

Trumpet Weekly

NOVEMBER 13, 2015

University of Missouri students celebrate the resignation of University of Missouri System president Tim Wolfe amid allegations of racism on November 9.



University of Missouri: Where Racism Merges With Violent Youth Culture

Stephen Flurry | November 13

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT OFTEN QUOTES WORDS FROM a fugitive cop killer and one of the FBI's most-wanted terrorists, Assata Shakur, to inspire the masses. The group of young activists responsible for bringing down University of Missouri president Tim Wolfe did the same thing:

"It is our duty to fight for our freedom. It is our duty to win. We must love each other and support each other. We have nothing to lose but our chains."

These University of Missouri

activists, from Concerned Student 1950, won a major victory, as *Breitbart* noted in its article "How Cop Killer-Quoting Activists 'Inspired by #BlackLivesMatter' Forced University of Missouri President Out."

But it's a troubling "victory" that reveals our nation's problems with race, youth violence, and our sports-crazed culture.

Race Game Gone Wrong

In his race relations speech in 2008 titled "A More Perfect Union," then-Sen. Barack Obama said he'd help heal America's "old racial wounds." Voters saw him as a uniter who would bring the races



STEPHEN FLURRY

MICHAEL B. THOMAS/GETTY IMAGES

together and as a leader who would move America into a better future.

Pundits lauded the speech as a “defining cultural moment in America” and “the best speech ever given about race”—surpassing Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech.

Unfortunately, as my father said back then, the race card would be “played often for political gain!” He added, “[I]t is going to cost America dearly. This is not a small problem. We must understand where the race issue is leading us. The end result is going to be worse than anything you imagine.”

When you look at our recent history in race relations, you’ll realize that the events at Missouri University are not unique nor unusual. But they are a sign that race relations are worsening.

The student protesters used all kinds of tactics of intimidation: They screamed their chants, barged into meetings, and constantly disrupted student life.

The same student who led the Assata Shakur chant above revealed in another video: “We’re trying to break the system down ... it just so happens we’re starting with him.”

Their goal is to break the system!

Breitbart said the protesters’ “big victory was shutting down the homecoming parade as stunned onlookers—including many small children—were forced to watch the megaphone-wielding activists scream at the crowd about slavery while blocking now-ex-president Wolfe’s car. At the end, they all [chanted Shakur’s words].”

Violent Youth Culture

“The precedent set here is monumental,” wrote political commentator Heather Mac Donald. “Any student protester who can convince his college’s football or basketball team to threaten a strike will be able to bring administrators to their knees even more quickly than usual.”

The university caved in primarily because of the politics and the economics of this issue. Of the university’s 124 football players, 32 protested by boycotting football practice and games. Last year, the university earned more than \$14 million from football, and it apparently wasn’t about to risk losing those funds this year. It gave in despite the fact that “half the team and coaches, black and white” were disappointed by the boycott, as an anonymous player told ESPN. “If we were 9-0, this wouldn’t be happening,” he said.

Now, suddenly, young people feel empowered—empowered to break the system!

This is essentially the same spirit behind the Yale University student who angrily cursed and shouted down her professor.

It brings to mind a prophecy in Isaiah 3 about “children” being “oppressors.” It also brings to mind what Herbert W. Armstrong observed in 1981: “Few people stop to realize to what extent the teenagers have taken over. They pretty well dominate the world picture. ...

“The fast-growing surge of teenage immorality, drugs and violence is WORLDWIDE! Accompanying sexual promiscuity, news dispatches pile up an avalanche of reports of wreckage, destruction of property—especially schools—pillaging, arson, violence and often MURDER! ...

“But WHY? What is the cause? The world doesn’t want to hear the true answer! The world refuses to face the tragic TRUTH!”

This is essentially the message my father tried to convey in his 2008 *Trumpet* article “[The Issue We Fear to Face](#).”

Mr. Armstrong went on to explain the CAUSE of youth violence. He said, “The TRUE answer is this: Something has been *taken away* from this Earth that sorely needs to be restored! That ‘something’ is knowledge of, respect for and obedience to THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LAW OF GOD!”

Mr. Armstrong knew whereof he spoke when he made his assessments. He wrote in 1970: “I happen to be president of a college with three campuses. On these campuses there are no campus protests, no opposition marches, no student rioting and violence, and no hippies. There is PEACE, happy cooperation between students and faculty and administration. Student faces are wreathed in SMILES which are real and genuine—the outward expression of an inner joy. Visitors are amazed.

“This is the RESULT!

“The CAUSE? We are not a factory of KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION, but of human CHARACTER PRODUCTION.”

Today’s educational institutions have been reduced to mere knowledge-production units. And that knowledge is often wrong and besmirched by left-wing propaganda.

It’s now backfiring on instructors, on society, and on the entire nation.

 Follow [Stephen Flurry](#)

MIDDLE EAST

TrumpetDaily

RADIO SHOW

ISRAEL’S ‘STONEHENGE,’ THE UTTER DISREGARD FOR TRUTH, AND THE RISE OF THE CHILD TERRORIST | NOVEMBER 13

EDSTONE: ONE YEAR ON, MISSOURI: THE KIDS TAKE OVER, AND SAY GOODBYE TO THE MERKEL DOCTRINE | NOVEMBER 12

THE TROUBLE WITH COLLEGE, THE CUBA THREAT, AND GERMANY’S FAILURE TO DENAZIFY | NOVEMBER 11

RACIAL HYSTERIA TAKES DOWN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT | NOVEMBER 10

WHO WILL BE EUROPE’S CHARLEMAGNE? AND WHY ARE AMERICANS SO MISERABLE? | NOVEMBER 9

ISIS Claims Suicide Bombings That Killed Dozens in Beirut

Reuters | November 12

AT LEAST 43 PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND MORE THAN 240 WOUNDED on Thursday in two suicide-bomb blasts claimed by the Islamic State in a crowded residential district in Beirut's southern suburbs, a stronghold of the Shiite Muslim group Hezbollah.

The explosions were the first attacks in more than a year to target a Hezbollah stronghold inside Lebanon, and came at time when the group is stepping up its involvement in the Syrian civil war—a fight which has brought Sunni Islamist threats and invective against the Iran-backed Shiite group.

Hezbollah has sent hundreds of fighters to support Syrian

President Bashar Assad's forces in the four-year-old conflict over the border. Government forces backed by Hezbollah and Iranian troops have intensified their fight against mostly Sunni insurgents, including the Islamic State, since Russia launched an air campaign in support of Assad on September 30. ...

The blasts occurred almost simultaneously late on Thursday and struck a Shiite community center and a nearby bakery in the commercial and residential area of Borj al-Barajneh, security sources said. A closely guarded Hezbollah-run hospital is also nearby.

Palestinian State of Denial

Bret Stephens, Wall Street Journal | November 9

YOU DO NOT MAKE PEACE WITH ENEMIES. YOU MAKE PEACE with *former* enemies—either because you have defeated them, as we defeated the Axis Powers in World War II; or because they collapse, as the Soviet Union did after the fall of the Berlin Wall; or because they have defeated you, and you're able to come to terms with the outcome from a safe distance. Witness Vietnam.

On rare, precious occasions, both sides realize their interests are best served through a negotiated settlement they're prepared to honor. That was the miracle of 1977, when Egypt's Anwar Sadat flew to Israel to show he sincerely accepted the Jewish state's right to exist. He paid for the gesture with his life.

Enemies, however, do not make peace. They may desist from open combat, as Pakistan and India have, even as Islamabad continues to support anti-Indian terrorist proxies. They may arrange a long-term armistice of the kind South Korea has with the North. But that's a peace preserved by 700,000 active-duty South Korean and U.S. troops, plus a million land mines in the [demilitarized zone].

For the past 22 years—ever since [former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak] Rabin signed the Oslo Accord with the [Palestine Liberation Organization]'s Yasser Arafat—Israel has been trying to achieve something historically unprecedented: to make peace with an enemy that shows no interest in becoming an ex-enemy.

Daniel Polisar, an Israeli political scientist, recently published a fascinating study ... based on 330 polls conducted over many years. It makes for some bracing reading.

"When asked hypothetically if Israel's use of chemical or biological weapons against Palestinians would constitute terror, 93 percent said yes," notes Mr. Polisar. "But when the identical question was posed regarding the use of such weapons of mass destruction by Palestinians against Israelis, only 25 percent responded affirmatively."

Other details: A 2011 poll found that 61 percent of Palestinians thought it was morally right to name Palestinian streets after suicide bombers. In December 2014, 78 percent of Palestinians expressed support for "attempts to stab or run over Israelis" in the West Bank and Jerusalem. Only 20 percent were opposed.

Palestinians have also consistently supported terrorist attacks against Israelis within Israel's original borders, "often by as much as six to one."

Palestinians routinely blame Israel for problems over which it has no control, such as the bloody 2007 coup through which Hamas wrested power from Fatah in the Gaza Strip. Ninety-four percent of Palestinians report a "very unfavorable" opinion of Jews. A majority of Palestinians believe Israel will "destroy the al-Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques and build a synagogue in their place."

As for the idea of sharing the land, only 12 percent of Palestinians agreed that "both Jews and Palestinians have rights to the land." More than 80 percent felt "this is Palestinian land and Jews have no rights to it." Most Palestinians also think Israel won't be around in 30 or 40 years, either "because Arab or Muslim resistance will destroy it" or on account of its "internal contradictions." ...

The only person standing in the way of Palestinian democracy is Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who hasn't held an election in a decade. The only force standing in the way of a Palestinian state [is] the Palestinian people, who think they can gain their rights by stabbing their neighbors.

Which brings us back to Monday's Oval Office meeting [between President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu]. Along with the forced bonhomie, the administration has been sounding the usual two-minutes-to-midnight warnings about the supposed end of the two-state solution. "For Israel, the more there is settlement construction, the more it undermines the ability to achieve peace," says Ben Rhodes, the deputy national security adviser, in an interview with *Haaretz*.

How sweet it would be if all Israel had to do to make peace was dismantle its settlements. How much sweeter if the American president would find less to fault with an Israeli government's housing policies than a Palestinian political culture still so intent on killing Jews. ...

RELATED: [JERUSALEM IN PROPHECY](#)

Israel Strikes Syria: Reports Say Hezbollah Weapons Shipment Was Target

Newsmax | November 12

ISRAELI AIRSTRIKES WERE CARRIED OUT IN SYRIA NEAR THE Damascus airport on Wednesday, news outlets in both countries reported.

“Opposition media outlets [in Syria] reported that explosions were heard at the airport, followed by a power outage and the temporary grounding of aircraft,” the Israeli paper *Ynet* reported.

The opposition groups reported that the strikes appeared to target the Lebanon-based Shiite militant group Hezbollah that has been active in Syria. ...

“Israel is reported to have been behind a series of air raids on Syrian soil, since the Syrian civil war began in March 2011, aimed at preventing advanced weapons shipments from Iran from

reaching archenemy Hezbollah via Syria,” explained the *Times of Israel*.

“Jerusalem has not openly admitted to being behind such operations. It has, however, warned that it will not permit the Lebanon-based terror group to obtain what it calls ‘game-changing’ advanced weaponry.”

Voice of America reported that Hezbollah’s presence in Syria has increased in northern Syria, where they are helping President Bashar Assad and the Russians battle Syrian rebel forces and the Islamic State, the primarily Sunni Arab group. ...

RELATED: [“HOW THE SYRIAN CRISIS WILL END”](#)

Iran Said to Cease Dismantling Centrifuges

Times of Israel | November 11

IRANIAN MEDIA IS REPORTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS STOPPED taking apart centrifuges in two uranium enrichment plants.

The reported cessation on Tuesday follows the issuing of a letter, drafted by 20 conservative lawmakers, complaining that the process of complying with the nuclear deal was too rushed, according to Reuters. ...

Last week, Iran announced it had begun shutting down inactive centrifuges, a process the country’s conservatives oppose.

The dismantling of centrifuges is one of the requirements

of the nuclear deal; U.S. Ambassador to Israel Dan Shapiro told reporters on Tuesday that Iran had many steps to take to comply with the deal before sanctions would be lifted, and said this would take several months.

Only inactive centrifuges were being dismantled, according to Iranian reports.

Last week’s letter from hardliners to President Hassan Rouhani said that deactivating the centrifuges violated directives of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Iran Secures Leadership Role at UN Cultural Agency

Washington Free Beacon | November 11

IRAN WON A LEADERSHIP ROLE AT THE UNITED NATIONS Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Wednesday. ...

The news comes less than a month after UNESCO voted in favor of a resolution condemning Israel. The resolution initially included language that designated the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem as part of the al-Aqsa Mosque, but the clause was later dropped.

The executive board of the organization is made up of 58 member states, each with a four-year term. The board members are tasked with creating UNESCO’s agenda and implementing the

programs undertaken by the general conference. Iran has been a member of UNESCO since September 1948, according to the organization’s website.

The U.S. also retained its position on UNESCO’s executive board even though the government cut funding to the UN agency in 2011 when it voted to admit Palestine as its new member. U.S. law bars the government from giving money to international organizations that recognize Palestinian statehood.

As a result, the U.S. lost its right to vote in the UNESCO general conference in 2013. ...

EU Publishes Delayed Report on Turkey’s Sins

EU Observer | November 10

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



THE EU CRITICIZED TURKEY FOR DETERIORATING MEDIA freedoms, backsliding on the independence of the judiciary, and urged the resumption of peace talks with Kurdish rebels in its annual report on enlargement progress on Tuesday.

In the much-awaited report on the accession process the EU

Commission commended President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan’s government for making progress toward EU membership in some areas, but expressed serious concerns over the rule of law and human rights. ...

The publication of the report was delayed because of concerns

that EU criticism of Ankara's record would complicate negotiations on how Turkey could help Europe stem the flow of migrants into the Continent.

The Commission waited for after the November 1 elections in Turkey to release the report.

Amid the refugee crisis, which has seen the EU scrabbling for

solutions to stop or at least slow down the influx of people fleeing war and persecution from mostly Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, Europe has looked for Turkey to help secure its external borders.

Erdoğan skillfully exploited Europe's dependence on him in the recent parliamentary election campaign. ...

EUROPE

Trumpet Hour

WEEK IN REVIEW—RACISM AT MISSOURI UNIVERSITY, GERMANY BEFRIENDS TURKEY, THE RUSSIA-CHINA THREAT AND MORE | NOVEMBER 13

PUTIN IN BALKANS, CHINA'S CURRENCY WAR, NORTH KOREAN SLAVES, AND MORE | NOVEMBER 11

Germany Reportedly Spied On the FBI and U.S. Arms Companies

Associated Press | November 11

GERMAN PUBLIC RADIO STATION RBB-INFORADIO REPORTED Wednesday that the country's foreign intelligence agency spied on the FBI and U.S. arms companies, adding to a growing list of targets among friendly nations the agency allegedly eavesdropped on.

The station claimed that Germany's BND also spied on the International Criminal Court in The Hague, the World Health Organization, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius and even a German diplomat who headed an EU observer mission to Georgia from 2008 to 2011.

It provided no source for its report, but the respected German

weekly *Der Spiegel* also reported at the weekend that the BND targeted phone numbers and e-mail addresses of officials in the United States, Britain, France, Switzerland, Greece, the Vatican and other European countries, as well as at international aid groups such as the Red Cross.

The claims are particularly sensitive in Germany because the government reacted with anger two years ago to reports that the U.S. eavesdropped on German targets, including Chancellor Angela Merkel, who declared at the time that "spying among friends, that's just wrong." ...

T Will Angela Merkel Complete Her Term as German Chancellor?

Stephen Flurry | November 6

GERMANY'S PERCEPTION OF CHANCELLOR ANGELA MERKEL IS changing rapidly.

At the beginning of the year, the three-term chancellor was arguably the "most successful politician in the world," as the *Financial Times* wrote last week. Politically and economically, her leadership dominated Europe. That success further boosted her popularity at home.

But that was then.

"[T]he refugee crisis that has broken over Germany is likely to spell the end of the Merkel era," explained the *Times*.

"With the country in line to receive more than a million asylum seekers this year alone, public anxiety is mounting—and so is criticism of Ms. Merkel from within her own party. Some of her close political allies acknowledge that it is now distinctly possible that the chancellor will have to leave office, before the

next general election in 2017. Even if she sees out a full term, the notion of a fourth Merkel administration, widely discussed a few months ago, now seems improbable."

Germans once adored Merkel as *mutti* (mom) whose most recent exploits were leading Europe's response to the eurozone and Crimean crises. Now, disgruntled Germans are questioning her judgment; they wonder if she's "gone mad."

"Regardless of the chancellor's personal fate and reputation," continued the *Times*, "the refugee crisis marks a turning point. The decade after Ms. Merkel first came to power in 2005 now looks like a blessed period for Germany, in which the country was able to enjoy peace, prosperity and international respect, while keeping the troubles of the world at a safe distance. That golden era is now over."

Merkel's government has lost control of the refugee crisis

situation. Social services are under strain as costs pile up. Violence coming from the far right is on the increase. Politicians in Merkel's own party are panicking.

We are entering a NEW ERA in German politics!

Another article from the *Financial Times* titled "Migrant Crisis Strains Germany's Oldest Political Marriage" explained, "The oldest marriage in German politics was sealed amid the rubble of the country's postwar rebuilding and has weathered challenges from reunification to the eurozone debt crisis.

"But the current refugee crisis is straining to the limit the conservative alliance between Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian

Democratic Union and the Bavaria-based Christian Social Union that has been a bulwark of Germany's enduring political stability."

"When the Merkel era does finally come to an end," wrote the *Spectator's* Hans Kundnani on October 29, "it is not at all clear what kind of country she will leave behind."

It remains to be seen when and how Angela Merkel's chancellorship will end, but the end of the Merkel era is clearly in sight. Merkel's demise, however, will not signal the end of a strong Germany—it will herald its start.

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Half of the Senior Execs in German Ministry Were Nazis

Anna Kohn, *Ynet News* | November 10

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



A NEW REPORT SHOWS THAT EVERY SECOND SENIOR EXECUTIVE in the Western Ministry of the Interior was a former National Socialist. Up to the 1960s, the number was even rising. Some of the employees were active Nazis but still worked in close contact with former victims of the Nazi regime. ...

What's surprising is that East Germany, the former German Democratic Republic (GDR), also relied on former Nazi Party members in its Ministry of the Interior. According to the study, numbers in the GDR were lower than in the West but still significant: Fourteen percent of executive positions in East Germany's Ministry of the Interior were held by former [National Socialist German Workers' Party] NSDAP members—despite the fact that the GDR proclaimed itself an anti-Fascist state.

These numbers are all part of a preliminary report of a study that is currently being conducted by the German Institut für Zeitgeschichte München-Berlin and the Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam. The institutes are looking at records from 1949 to 1970. Regarding West Germany, they observed that the number of former NSDAP members working for the ministry climbed up towards the beginning of the '60s—to the point that in 1961, they held two thirds of leading positions in the authority. Towards the '70s, numbers decline again back to the 50 percent that the ministry started out with.

Most of these people did not come directly from the Nazi "Reichsministerium," as might be presumed. A huge part of them

had however already gained professional experience in administrative or police work under the Nazis. The report states that this was one of the reasons they were hired in the first place—people with experience in this field were, according to the report, rare. ...

Being a member of the NSDAP was not mandatory in the '30s. It was a voluntary act that included handing in a personally signed application. While some of the individuals employed in the ministry might have been more passive party members, others were actively engaged in Nazi rule and terror, being considered "NS offenders" by the report. In some cases, these employees even worked in close contact with former victims of the Nazi regime.

Being mentally linked to the Nazi ideology did not simply vanish in these employees after 1945, which manifested itself even in the ministry's political stance at the time. According to the report, anti-Semitic positions still influenced the part of the ministry that was responsible for foreigners and residential questions. Certain censorship practices still prevailed in the cultural department, and the social department was determined by social-conservative values regarding state welfare. ...

German Ministries of Justice, Finance and the Foreign Office already commissioned surveys years ago. According to the new discoveries, the Western German Ministry of the Interior now holds an unfortunate leading position among them in employing former NSDAP members.

'Careless Skier' Merkel Has Set Off Migrant Avalanche, Says German Minister

Times | November 12

GERMANY'S HARD-LINE FINANCE MINISTER WAS ACCUSED TODAY of using the language of "agitators and xenophobes" after he compared the migrant crisis to an avalanche that could engulf Europe.

Wolfgang Schäuble added that avalanches were caused by a "careless skier" in remarks seen as an attack on Angela Merkel's generous welcome to migrants.

Mr. Schäuble, 73, is regarded as the most likely replacement

for the German chancellor if she is forced out by her party's plummeting ratings and his comments added fuel to conspiracy theorists in Berlin.

He is no stranger to tough rhetoric, having proposed Greece's exit from the euro during the crisis to rescue that country's economy, but then he was seen as acting under licence from Ms. Merkel, not against her. ...

"Avalanches can be triggered if any careless skier hits the slopes and moves a little snow," Mr. Schäuble said at the Center for European Policy in Berlin on Wednesday night. ...

Mr. Schäuble's remarks were another sign of his opposition to Ms. Merkel's welcome to migrants. ... At the weekend Mr. Schäuble backed Thomas de Maizière, the interior minister,

when he challenged Ms. Merkel with plans to reduce the residency granted to Syrian refugees from three years to one and to ban family reunions. ...

Who was the careless skier? For *Der Spiegel* the answer was obvious.

"Schäuble further undermines Merkel's authority. Either he wants to ensure that she changes the course of refugee policy. Or he wants her job. Of course he will, as always, deny both. But this duel is still interesting." ...

For many in Germany, however, the image of the avalanche will sum up their feelings about the huge influx of migrants which even Ms. Merkel has admitted will permanently change Germany.

Germany May Need €21 Billion to House and Educate Refugees—Report **Reuters | November 11**

GERMANY faces costs of more than €21 BILLION (US\$22.5 BILLION) this year to house, feed and educate hundreds of thousands of refugees, the Munich-based Ifo Institute said on Tuesday.

The new estimate, which assumes 1.1 million people will seek asylum in Germany in 2015, represents a sharp increase on a

previous projection from late September which put the cost at €10 billion (\$10.8 billion).

That estimate had assumed 800,000 arrivals and did not include costs related to education and training, which the Ifo said were necessary to ensure refugees, many of them fleeing war in the Middle East, were successfully integrated. ...

Sainthood Price-Tag Leaks Stir Vatican Fury **Financial Times | November 6**

WHAT IS THE PRICE OF SAINTHOOD? VATICAN OFFICIALS MADE A startling discovery shortly after Pope Francis was elected in 2013: Outside payments were routinely made to a small office in the Holy See to boost the prospects of a candidate for canonization.

The overall cost to the Vatican involved in creating a new saint can be as high as €500,000 (US\$540,000)—and in one case hit €750,000 (\$810,000)—because of the lengthy historical due diligence involved in analyzing a candidate's suitability, including whether he or she has performed any miracles.

But those external contributions from individuals or groups ... helped speed up the process. The trouble is they were often kept off the books and unaccounted for by the so-called postulators who worked in the sainthood office.

Vatican officials were forced to take the dramatic step of freezing the postulators' accounts after they refused to hand over any documents.

The episode stands among the most damaging revelations from two books based on leaked documents—*Avarice* by Emanuele Fittipaldi and *Merchants in the Temple* by Gianluigi Nuzzi—published this week, which have heaped further indignity on the Roman Catholic Church as it tries to rebuild its credibility.

The publications, rife with vulgar details of avarice and mismanagement, have raised questions over the pope's ability to deliver lasting change to the city-state's notoriously murky governance, especially on the economic front.

They have also brought back a scent of scandal to the Holy See,

reminiscent of the last days of Pope Benedict XVI's tenure, when the German pontiff's own butler was detained and tried for leaking confidential information. ...

Besides revelations over lobbying and price tags on sainthood, other damaging details include the naming of clerics with the largest apartments, in contrast to the modest 50-square-meter residence chosen by Pope Francis when he took office with a mission to refocus the church on the poor.

William Levada, a cardinal from California who was once the highest-ranking U.S. clergyman and recently faced a drunk-driving arrest while on holiday in Hawaii, had the most expansive apartment, spanning more than 500 square meters.

Overall, the Vatican's real-estate portfolio was estimated to be worth €2.7 billion (\$2.9 billion), and, in many cases, housing was rented out to friends and acquaintances at prices well below market value.

One former Vatican official was accused of using funds destined for a Vatican-run children's hospital in Rome to pay for a €23,000 (\$25,000) helicopter ride to southern Italy and the refurbishment of his own flat.

Both books revealed that the charity fund known as Peter's Pence—which includes collections from parishes around the world—was mainly used to cover expenses in the Vatican administration, with only some 20 percent given to charitable deeds. ...

"The church isn't at all 'poor,' and in many ways it moves more as a merchant bank," said Mr. Fittipaldi. ...

UK sets out modest EU negotiation demands: British Prime Minister David Cameron said the European Union must agree to “irreversible changes” as part of the broad reform package he outlined Tuesday in exchange for supporting Britain’s continued EU membership. These changes include permission for the United Kingdom to restrict benefits for migrants from

other member states. UK Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne said the negotiations with the EU will begin now and added that there was a real chance of achieving the reform. However many euroskeptics in Britain are disappointed by the proposals and say they don’t come close to taking enough power back from Brussels.

ASIA

China Tests Antisatellite Missile

Washington Free Beacon | November 9

CHINA RECENTLY CONDUCTED A FLIGHT TEST OF A NEW MISSILE capable of knocking out U.S. satellites as part of Beijing’s growing space warfare arsenal.

The test of a Dong Neng-3 exoatmospheric vehicle was carried out October 30 from China’s Korla Missile Test Complex in western China, said two defense officials familiar with reports of the test.

A Chinese press report also provided details of what was said to be a missile defense interceptor flight test carried out November 1. Photos of the missile’s contrails were posted online.

However, the defense officials said the DN-3 is primarily a direct-ascent missile designed to ram into satellites and destroy them, even if intelligence assessments hold that the weapon has some missile defense capabilities.

The DN-3 flight test was the eighth time China carried out an antisatellite (ASAT) missile test. An earlier test occurred in July 2014, which China also asserted was a missile defense test. ...

China’s most disruptive ASAT test occurred in January 2007 when a direct ascent missile destroyed a Chinese weather satellite, creating tens of thousands of debris pieces that pose a continuing danger to both satellites and manned spacecraft, like the International Space Station. ...

Documents disclosed by Wikileaks revealed that the United States and Asian allies issued protests to China over a January

2010 flight test of an antisatellite missile from an SC-19 rocket booster. ...

Air Force Lt. Gen. John “Jay” Raymond, commander of the Joint Functional Component Command for Space, said at a House hearing in March that “we are quickly approaching the point where every satellite in every orbit can be threatened.” ...

China recently developed two new and more powerful space launchers called the KZ-1 and KZ-11. ...

A report by the Rand Corporation published in September concluded that the Chinese threat to U.S. satellites is increasing.

“The risk to most U.S. space functions appears to be growing faster than the U.S. ability or effort to mitigate them,” the report said, noting that Chinese space warfare capabilities “are increasing across the board.” ...

“For half a century, America was the world’s dominant super-power. But evidence abounds—in the nation’s foreign policy, its economy, its military, its scientific establishment and elsewhere—that this period of dominance is ending. The realm of space technology is yet another arena in which America’s decline has set in, and foreign nations are closing the gap.”

“The Quiet Space Race,” *Trumpet*, March 2012

The Pentagon’s Lonely War Against Russia and China

Bloomberg View | November 11

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



AT LAST WEEKEND’S REAGAN NATIONAL DEFENSE FORUM, TOP Pentagon officials warned about the coming great power battles with Russia and China. But the U.S. approach to both countries shows that other parts of the administration view those relationships in a very different way. ...

“We do not seek a cold, let alone a hot, war with Russia,” [Defense Secretary Ashton] Carter said. “We do not seek to make Russia an enemy. But make no mistake; the United States will

defend our interests, our allies, the principled international order, and the positive future it affords us all.”

Carter criticized Russian occupation of territory in Ukraine and Georgia, and he castigated Russia for what he called a destructive military intervention in Syria. He said that the Pentagon was doing a range of things—some public and some secret—to push back on Russian and Chinese “aggression.”

Republicans and Democrats alike praised Carter’s remarks

as a sober assessment of the real and growing great power competition between the United States, Russia and China. They also noted that Carter often speaks in harsher terms about the two countries than do other top administration officials, especially those at the White House and State Department.

“Secretary Carter gave a sober, stark review of national security challenges that seemed out of line with the administration’s approach on Russia, Syria, Ukraine and even China,” said Eric Edelman, a former undersecretary of defense for policy in the Bush administration. ...

Stephen Hadley, who was national security adviser to President George W. Bush ... said the White House is so cautious in applying military tools that they are deployed incrementally and late, minimizing their impact.

“The administration always says there is no military solution, and that’s true. But if you are dealing with a [Vladimir] Putin or a Xi [Jingping], there is no political solution that does not have a military element,” he said.

At the end of the Reagan forum, Carter’s deputy Bob Work laid out the long-term challenge of a rising China and an aggressive Russia in even starker terms than his boss had.

“We have two great powers. This is totally different, something than we haven’t had to deal with in the last 25 years,” he said. ...

Carter’s team at the Pentagon is sounding the alarm about the need to address long-term national security challenges now. But he does not have authority to do what he thinks necessary. The result is a muddled approach to the U.S.’s great power competitors. There is not much hope for it to be resolved until the next administration.

“[E]very indication shows that U.S. President Barack Obama is unwilling to confront the Chinese activity with anything beyond the gentlest rhetoric. ... The Chinese leadership knows that as long as Mr. Obama is in power, U.S. involvement in the matter is unlikely to go beyond light-handed statements. This fuels China’s increasingly provocative behavior. Approximately 21 months remain of President Obama’s second term. China knows that for the next 21 months, it is unlikely that anyone will challenge its illegal and pushy maneuvers in the South China Sea.”

“Literally and Littorally, China Is Gaining Ground,”
theTrumpet.com, April 15

Chinese Navy Visits Cuba, Amid Havana-Washington Thaw **Agence France-Presse | November 10**

A CHINESE NAVAL FLOTILLA ARRIVED IN CUBA TUESDAY TO BOLSTER close military ties between the two Communist-ruled allies, its commander Wang Jianxun said.

“This is the first time a (Chinese) military flotilla has come to the island,” Wang said at the Port of Havana. And it is really “a chance to strengthen ties between the navies and armed forces of both countries.”

Cuba and China “share ideals and a shared independent

development path aimed at building socialism,” he said in a report in Cuban official media. The visit had not been announced earlier in state media.

Three vessels took part in the flotilla

China is a key political ally of Cuba, and its number two trade partner after Venezuela. Beijing also is one of the few sources of credit available to cash-strapped Havana. ...

Russia to Deploy New Weapons to Counter U.S. Missile Shield **Associated Press | November 10**

RUSSIA WILL COUNTER NATO’S U.S.-LED MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM by deploying new strike weapons capable of piercing the shield, President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday.

Putin told defense officials that by developing defenses against ballistic missiles Washington aims to “neutralize” Russia’s strategic nuclear deterrent and gain a “decisive military superiority.”

He said that Moscow will respond by developing “strike systems capable of penetrating any missile defenses.” ...

His statement comes amid a severe strain in Russia’s relations with the U.S. and its NATO allies, which have plunged to the lowest point since the Cold War over the crisis in Ukraine.

For many years, the Kremlin has protested the U.S.-led missile shield, voicing concern that it could eventually become capable of intercepting Russia’s nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missiles, thus eroding the strength of the nation’s nuclear

deterrent.

Washington, in turn, has argued that the shield was aimed to fend off missile threats from nations such as Iran and North Korea and wouldn’t be capable of dealing with the massive Russian nuclear arsenal.

Putin argued Tuesday that the U.S. has kept working on the missile shield despite Iran’s deal with six world powers that has curbed its nuclear program in exchange for relief from international sanctions.

“So, references to the Iranian and the North Korean nuclear missile threat just have served to cover up the true plans, and their true task is to neutralize nuclear potential of other nuclear powers, ... Russia in particular,” Putin said. “Regrettably, our concerns and cooperation proposals haven’t been taken into account.” ...

PLA Wants Ability to Attack Taiwan by 2020 **Want China Times | October 27**

CHINA HAS IN RECENT YEARS CONTINUED TO UPGRADE SEVERAL major weapons systems to complete preparations for a reliable fighting force that could launch an attack on Taiwan by 2020, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense has said in an annual report on the country's security.

Though Beijing has said it hopes to solve disputes between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait through peaceful means, it continues to ramp up combat readiness and its desire to achieve unification with Taiwan—by force, if deemed necessary—has not changed despite the warming of cross-strait ties. ...

TW IN BRIEF

Chinese yuan moves to topple the dollar: China took another major step toward bolstering the yuan's international usage on Monday, saying it will begin direct trading with the Swiss franc. The franc will become the seventh major currency that can bypass the United States dollar and be traded directly for the Chinese yuan. The People's Bank of China said the move was an

"important step" in boosting ties between China and Switzerland. The move also represents another black eye for the U.S. dollar. Reserve currency status has long given America special privileges and enormous power. But China and other nations are working toward establishing their own internationally recognized reserve currency.

AFRICA/LATIN AMERICA

China Quietly Expands Military Influence in Africa **Washington Free Beacon | November 11**

A SENIOR CHINESE MILITARY OFFICIAL TOURED A CHINESE WARSHIP docked in Djibouti during the weekend and met with the country's president, according to China's Defense Ministry, underscoring Beijing's efforts to expand its military operations in Africa.

Djibouti, an East African country located near vital shipping lanes and terrorism hotspots in Yemen and Somalia, also hosts military bases for the United States and France.

Some security analysts have raised concerns that China, which is reported to be in talks about constructing a base in Djibouti, could be seeking to exert more influence in the strategic country—a move that could disrupt U.S. counterterrorism operations. ...

[Djibouti President Ismail Omar] Guelleh said in May that he was conducting negotiations with China about adding a military

base, which Beijing has yet to confirm. The two countries also announced a trade deal worth nearly \$200 million, raising alarm in Washington. ...

The United States has had a difficult relationship at times with Djibouti. ... China appears keen to exploit any cracks in U.S.-Djibouti relations. Beijing has disbursed \$599 million to build two airports in the country, among other major infrastructure projects. ...

"Djibouti's location along the gateway that gives the world access to the Red Sea and the Suez Canal makes it strategically critical. As the United States rapidly loses control of sea gates around the world, China is moving in."

"China Dominates America in Djibouti," [theTrumpet.com](#), August 17

ANGLO-AMERICA



Prophecy Is Dual **Gerald Flurry, The Key of David |** **November 13**

Learn to search the Scriptures with an understanding of their duality.



Britain's Armed Forces No Longer Have the Resources for a Major War

Con Coughlin, *Spectator* | November 7

THIS SUNDAY, DAVID CAMERON WILL LAY A WREATH AT THE Cenotaph to commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice during two ruinous world wars. People will say “Never again,” and Cameron will agree. But then, thanks to the drastic cuts he has made to the strength of our armed forces, the prime minister need not worry himself unduly about Britain’s involvements in any future conflicts. He need not gnash his teeth too much about M.P.s’ reluctance to back military intervention in Syria because, as matters stand, Britain would be unable to fight a major war even if it wanted to. ...

These are just a few of the more visible threats we may face in the years ahead (and that’s without mentioning the Falklands), and yet Britain cannot right now respond in any meaningful military way. Our armed forces are so feeble as to be almost irrelevant.

What did we do when Russia annexed Crimea? Downing Street dispatched 100 or so military advisers to Kiev to help train government forces. What did we do when Libya plunged, post-Qadhafi, into chaos? We deployed 300 non-combatant military personnel to South Sudan and Somalia.

It is a measure of just how far the stature of our armed forces has fallen in the past five years of cuts that our allies no longer talk of Britain deploying “boots on the ground.” They joke about us putting a few “sandals in the sand.”

We find ourselves in this parlous position largely because of the conclusions reached five years ago by the last government’s disastrous Strategic Defense and Security Review. The review was conducted on the naive assumption, presented in the government’s equally egregious National Security Strategy, that we faced no apparent threats to our security or national interests. It allowed the Tory/Lib Dem coalition to make the most drastic cuts to our defense budget for a generation.

The military has endured drastic cuts before. At the end of the Cold War, significant cuts were possible without losing fundamental military capabilities. But the problem with the 2010 review was that it prescribed significant cuts to military spending at a time when the defense budget was already under severe pressure as a consequence of New Labour’s ineptitude.

Tony Blair’s evangelical enthusiasm for military interventions was not matched by much extra money to pay for them. ...

The scrapping of the Nimrod maritime patrol aircraft program without any proper consideration of its likely replacement means that now, when Russian submarines try to monitor the activities of the Trident fleet in the North Sea, we have to beg the French to loan us one of their planes to patrol our territorial waters. Manning levels in the Royal Navy have reached the point where serious questions are being asked about its ability to crew both of the new Queen Elizabeth-class aircraft carriers, while cutting the number of soldiers by one fifth means the Army would struggle to replicate the division-strength deployments it managed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The general consensus in the military is that Britain has cut the strength of its armed forces by one third since the last strategic review. Officers talk about the military being “hollowed out,” so that while it still looks as though we have sufficient kit, our lack of personnel, lack of training, and lack of readily available supplies mean our position is deceptive. If we ever needed the military to deploy in strength, the deployment would be unsustainable. ...

No one is suggesting Britain and its allies should embark on a campaign of conquest in central Europe and the Middle East. But if we are to prevent others from so doing, then we will need more than a few drones and Special Forces to protect our interests.

President Obama Under Water on Every Issue Except ‘Gay Rights’

Brietbart | November 12

AS PRESIDENT OBAMA NEARS THE END OF HIS PRESIDENTIAL term [a] poll finds voters disapprove of his handling of nearly every issue.

Whether the economy, health care, environment or a host of issues, more voters disapprove of how Obama is handling issues than approve. The breadth of issues where President Obama is upside down with voters is unprecedented.

Overall, voters like President Obama as a person. Only 30 percent of voters dislike him, while 58 percent like him, at least somewhat. Obama’s popularity, however, begins dropping as soon as the discussion turns to anything more specific than his human qualities.

Only 48 percent of voters believe President Obama is a strong leader. A majority, 52 percent, view him as weak. Just 41 percent of voters think Obama believes what he says. Almost half of voters think Obama says what he thinks people want to hear.

It is unsurprising, then, that only 45 percent of voters approve of his job performance as president, while 48 percent disapprove. His approval numbers break down among demographic groups as one would expect: young, liberal and minority voters are more likely to approve of his job performance. ...

Only on the issue of “gay rights” did more voters approve of Obama’s performance than disapprove. On that issue, 43 percent

of voters approved and 34 percent disapproved of his handling of the issue.

Unfortunately for Obama, “gay rights” was also the least important issue for voters. Just 21 percent of voters said it was a “very important” issue, while 32 percent said it was “unimportant.” By way of comparison, 74 percent of voters said the economy

was very important and just 1 percent said it was unimportant.

The issues where voters disapprove of President Obama’s job performance are: abortion, the war in Afghanistan, the budget deficit, the economy, education, the environment, foreign policy, gun control, health care, immigration, Medicare, Social Security, taxes and terrorism. ...

University of Missouri Names Black Interim President

USA Today | November 12

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI ON Thursday named a black law professor and deputy chancellor emeritus to serve as interim president of a university system under siege from racial turmoil.

Michael Middleton, who recently retired from the university after 30 years, earned bachelor and law degrees there. His selection came three days after Tim Wolfe resigned amid a firestorm over his handling of a series of racially charged events

on the sprawling campus in Columbia. ...

Middleton, 68, promised that incidents of racial harassment will be dealt with quickly.

“We hope at some point this kind of turmoil will dissipate,” he said. ...

“We are excited for the new leadership under Interim President Middleton!” tweeted Concerned Student 1950, an advocacy group named for the year the school admitted its first black student.

Approval of Congress at 41-Year Low

Washington Times | November 11

ALAS, A NEW GALLUP POLL REVEALS THAT 86 PERCENT OF AMERICANS disapprove of the U.S. Congress, tying a 41-year record for such negative sentiments. The survey was conducted after Rep. Paul Ryan took over as new House speaker, incidentally. A paltry 11 percent of the respondents actually approve of the lawmakers; that includes 8 percent of Republicans, 13 percent of independents and 11 percent of Democrats.

“Republicans’ more negative evaluation of Congress is a recent development. In the first poll Gallup conducted entirely after the GOP assumed control of the Senate earlier this year, Republicans (27 percent) were significantly more likely than Democrats (17 percent) and independents (18 percent) to approve of Congress, consistent with the historical pattern,” reports Gallup analyst Jeffrey Jones. ...

A Generation That Hates Free Speech

Commentary | November 12

IT’S BEGINNING TO BECOME HARD TO IGNORE HOW WOEFULLY ignorant a burgeoning generation of Americans seems to be in even the bedrock philosophical tenets upon which the United States was founded. You might think that a principal notion so central to the American identity as the freedoms of speech, expression and assembly—rights so essential the Founders made it the first—would enjoy at least modest respect if not veneration from all citizens, young and old. Increasingly, the next generation seems to view First Amendment protections not as a bulwark against the dangers of tyranny, but as a threat to their comfort and preferred intellectual isolation.

The looming catastrophe that could befall a nation that no longer respects its most basic freedoms was exposed once again as an acute crisis this week amid the disruptions on the University of Missouri campus. There, amid vague and poorly substantiated claims of endemic racist antipathy toward African-Americans, students and faculty alike engaged in a protest that regarded the presence of citizen and student journalists as a sinister development. One of the now deservedly unemployed faculty members abetting this abuse of public property was even shown calling for “muscle”

to remove from the premises one of the student photographers. ...

The results of a McLaughlin & Associates survey of 800 college students around the country are disconcerting for those who appreciate their right to free expression: “By a margin of 51 percent to 36 percent, students favor their school having speech codes to regulate speech for students and faculty. Sixty-three percent favor requiring professors to employ “trigger warnings” to alert students to material that might be discomfiting. One third of the students polled could not identify the First Amendment as the part of the Constitution that dealt with free speech. Thirty-five percent said that the First Amendment does not protect “hate speech,” while 30 percent of self-identified liberal students say the First Amendment is outdated.” ...

The invented scourge of “hate speech” is another cause for which the left is convinced the Constitutional protections on expression must be undermined. ...

When asked if he had built for ensuing generations of Americans a republic or a monarchy, Dr. Benjamin Franklin was said to quip “A Republic, if you can keep it.” That is a proposition set to be tested like never before.