goal—to prop [Bashar] Assad up and crush the remaining rebel groups on the ground—their long-term visions for Syria and the region differ. Their political and military strategies reveal that the current alliance is a temporary one. It’s an alliance over Assad, not Syria. ...

Iran is looking to change demography—moving Sunnis from Zabadani and the Damascus suburbs to Idlib—because it sees the conflict and any future solution as based on sectarian grounds. ...

Iran believes that the Shiites in the region are the protectors of its political agenda and wants to unite all Shiites under its umbrella irrespective of the borders between countries or states. In Iran’s

view Syria is not a state—it's just part of the Iranian plan. ...

Of course Putin mainly wants to empower himself, but he needs the Syrian institutions to do so. Russia wants to preserve the Syrian state. Putin wants to prop Assad up simply because the state institutions—including the army and the security apparatus—are still linked to his regime. Putin is not investing in Assad per se, but rather in Syria's institutions. ...

Unlike Tehran, Moscow is not interested in changing demography or in maintaining the Shiite/Alawite corridor. Moscow does not want to see Assad go and then be implicitly replaced by [Iranian Gen. Qassem] Suleimani. Assad must go eventually, but only after a stable political solution is secured. ...

According to an *Al-Hayat* report, Iran's attempt to run the Tartous military base was one of the reasons Russia decided to move. This corridor is necessary for Iran, but the coast is equally significant to Russia. ...

With different goals, diverse strategies and divergent visions, Moscow and Tehran are bound to disagree. After Assad's humiliating visit to Moscow, last week's Vienna meeting which excluded Iran, and a Russian-Israeli military coordination in Syria, Russia seems to have proceeded with a plan. According to an *Al-Quds al-Arabi* report, the Russian initiative presented in

Vienna includes two interesting points: first, that all countries (Iran included) should immediately cease military assistance to whomever they're supporting in Syria; and two, that Russia keep its forces in Syria to guarantee that the peace plan is implemented after the UNSC [United Nations Security Council] approves it.

This means that Russia wants Iran and its militias out of Syria and it wants to stay. Not great news for Iran, which probably now feels betrayed by the Caesar. Iran has spent billions of dollars in Syria and lost thousands of Iranian, Lebanese and Iraqi Shiite fighters, including elite commanders, to keep a firm grip on Syria, not hand it over to Moscow.

It is already too late for Iran to pull back from the alliance. In any case, that was the only choice after its losses yielded no victory.

This doesn't mean that Russia doesn't need Iran anymore and can go on without the support of its ground troops. Putin has put himself and his country in a dilemma. He now has to please everyone and get a solution before it's too late, or before the Gulf states retaliate by sending manpads to the rebels, at which point everyone can kiss a political solution goodbye.

This temporary alliance between the Caesar and Wali al-Faqih will not endure. Russia is a bully but Iran will not be the obedient wife.

Analysis: Russia-Iran Alliance Tactical, Not Strategic

Jerusalem Post | October 26

CHRISTIAN RUSSIA AND SHIITE IRAN'S MILITARY ALLIANCE TO help keep Syrian President Bashar Assad in power is fraught with underlying tension, which could be exploited by Israel or the U.S.

Iran's revolutionary expansionist agenda and its targeting of Israel is at odds with Russia's long-term goals in the region.

Russia seeks to solidify Assad's regime in an Alawite mini-state in the face of a Sunni onslaught funded by Gulf states. ...

Harold Rhode, a senior fellow at the New York-based Gatestone Institute and a former adviser at the Pentagon, told the *Jerusalem Post* on Sunday that Russian and Iranian long-term interests in Syria, and elsewhere, diverge.

"Russia does not trust Iran," he said. "Russia doesn't want Iran to be an equal partner in Syria. Russia wants to rule the roost."

Iran is trying to turn Alawites into Shiites, asserted Rhode, adding that Russia looks on this negatively. For Russia, he said, the more members of the anti-Sunni coalition the better. "This is

Russia's traditional approach—divide and conquer." ...

Col. (Res.) Dr. Eran Lerman, a senior research associate at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University, said in a recent report, "For Moscow, Assad is a client to be saved from the gallows.

"For Iran, Syria is a key steppingstone on the road to destabilizing Jordan; and, as Ayatollah Khamenei has ordered, to 'turning the West Bank into the next Gaza.'" ...

Rhode says "Russia does not want a powerful Iran running an alliance in the Middle East near Russia's borders." ...

In a telling anecdote, in 1989, the Islamic Republic's founder, Ayatollah Khomeini, sent a letter to former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev inviting him to convert to Islam.

Russia prefers Muslims to be occupied fighting each other instead of turning their angst against non-Muslim Russia, continued Rhode. ...

Russia and Iran "are tactical allies, not strategic partners."

U.S. Is Driving Mideast Allies Toward Putin

Josh Rogin and Eli Lake, Bloomberg View | October 26

AMERICA'S TRADITIONAL MIDDLE EAST ALLIES, HAVING RUN OUT of patience with President Barack Obama's policy in Syria, are now reaching out to a resurgent Russia—even though it is bolstering

the very dictator so many of them have pushed to leave power.

Some in Washington see the new ties as a threat to U.S. interests, especially because the U.S. has worked since the 1970s to

keep Russian influence out of the Middle East. But the Obama administration sees an opportunity. The State Department is now quietly encouraging U.S. allies to engage with Moscow, as part of Secretary John Kerry's quest to win Russian support for a political process in Syria. ...

But while Kerry focused on convincing Russia to join with the West, Putin has been working to convince America's Middle East allies that Moscow is the new power in the region.

Prince Turki al-Faisal, Saudi Arabia's former ambassador to Washington and former intelligence chief, said as much Friday at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. There he gave President Vladimir Putin credit for outmaneuvering the U.S. and said Russia was now in a position to demand attention and respect.

"Putin is a man who has done so much harm to innocent people throughout the area in Syria. But I must also consider that he

is the head of a state, and that state is a big state, and he feels that state should have a decision-making role in the world," he said. "And we have to deal with him. And it's not that you ignore him or cast him off as a megalomaniac. He has a vision of the world and a strategy to put that vision in place."

By hosting Assad in Moscow, Turki said, Putin sent a message to the region that anyone who wishes to oust Assad must go through him. Putin may not be sincere when he says he wants to fight the Islamic State, but the U.S.-led coalition has not committed the resources necessary for the mission either, he said.

While Russia participates in the new U.S.-led discussions over Syria, it is simultaneously striking side deals with U.S. allies to further its military presence there, which the U.S. government has called counterproductive. ...

Retired Gen. Jack Keane testified last week that Moscow is betting on U.S. inaction. ...

Israel Premier Orders Review of Status for East Jerusalem **Associated Press | October 26**

PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU HAS ORDERED A REVIEW of the status of certain Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem, an official confirmed Monday, a decision that could potentially strip tens of thousands of Palestinians of their Israeli residency rights.

Such a move is unlikely to overcome Israeli legal hurdles, but the very prospect has unnerved Palestinians in the city. The review comes after weeks of Israeli-Palestinian violence, much of it concentrated in East Jerusalem, the section of the city claimed by the Palestinians for their future capital. Many of the Palestinian attackers involved in deadly assaults came from East Jerusalem neighborhoods. Any move to change the status of the city's Palestinians would threaten unleashing new unrest and draw international condemnations.

The current round of violence began last month with clashes at Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site, a hilltop compound in the

Old City that is revered by Jews and Muslims. The clashes quickly spread to other areas of East Jerusalem, across Israel and into the West Bank and Gaza Strip. ...

The Israeli official said that Netanyahu recently ordered a review of Palestinian neighborhoods located outside of Israel's West Bank separate barrier. Roughly one third of the city's Palestinian population, about 100,000 people, lives outside the barrier.

Israel captured East Jerusalem and the West Bank from Jordan in the 1967 Mideast war. It immediately annexed East Jerusalem as part of its capital in a move that has never been internationally recognized. ...

Netanyahu has said the current wave of violence is the result of Palestinian incitement. But Palestinians say it is the result of years of Israeli occupation, failed peace efforts and dwindling hopes of ever gaining independence. ...

Can the EU Play a Role in Taming Israeli-Palestinian Violence? **EU Observer | October 26**

TODAY, THE EU'S HIGH REPRESENTATIVE, FEDERICA MOGHERINI, will add her weight to international efforts to contain and ultimately deescalate the latest wave of Israeli-Palestinian violence when she welcomes Palestinian [Authority] President Mahmoud Abbas to Brussels.

At the top of her agenda will be to explore concrete steps that can be taken by all sides to calm tensions on the ground and hopefully reinject some confidence in the health of the moribund two-state solution.

For Mogherini, this will be an opportunity to position Europe as an increasingly indispensable player in efforts to solve the long-running Israeli-Palestinian conflict by portraying EU institutions as working in tandem with U.S. Secretary John Kerry, who has been holding his own set of talks with regional leaders.

It comes at a time in which the EU and its member states have shown increasing signs of diplomatic activism designed to unlock

Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, whether through the United Nations Security Council, in the form of European parliamentary support for Palestinian recognition, or efforts to exclude Israeli settlements from EU-Israel bilateral agreements.

Despite the inherent potential in this kind of European diplomacy and the considerable expectations built over the last year, 2015 has been a wasted opportunity to fill the diplomatic vacuum left by U.S. disengagement following the collapse of Kerry's peace-making efforts in April 2014. ...

European efforts must ... be geared towards changing Israeli public opinion. ...

"Why Europe's meddling in the Middle East? Why its apparent Palestinian bias? Given 20th-century history, why is it not more careful to be evenhanded? ... The well-known prophecy

of an end-time “abomination of desolation” (i.e. Matthew 24:15) is describing a European “peacekeeping” army moving into Israel—most likely at the invitation of the Jews! “And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that

the desolation thereof is nigh” (Luke 21:20). ... And what will appear to be Jerusalem’s ultimate salvation will suddenly become Israel’s bloodiest holocaust!”

“The Counterfeit Peacemaker,” *Trumpet*, August 2001

Former Iran Leader Said to Admit Country Pursued Nukes Times of Israel | October 28

A FORMER IRANIAN PRESIDENT ADMITTED THIS WEEK THAT THE country’s nuclear program was started with the intent of building a nuclear weapon, Iranian dissidents said.

The reported comments by Hashemi Rafsanjani to the state-run IRNA news agency would appear to mark the first time a top Iranian official—current or former—has said the country sought a nuclear weapon, in contravention of repeated assurances by the regime that its enrichment program is and always has been peaceful. ...

Rafsanjani said the program was begun while the country was at war with Iraq in the 1980s with the express consent and participation of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, according to NCRI.

“Our basic doctrine was peaceful usage of the nuclear technology although we never abandoned the idea that if one day we are threatened and it is imperative, we would have the capability for going the other path [to nuclear weapon] as well,” Rafsanjani reportedly said.

According to the NCRI, Rafsanjani’s comments are tantamount to admitting that the country is still pursuing a nuclear weapon, though that assertion was not borne out by the group’s translation of the interview.

“The statement by Rafsanjani is an unequivocal testimony to

the fact that the Iranian regime, from the onset until present, and under direct supervision of Khamenei and Rafsanjani, has been in search of the nuclear weapon and has never abandoned it,” NCRI said in a statement. ...

[Rafsanjani] is now considered a moderate close to the reformist camp. ...

He said he and Khamenei, who was at the time a politician and close confidant of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, both went to Pakistan to explore the issue after the outbreak of war with Iraq and a failed bombing of Iraq’s Osirak nuclear facility.

“Those years, we were all thinking that we should arm ourselves with deterrent elements since the war was not about to end and in our defensive policies we had the word of Imam [Khomeini] in mind that the war may last 20 years,” he said.

“Iran’s prophesied push has already started. America isn’t going to stop it. Just watch. It’s going to keep getting more provocative, more aggressive, more volatile and violent. Until it ends in war.”

“Iran Wants War: It Is About to Get One.” *theTrumpet.com*, Jan. 4, 2012

Russian Warships May Be Shutting Out Israel’s Air Force Access to Syria Business Insider | October 26

THE ISRAELI AIR FORCE (IAF) HAS AN IMPRESSIVE REPUTATION. ... Over the years, the IAF has become more technologically advanced and is now an important part of our national security.

But above all, it has become an important element of our special operations, providing our forces with the ability to reach far, silently and in deadly fashion.

Operations such as OP Babylon—bombing an Iraqi nuclear plant—or Operation Orchard were important milestones in IAF progression and development. Its reputation has since helped the Jewish country rule the sky in a manner that offers us freedom of action, even in such a complex conflict as the Syrian civil war.

But with the recent developments in Syria, the Russians working to establish a stronger presence in the region, it is likely that the era of the IAF crossing borders as if merely walking over a sidewalk is nearly over.

The Russian Navy’s Black Sea flagship, the guided missile cruiser *Moscow*—or *Moskva* “glory”—left from Sevastopol in Crimea September 24, according to Russian state-controlled media. It is currently located to the west of Latakia, in western Syria. ...

By positioning the Moskva, a cruiser armed with S-300 missiles, west of Latakia, the Russians have endangered the IAF’s favorite corridor of flight into Syria. The IAF has no stealth capabilities to circumvent this anti-access/area denial—A2/

AD—bubble, nor any other air force in the area.

Russian President Vladimir Putin managed to do in several days what U.S. President Barack Obama failed to do in the last three years: He’s created a true no-fly zone.

Putin’s actions suggest, in my opinion, that he’s willing to force the coalition and the Israel Air Force into reporting and coordinating their flights in the region—an act I’m sure no one is in favor of or willing to comply with.

The Moskva carries an estimated 64 S-300 missiles, according to foreign sources, and could intercept multiple targets up to 150 miles away, making it a serious threat in addition to other Russian assets in the region.

The presence of the Moskva essentially locks down British air assets in Cyprus, American F-16s in the southern part of Turkey, and the Israeli Air Force, which likes to use that particular flight corridor for penetration into Syria, or alternatively when flying over the western part of Lebanon. Any flights in or around the country will now be tricky for the IAF to accomplish.

Currently, there’s a great deal of disinformation and propaganda on the web pertaining to Russian activities in the region and their ostensibly benevolent operations to rid the region of the likes of ISIS. ...

But one may not ignore reality. Russian activities on the diplomatic field suggest that the Russians have intentionally

established their own no-fly zones, creating A2/AD bubbles in Syria through which no aircraft, unless stealth-capable, can travel.

The Russian Navy has reestablished its old Cold War base, Tartus, on the western coast of Syria. That, along with a Russian air base in northwestern Syria, ensures that Russia can maintain steady supply routes into Syria to support its military actions.

Considering this and the sophisticated air-defense capabilities the Russians have already deployed in Syria, perhaps the

entire operation is about more than merely buoying Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime in the short term. ...

The proposed American no-fly zone idea was meant to protect civilians. The Russian no-fly zone does the opposite and poses complications in lands beyond Syria. It protects the Assad regime as it continues to kill civilians. The more Obama allows the Russian military to become involved in Syria, the more I suspect that Obama has reconsidered forcing Assad out of the game.

EUROPE

Trumpet Hour

VLADIMIR PUTIN IS CHANGING THE WORLD, AND MORE | OCTOBER 30

PEDOPHILIA RIGHTS, DEATH BY POOR EATING, THE BATTLE OF AGINCOURT, AND MORE | OCTOBER 28

Is War About to Break Out in the Balkans?

James Lyon, Foreign Policy | October 26

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



LOST IN THE CACOPHONY OF INTERNATIONAL NEWS ABOUT Russian airstrikes against U.S.-backed anti-Assad rebels in Syria and refugees flooding through the Balkans on their way to Western Europe, a crisis is brewing in Bosnia-Herzegovina on the European Union's southeast flank. And here, too, Moscow has a hand in the mischief-making.

November 21 marks the 20th anniversary of the Dayton peace agreement, which ended 3½ years of brutal war between Serbs, Croats and Bosniaks. ... The Dayton agreement created two highly autonomous entities inside Bosnia: the Bosniak-Croat majority federation and the Serb majority Republika Srpska. Milorad Dodik, president of Republika Srpska, plans to rain on the Dayton anniversary parade by openly violating the agreement on November 15 in a move that many see as a thinly veiled independence referendum.

The scheduled plebiscite has only one question: "Do you support the unconstitutional and unauthorized imposition of laws by the High Representative of the International Community in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly the imposed laws on the Court and Prosecutor's Office of [Bosnia-Herzegovina] and the implementation of their decisions on the territory of Republika Srpska?" Such a biased and leading question offers only one right answer. The referendum will give Dodik political and legal cover to order Republika Srpska institutions—from government administrators to tax collectors—to stop obeying state court orders, verdicts and rulings, and to obstruct the work of the prosecutor's office. ... While the referendum only addresses the judiciary, its destructive intentions make it a de facto declaration of

independence. Lest anyone doubt Dodik's intentions, in April he announced that Republika Srpska will hold an independence referendum in 2018. ...

Throughout these provocations, Moscow has backed Republika Srpska. The Russian ambassador to Bosnia, Pyotr Ivantsov, has stated that the referendum is an internal matter for the country and has expressed his sympathy toward Republika Srpska complaints over the state judiciary. Russian ambassadors have been notable in their refusal to support the international community's efforts to stop Dodik's attempts to tear Bosnia apart, as well as in their opposition to Bosnia's EU and NATO membership, issues that they had earlier agreed to. ... There is now even some question as to whether Russia supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia.

By backing Dodik, Putin is able to create substantial problems for the West without needing to invest resources or diplomatic energy. This pattern should be familiar. From Abkhazia in Georgia to Transnistria in Moldova to most recently Crimea and eastern Ukraine, Russia has sought to prevent Western encroachment in regions that it historically viewed as its own, yet had lost after the fall of the Berlin Wall. It seems that if Moscow can't control a certain territory, then it will opt to create a climate of instability that prevents the EU, the United States and NATO from gaining a meaningful foothold. This holds true for the Balkans, which Russia has traditionally viewed as its sphere of influence. As neighboring Montenegro now moves closer to NATO membership, Moscow wishes to draw a line against further Western advances in the region.

Officials who understand Bosnia's fragility are worried—and with good reason. ...

The Bosniaks and Croats went to war in 1992 to keep Bosnia together, and there is no indication that today they'd be willing to let Republika Srpska go without a fight. Should violence erupt, it will be felt across the Balkans. It could spill over to Kosovo, south Serbia, Macedonia and the Muslim-majority Serbian region of

Sandzak. And spillover from Bosnia could disrupt ongoing talks between Belgrade and Pristina over the normalization of relations. It could bring a return of the ethnic cleansing of the 1990s and renewed refugee flows. It could also radicalize Bosnia's moderate Muslims, who are under growing pressure from extremist Gulf elements, risking the creation of an angry, Muslim-majority minstate directly on the EU's border. ...

Greece's Bailout Deal With Europe Is Starting to Show Cracks

David Francis, Foreign Policy | October 27

THE EUROPEAN UNION'S AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE GREECE WITH the €86 billion euros, or US\$95 billion, bailout that Athens needs to stay solvent is beginning to show signs of strain, with creditors threatening to delay an October payment as Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras struggles to implement promised austerity reforms.

On Monday, Valdis Dombrovskis, a senior European Commission official charged with assessing how well Greece is abiding by its August commitments, said that the EU and Greece still disagree on how to toughen foreclosure laws. Right now, an estimated 320,000 Greeks are in arrears, or behind in their home loan payments. This represents about 40 percent of all Greek home loans.

Tsipras's government wants cover for borrowers with homes worth up to €300,000, or \$331,185, and who earn up to €35,000, or \$38,638, per year. That would account for about 75 percent of the loans now in arrears. According to the leftist Greek government, the EU's counterproposal—protection for homes worth up to just €120,000 euros, or \$132,474—would leave 80 percent of the Greek borrowers who are behind on home payments at risk of losing their homes to foreclosure.

The growing foreclosure rift is the latest to strain the deal between Greece and its creditors. ... According to a Tuesday report in the German newspaper *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, Tsipras has followed through on only 14 of the 48 reforms he promised for

a third, €86 billion, or \$95 billion, bailout he agreed to in August. The paper also reported that Athen's European creditors plan to hold back an October payment of \$3.32 billion. ...

"There is growing concern in Berlin and among other creditors that reforms are already beginning to slide in Athens," Mujtaba Rahman, head of the Eurasia Group's European practice, said Tuesday. "This was expected next year, but the fact it is happening now is an indication of just how challenging the situation remains with Greece." ...

Perhaps even more pressing is a planned €25 billion bailout payment to recapitalize Greek banks, which are badly in need of cash after extended closures, daily-cash-withdrawal limits, and emergency measures designed to keep money in Greece this past summer. This, too, depends on whether Greece can deliver the tax increase and privatization of public assets its government agreed to.

Looming over all of this is the International Monetary Fund. The IMF said it would not participate in the bailout unless Greece, plagued by years of anemic economic growth and unemployment at 25 percent, delivers the reforms it has promised; IMF officials are currently in Greece reviewing its progress. IMF chief Christine Lagarde wants some of Greece's debt to be forgiven, something Germany says is illegal. Lawmakers in Berlin have warned they might not participate in future bailouts without the IMF on board. ...

TW IN BRIEF

Austria plans Slovenia border fence: Austria is looking to control the flood of migrants by building a fence at the main border crossing with Slovenia. The fence will not close the border but will aid in maintaining better control of migrants, the Austrian Chancellor said Wednesday. The decision comes after 85,000 refugees flowed into Slovenia in the last 10 days after Hungary closed its border with Croatia. The plan has drawn criticism from Angela Merkel who is working to keep freedom of travel in Europe. Austria's barrier will be the first between two members of the document-free travel area in Europe.

Germany still in northern Iraq: German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen on Tuesday reaffirmed her country's commitment to training Peshmerga fighters as part of an

international effort to combat the Islamic State. Von der Leyen made the remarks on a visit to Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdish region where she met with the President of Iraq's Kurdistan Region, Masoud Barzani. Since the beginning of the war against the Islamic State, the Kurdish Peshmerga fighters have been seen as the most effective ground fighting force. Germany has so far trained 4,700 Peshmerga and battalion of Yazidi Christian fighters. Berlin's decision to send its soldiers into northern Iraq in late 2014 is the first time since World War II that German soldiers have contributed to a war effort without a United Nations mandate.

The end of Merkel: *Financial Times* journalist Gideon Rachman posted an article this week titled "The End of the Merkel Era Is Within Sight." Rachman writes that the refugee crisis in

Germany “is likely to spell the end of the Merkel era.” German Chancellor Angela Merkel has faced skepticism—even by members of her own party—about how she is handling the migrant crisis. Germans are used to seeing a Merkel who is “calm and in control,” writes Rachman. However, the refugee crisis has revealed another side to Ms. Merkel. Prior to the migrant crisis, Germany was in a “golden era,” Rachman wrote. Merkel had won

three successive victories, was popular in Germany, and was the dominant political figure in Europe. Germany experienced peace and prosperity, “all while keeping the troubles of the world at a safe distance.” The migrant crisis, however, has brought the problems of the world right to the doorsteps of many Germans. Rachman writes that regardless of Merkel’s fate, “the refugee crisis marks a turning point.”

ASIA

Russia and China: Beware the Budding Eurasian Colossus?

National Interest | October 25

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



[R]USSIAN PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN’S CONTINUED SUCCESS at keeping the West off balance with his Syrian gambit also raises the urgency of understanding the trajectory of the China-Russia relationship. For years, Western analysts have suggested that the Moscow-Beijing tie could not amount to much because it is widely regarded as purely a relationship of convenience suffused with mutual suspicion. ... But Western strategists are, nevertheless, right to watch this relationship closely since a major strengthening of Russia-China relations could develop into the Eurasian “colossus” (albeit with two capitals rather than one) that geopolitics gurus have long warned about.

Signs of a steadily enhancing Russia-China partnership are quite readily visible. Reciprocal visits by the two presidents to observe one another’s victory celebrations (and the conspicuous lack of Western leaders at either event) seemed to demonstrate a shared contemporary isolation as well as the common history of suffering catastrophic losses in the enormous conflagration of the Second World War. ...

A recent article in the prestigious Chinese military journal *China Military Science* highlights that shared history in exploring “China-Soviet Union Cooperation During the World Anti-Fascist War.” In a chapter of World War II that is rarely discussed in the West, this article explains that Moscow did impressively provide China with almost 1,000 aircraft (and accompanying volunteer pilots) in the four years after the Nanjing Massacre in December 1937. ...

While that history is indeed interesting and relevant, the focus of this ... is instead on the contemporary China-Russia relationship. ... This Chinese analysis demonstrates a keen awareness

that Western analysts are now seriously concerned lest the relationship evolves into a full-up “military-political alliance.” ... The Chinese author observes, moreover, that the West is always aiming to “use China to pin down Russia and to employ Russia to pin down China ...”

Watching Putin’s Syrian strategy unfold, along with all the related Western perturbations, many Chinese diplomats are sure to advocate for that most classic of Chinese stratagem: Sit on the mountain and watch the tigers fight.

However, Western analysts may yet be too skeptical regarding the development of Russia-China relations. As suggested above, various periods in history have seen very high levels of China-Russian collaboration, to include—lest we forget—the very founding of the Chinese Communist Party. It is not at all clear, as is often suggested, that antagonism is the “natural state” of affairs in China-Russia relations. The dual combination of the “rebalance,” in tandem with the West’s still evolving strategic response to the Ukraine crisis, may yet prove sufficient to solidify a geopolitically significant Eurasian counterpoise.

“The Trumpet and its predecessor have forecast [the Russia-China axis] for more than five decades, but now the world is catching on to this undeniable trend—and realizing the massive implications. ... We’ve been looking for this seismic geopolitical event for half a century. And now, somewhat suddenly, it has arrived. ... The Russia-China axis is no longer merely a forecast. It is here, and it is changing the world.”

“The Russia-China Axis Is Here,” *Trumpet*, January 2015

A New Cold War Deep Under the Sea?

Adm. Jim Stavridis | October 28

VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE WORLD’S INFORMATION MOVES DEEP under the sea. Well over 95 percent of everything moving on the global Internet passes through 200 or so highly active cables, some as deep underwater as Mount Everest is tall. On a normal day, that information is safe and sound, humming along the

protected fiber-optic strands upon which moves the information that is the backbone of the world’s economy.

But recent reports by a variety of sources indicate renewed interest by Russian submarine forces in surveillance of those cables, including detailed monitoring and targeting of the system.

The tactical reasons for doing so are plain: in the case of heightened tensions, access to the underwater cable system represents a rich trove of intelligence, a potential major disruption to an enemy's economy and a symbolic chest thump for the Russian Navy.

Placing the submarine activity in the larger context of Russian geopolitical strategy, it is possible to see the broader rationale for these moves at this moment. First, such actions play well to a domestic Russian audience that wants to see Russia as the global counterweight to the U.S. Russian President Vladimir Putin above all else craves respect, and his actions—from invading Georgia to annexing Crimea to muscling into Syria on the side of the reprehensible Assad regime to active surveillance—enhance his international importance and profile. ...

Second, these types of high tech, delicate and complex

undersea maneuvers constitute important training and preparation for the Russian Navy. ...

Additionally, the underwater maneuvers are a signal to the U.S. and its allies, much like the other recent aggressive international moves coming from Moscow. Russia is reaching for many other Cold War tools as well, including aggressive long-range bomber patrols above NATO nations (particularly the Baltic states) and building up significant military capability in the Arctic. ...

[W]hat we should do in response to Russian behavior around the world, including reports of underwater cable surveillance? We must avoid stumbling backwards into a new Cold War. ...

Despite these fundamental weaknesses, under Putin, the Russians will reach for Cold War tools in an effort to prove their global relevance. ...

Putin Wants to Ax Dollar From Russian Trade

RT | October 28

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN BLASTED THE GOVERNMENT for turning a blind eye on U.S. dollar payments in the domestic oil trade. ...

Putin also stressed the importance of not using the U.S. dollar in international trade, a goal that has been on the Kremlin's agenda since the deterioration of relations with the U.S. over Ukraine. ...

“Reserve currency status ... gives America special privileges and enormous power. It lets Americans borrow money at

lower rates than their Asian and European counterparts. It subsidizes their standard of living. ... When economic trouble strikes, America is able to crank up the printing presses and flood the economy with dollars—and the world has little choice but to keep accepting them and using them. ... Biblical prophecy is explicit in forecasting America's decline. ... The groundwork for that world is being laid today. The blows to America's economic might are descending rapidly and forcibly. Brace yourself: A new economic age is about to begin.”

“Deathblow to the Dollar,” Trumpet, July 2015

Angry China Shadows U.S. Warship Near Man-made Islands

Reuters | October 28

CHINA REBUKED WASHINGTON FOR SENDING A U.S. GUIDED-MISSILE destroyer close to one of Beijing's man-made islands in the disputed South China Sea, saying it had tracked and warned the ship and called in the U.S. ambassador to protest.

The USS Lassen's patrol on Tuesday was the most significant U.S. challenge yet to the 12-nautical-mile territorial limits China claims around artificial islands it has built in the Spratly archipelago. ...

The U.S. destroyer sailed within 12 nautical miles of Subi Reef, one of seven artificial islands built up by China in the past year.

A Chinese guided-missile destroyer and a naval patrol ship shadowed and gave warnings to the U.S. warship “according to law,” China's Defense Ministry said.

The U.S. patrol was a “coercive action that seeks to militarize the South China Sea region” and an “abuse” of freedom of navigation under international law, it said. ...

The U.S. defense official said the USS Lassen was followed at a safe distance by a Chinese ship and no incidents were reported during the 72-mile passage.

“I would expect that this becomes a regular operation in the South China Sea,” the official said. “This type of operation

shouldn't be seen as provocative.” ...

China's Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Yesui summoned U.S. Ambassador Max Baucus, telling him that the patrol was “extremely irresponsible,” the Foreign Ministry said. It said earlier the USS Lassen “illegally” entered waters near islands and reefs in the Spratlys.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang told a daily briefing on Tuesday that if the United States continued to “create tensions in the region,” China might conclude it had to “increase and strengthen the building up of our relevant abilities.” ...

Under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, 12-nautical-mile limits cannot be set around man-made islands built on previously submerged reefs. ...

Security experts have said Washington's freedom-of-navigation patrols would have to be regular to be effective, given Chinese ambitions to project power deep into maritime Southeast Asia and beyond. ...

Washington worries that China has built up its outposts with the aim of extending its military reach in the South China Sea. China says they will have mainly civilian uses and undefined defense purposes.

China's Military Built With Cloned Weapons

USNI News | October 26

AN INDUSTRY IN WHICH CHINESE CLONING HAS EXCELLED to a disconcerting degree is the manufacture of weapon systems. China's expanding military and growing assertiveness has been bolstered by weapons cloned from the arsenals of other countries. Bleeding edge U.S. aircraft including the Lockheed Martin F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and Northrop Grumman X-47B unmanned combat air vehicle have Chinese counterparts that are remarkably similar. Some of the technology used in these designs was almost certainly acquired through a vigorous Chinese cyberespionage campaign.

U.S. Defense officials have stated that Chinese military hackers undertaking "technical reconnaissance" have succeeded in pilfering highly classified technical documents on a number of occasions. The sensitive technical data that is known to have

been compromised is now evident in the latest versions of several Chinese weapons.

Officials also suspect that China has managed to obtain valuable technical advances by making backroom deals with U.S. allies that bought American weapons. ...

It is not only American weapon designs and technology that have been stolen and replicated by the Chinese. Russia has at times served as China's unwitting research and development department. ...

[S]everal U.S. military and industry officials have expressed concern that the ongoing sophisticated cyberespionage campaign will allow China to rapidly improve their arsenal and even soon produce aircraft that will match all aspects of U.S. fifth-generation fighters like the F-22 and F-35. ...

Japan Watches Russian Military Bases on Kurils

VOA News | October 29

RUSSIA HAS ANNOUNCED PLANS TO BUILD FIVE MILITARY BASES, including one on the Kuril Islands. The Soviet Union seized the islands from Japan at the end of World War II. The proposed bases are a small part of Russian efforts to increase and protect trade with Asian economies. ...

Russia's military spending has increased by \$600 billion over the past 10 years. The Russian Navy's Pacific Fleet is made up of 73 vessels: 50 warships and 23 submarines. In recent years, Russia has been developing closer ties with China.

Both Japan and Russia know the importance of the Kurils. ...

IMF Said to Give China Strong Signs of Reserve-Currency Nod

Bloomberg News | October 23

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND [IMF] REPRESENTATIVES HAVE told China that the yuan is likely to join the fund's basket of reserve currencies soon, according to Chinese officials with knowledge of the matter, a move that may make more countries comfortable using the unit or including it in their foreign-exchange holdings.

The IMF has given Chinese officials strong signals in meetings that the yuan is likely to win inclusion in the current review of the Special Drawing Rights, the fund's unit of account, said three people who asked not to be identified because the talks were private. Chinese officials are so confident of winning approval that they have begun preparing statements to celebrate the decision, according to two people. ...

Winning the IMF's endorsement would validate efforts by President Xi Jinping to push through policies aimed at making

the world's second-biggest economy more market oriented, boosting China's prestige as it prepares to host Group of 20 gatherings next year. At least \$1 trillion of global reserves will convert to Chinese assets if the yuan joins the IMF's reserve basket, according to Standard Chartered Plc and AXA Investment Managers. ...

SDR status is significant as "a seal of approval" from the IMF that the yuan is indeed an internationalized currency, AXA analysts said in May. ...

The U.S. took a step toward backing China's SDR bid last month, when it softened its insistence that the Chinese implement financial reforms to win support. The U.S. now says it will support inclusion of the yuan if it demonstrates it meets the IMF's technical criteria. ...

Russia to Honor S-400 Missile Defense Systems Contract With China on Time

Sputnik News | October 27

RUSSIA'S LARGEST ARMS EXPORTER, ROSOBORONEXPORT, WILL honor its contract with China on the delivery of S-400 missile defense systems, Rosoboronexport General Director

Anatoly Isaikin said Tuesday. ...



Habakkuk: Wonder Marvelously

Gerald Flurry, *The Key of David* | October 30

More than 2,500 years ago, the Prophet Habakkuk warned of nuclear winter in this end time. Yet he was filled with hope. How can you develop this hope in your life?



Get Ready: People Are Trying to Normalize Pedophilia

Joel Hilliker | October 28

DO GENETICS DETERMINE MORALITY?

A major argument of the homosexual lobby is that same-sex attraction is genetically determined—that people are *born* homosexual. Because that is the case, the argument follows, then if you say homosexuality is wrong, you are as hateful and bigoted as if you were condemning someone for their skin color.

Homosexual activists decry any effort to change someone's sexual orientation as morally reprehensible. After all, *how can you try to change someone from his genetic destiny?* They believe that the *morally right* thing is a full, unrestricted expression of that supposed inborn tendency.

Well, if genetics *do* determine morality, that notion has some serious implications.

Today's homosexual special interest juggernaut started as a small movement. Now, there is another small movement that is growing stronger—a movement that wants to extend this same kind of morality-is-genetic argument to a new group of people: *pedophiles*, people who are sexually attracted to children.

Michael L. Brown, author of the book *A Queer Thing Happened to America*, wrote this in the *Christian Post*: “[S]ome psychiatric leaders who were instrumental in removing homosexuality from the American Psychiatric Association’s list of mental disorders in 1973 have been fighting to remove pedophilia as a disorder as well, not to justify the abuse of children but rather to say that being sexually attracted to children is not a mental disorder” (September 28).

“Scientists at the [Center for Mental Health and Addiction in Toronto] have uncovered a series of associations that suggest pedophilia has biological roots,” the *Los Angeles Times* reports, adding that more and more people are taking the view that pedophilia is “a sexual orientation as immutable as heterosexuality or homosexuality.” ...

In his book, Michael Brown documents how the main arguments that have successfully normalized homosexuality are now supporting the normalization of pedophilia. The *Christian Post* report lists eight of them:

Pedophilia is innate and immutable; people are born this way and cannot change.

Pederasty is richly attested in many different cultures throughout history.

The claim that adult-child sexual relationships cause harm is

greatly overstated and often completely inaccurate.

Consensual adult-child sex can actually be beneficial to the child.

Pederasty should not be classified as a mental disorder, since it does not cause distress to the pederast to have these desires and since the pederast can function as a normal, contributing member of society.

Many of the illustrious homosexuals of the past were actually pedophiles.

People are against inter-generational intimacy because of antiquated social standards and puritanical sexual phobias.

This is all about love and equality and liberation.

Look again at each of those arguments and replace *pedophilia* or *pederasty* with *homosexuality*. This is exactly the line of reasoning that has successfully normalized and vaunted homosexuals.

You might think, *That practice could never become legal, let alone popular*. But in 2005, how many people thought they’d ever see the White House bathed in the colors of the homosexual flag?

With pedophilia, however, there is a twist to the argument. It isn’t simply, *We’re born this way, so don’t judge us*. They add this: *And don’t worry—we’re not a threat to your children*.

This is the argument that appeared in a September 21 Salon.com article headlined, “I’m a Pedophile, But Not a Monster.”

In another example, this past Sunday’s edition of British paper the *Independent* contained an article by a prominent psychologist, Dr. Glenn Wilson. The title: “Not All Pedophiles Are Bad People—We Need to Have a Sense of Proportion.” The article reads: “In my studies of the Pedophile Information Exchange in the 1980s, many members admitted sexual feelings for children which they had been able to contain or turn to social good. Some gravitated toward occupations such as schoolteacher or social worker, where they could enjoy the company of children without plotting abuse. ... It is possible to be attracted to children as a sexual orientation without acting upon those desires.”

Ask yourself: Does the idea that pedophiles won’t necessarily act on their desire to have sex with children comfort you? Would you support a pedophile who wants to be your child’s teacher or social worker so he can “enjoy the company of children”? Does it reassure you that “it is possible” to be attracted to children without acting on that?

But think about this: If genetics determine morality, *then why would it be wrong for a pedophile to gratify his desires?*

How does it make sense to label a “born that way” pedophile who fulfills his desires a “monster”—but then to say that a “born that way” homosexual *should* fulfill his desires and even marry, *because* he was “born that way”?

In truth, if it is wrong to condone pedophilia despite some people supposedly being born with it, then it is *also* wrong to justify homosexuality for that reason.

You can’t have it both ways. Either genetics determines morality or it doesn’t.

And the truth is—IT DOESN’T.

Here’s another thing to ask yourself. This new wave of activists is trying to get us to sympathize with those who have romantic feelings for children but do not act on them. Do you really think that’s ALL they are trying to do? Just to *feel compassion* for *celibate pedophiles*? If you think that is where this trend is going to stop, *wake up*. You know absolutely nothing about this group of people.

RELATED: [REDEFINING FAMILY](#)

 Follow Joel Hilliker

DETroit Public Schools: 93% Not Proficient in Reading; 96% Not Proficient in Math **cns News | October 28**

IN THE DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, 96 PERCENT OF EIGHTH graders are not proficient in mathematics, and 93 percent are not proficient in reading.

That is according to the results of the 2015 National Assessment of Educational Progress tests published by the Department of Education’s National Center for Educational Statistics.

Only 4 percent of Detroit public school eighth graders are

proficient or better in math and only 7 percent in reading. ...

According to data published by the Detroit Public Schools, the school district’s operating expenses in the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2014, amounted to approximately \$14,743 per student.

Nationwide, only 33 percent of public-school eighth graders scored proficient or better in reading in 2015, and only 32 percent scored proficient or better in mathematics. ...

75% of Population Growth Since 2000 From Immigration, 100 Million More by 2065 **Washington Examiner | October 27**

THE UNITED STATES WILL ATTRACT ANOTHER 100 MILLION MORE immigrants over the next 50 years, driven by a huge spurt of legally-admitted “spouses” who can then sponsor foreign family members to become Americans, according to a comprehensive new immigration report.

In the period 2010-2019, the U.S. is now projected to process the largest number of legal immigrants in U.S. history, over 10 million, said the report published by Negative Population Growth Inc. And three quarters of the U.S. population growth this century has come from immigration, said the report.

“Immigration, counting both new admissions and births to immigrant women, was responsible for three fourths of the

growth in our population this century. If current trends continue, immigration will add another 100 million people to the United States in the next 50 years,” said the report.

Author Jessica Vaughan, the director of Policy Studies at the Center for Immigration Studies, said that most of the legal immigration is driven by families due to rules that essentially provide an open door for parents and spouses of U.S. citizens. ...

Also, the number of spouses legally allowed into the United States has jumped from 196,000 in 2000 to 415,000 today. “This category also can trigger chain migration, as the new spouses can qualify for citizenship and the right to sponsor their family members more quickly than other immigrants,” added the report. ...



Remember the Sabbath Day, To Keep it Holy

Stephen Flurry,

Trumpet Daily | October 30

Why did God set apart the Sabbath as “holy”?

 Follow [Stephen Flurry](#)

