

# Trumpet Weekly

JANUARY 1, 2016



Asylum seekers line up in front of the State Office of Health and Social Affairs registration center in Berlin on December 21.

## Germany, Migrants and Angela Merkel's Big Lie

Brad Macdonald, December 29

**D**URING RECENT TRIPS TO VIENNA, HANNOVER, STOCKACH AND Zurich, I discussed Europe's migrant crisis with friends and other travelers. Each had his stories and anecdotes, his concerns and frustrations, and, of course, his particular solutions. But nearly every person I spoke with shared an interesting concern, and one with enormous and alarming consequences.

I was told multiple times that there is a growing belief among Germans that they are being intentionally misled—and even deliberately lied to—by Angela Merkel and her pro-migrant allies in the government and the media.

A growing number of Germans are

feeling betrayed and want *change*. They want a leader who will listen to their anxieties, defend their interests, and protect Germany.

In Stockach, I had coffee with a 20-year-old man who works as a security guard at a refugee camp containing more than 1,000 migrants. The camp, he explained, is a mix between a pigsty and a war zone. This man had witnessed migrants refuse to use the portable toilets. There was also rampant sexual abuse, rape, fights and knifings, and regular clashes between religious and ethnic foes. *Are local politicians expressing concern about this in public?* I asked. *Is the local media reporting on what's happening inside these camps?*

They are totally silent, he said.

There are plenty more anecdotes like this, though you have to search for them. Tania Kambouri is a police officer in Germany



BRAD MACDONALD

KAY NIETFIELD/APP/GETTY IMAGES

and a bestselling author. In a recent radio interview, Kambouri discussed the migrants and Germany's deteriorating security situation.

"For weeks, months and years I have noticed that Muslims, mostly young men, do not have even a minimum level of respect for the police," she said. "When we are out patrolling the streets, we are verbally abused by young Muslims."

"I WISH THESE PROBLEMS WERE RECOGNIZED AND CLEARLY ADDRESSED! ... It cannot be that offenders continue to fill the police files, hurt us physically, insult us, whatever, and there are no consequences. Many cases are closed, or offenders are released on probation. ... Yes, what is happening in the courts today is a joke. The growing disrespect, the increased violence against police .... *We are losing control of the streets.*"

Why isn't Angela Merkel talking with the German people about this? Why is the mainstream media burying stories like this?

On November 24, the Gatestone Institute published an article titled "Germans Opposed to Mass Migration Are 'Free to Leave.'" The title came from a statement by the district president of Kassel, a city in the state of Hesse, who stated that German citizens who disagree with the government's open-door immigration policy are "free to leave Germany." The article described a recent proposal by the mayor of Berlin to create emergency legislation that allows local authorities to seize private residences and office buildings to accommodate asylum seekers.

The mayor's legislation "would effectively suspend Germany's constitutional guarantee of private property." It "would authorize police forcibly to enter private homes and apartments without a warrant to determine their suitability as housing for refugees and migrants." AND THE MAYOR TRIED TO KEEP THE PROPOSAL SECRET FROM THE GERMAN PUBLIC!

In Bad Tolz, Bavaria, local government officials recently condemned a nightclub owner after he banned male migrants from his club when female patrons complained that they were being harassed. Local politicians and media branded the manager a "Nazi" and a "racist." Incidents like this are happening daily in towns and cities across Germany, yet the authorities, local and federal, simply refuse to talk about it. WORSE STILL, THEY ARE ATTACKING THOSE WHO DO EXPRESS ALARM AND CONCERN!

Last October, *Bild* reported that the government was secretly expecting 1.5 million migrants to arrive in Germany in 2015.

The official government figure at the time was 800,000, and the government flatly rejected the *Bild* story. The point is, the Merkel government *knew* the figure was going to be significantly higher than 800,000 back in October, *but it refused to reveal this to the German people*—EVEN AFTER *BILD* REPORTED ON THE 1.5 MILLION FIGURE!

In October, *Die Welt* reported on a government document leaked to the paper by German intelligence officials. The document warned, "We are importing Islamic extremism, Arab anti-Semitism, national and ethnic conflicts of other peoples, as well as a different understanding of society and law." The document also warned that integrating hundreds of thousands of "illegal migrants" would be "impossible." Instead, the message emanating from Germany's chancellor and many others is, "WE CAN DO THIS!"

Think about the consequences of Angela Merkel's grand deception. It is destroying the trust between Germany's government and the public. What happens when the majority of Germans realize they have been deceived? What happens when the majority of Germans lose confidence and trust in the mainstream leaders? Frustrated and angry, the German people, as any people would, will seek an individual, a political party, ideologies, willing to heed their concerns and solve Germany's migrant crisis.

Many of the Germans becoming disenfranchised with mainstream politics and turning to these new groups are not hardcore neo-Nazis. They are regular, sound-thinking, rational people, many of whom have terrific empathy for those suffering in Syria and elsewhere. These people are simply concerned about the impact millions of migrants will have on their nation. But Angela Merkel refuses to give too much serious attention to these concerns and refuses to tell the truth about the impact the migrants are having and will have on the German nation.

If she continues to do this, Germany's chancellor risks transforming the German people—and Germany itself—into something very different and much more frightening than the democratic, peaceful, friendly, nation Germany is today.

ANGELA MERKEL IS TURNING THE GERMAN PEOPLE INTO A TICKING TIME BOMB!

Pay attention. An explosion is coming.

 Follow Brad Macdonald

## MIDDLE EAST

# TrumpetDaily

RADIO SHOW

TRUMPET DAILY RADIO SHOW | JANUARY 1

LESSONS FROM CHURCHILL'S IRON CURTAIN SPEECH | DECEMBER 31

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EVENTS OF 2015 BRING US ONE STEP CLOSER TO CHRIST'S RETURN; MYSTERY OF THE AGES FINAL TALLY | DECEMBER 28

## **'Highly Provocative': Iran Rocket Launch Near U.S. Ship Latest Challenge for Washington**

**Fox News | December 30**

**D**ESPITE THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TOUTING ITS Iran nuclear deal as a triumph of diplomacy that finally thaws a four-decade freeze, Tehran appears to be doing all it can to keep the flames of confrontation burning.

The latest challenge was a missile launch over the weekend less than a mile from a U.S. aircraft carrier—which came on the heels of two other similar incidents, two ballistic missile tests, and the harsh treatment of American prisoners including a *Washington Post* journalist.

These provocations, with the country potentially weeks away from receiving billions in sanctions relief under the nuclear deal, are fueling renewed concerns in Washington about whether Iran will be held to account for violations.

"Missile-tests, cyberattacks, Americans taken hostage, and now this," House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce, R-Calif., said in a statement Wednesday. "Until the Obama administration starts holding the Iranian regime

accountable, we'll see more of these hostile acts that put American lives in danger."

The most recent confrontation occurred Saturday, when five Iranian Revolutionary Guard vessels approached the USS Harry S. Truman, and one of them fired multiple unguided missiles within 1,500 yards of the U.S. aircraft carrier transiting the Strait of Hormuz. It was the third such provocation in the past 14 months, a spokesman for the Navy's 5th Fleet, responsible for operations in the Persian Gulf, told Fox News.

"It's getting closer," Cmdr. Kevin Stephens said in discussing this trend of Iranian provocation near U.S. aircraft carrier battle groups. ...

Twenty-one Democratic senators ... wrote to Obama last week voicing concerns about [Iran's missile tests]: "If there are no consequences for this violation, Iran's leaders will certainly also question the willingness of the international community to respond to violations of the [nuclear agreement]." ...

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## **After Islamic State Is Defeated, Shiite Forces to Take Over**

**Jerusalem Post | December 29**

**T**HE WESTERN-BACKED WAR AGAINST THE SUNNI ISLAMIC STATE is setting the stage for the rise of an Iran-led Shiite crescent across the region.

From contiguous territory stretching from Afghanistan to Iran and through Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, Shiite influence would increase.

Just as the U.S.-led coalition war against Iraq in 2003 toppled the Sunni power and removed an obstacle for Iran to spread its influence in the overwhelmingly Shiite country, the removal of Islamic State would give Iran the upper hand against its Sunni enemies.

In fact, many Sunnis support Islamic State not necessarily because they are true believers, but in a show of solidarity against an Iranian-led Shiite onslaught.

With the aid of attacks on Islamic State by Western forces and

Russia, Iran and its militia allies can prepare for an onslaught on the remaining Sunni rebel forces in Syria. And from there, the Iran axis would look to penetrate neighboring Jordan as well as expand its support of the Houthis in Yemen. ...

[Phillip Smyth, a researcher specializing in Shiite Islamist groups at the University of Maryland's Laboratory for Computational Cultural Dynamics] predicts that there is likely to be an internal tug of war over who controls [Shiites in a post-Islamic State region].

If Iraq's top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani, dies, then Smyth says there would be a number of rising clerics competing to fill the void.

"Iran is attempting to sink its talons into the clerical realm," he continued, noting that Iran already has power on the ground, via its militias, to help support its agenda. ...

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## **White House Delays Imposing New Sanctions on Iran for Missile Program**

**Wall Street Journal | December 31**

**T**HE WHITE HOUSE HAS DELAYED ITS PLAN TO IMPOSE NEW FINANCIAL sanctions on Iran for its ballistic missile program, according to U.S. officials, amid growing tensions with Iran over the nuclear deal struck earlier this year.

The officials said the Obama administration remains committed to combating Iran's missile program and that sanctions being developed by the U.S. Treasury Department remain on the table. ...

Republican leaders on Thursday accused the Obama administration of losing its will to challenge Iran after Tehran countered on Thursday that it would accelerate the development of its arsenal.

"If the president's announced sanctions ultimately aren't executed, it would demonstrate a level of fecklessness that even the president hasn't shown before," said Rep. Mike Pompeo, a leading critic of the nuclear deal, in an interview.

Critics of the planned sanctions had already charged they



weren't an adequate U.S. response to Iran's continuing development of its missile program. ...

### **Monitor: More Than 55,000 Killed in Syria in 2015**

**Agence France-Presse | December 31**

**T**HE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEAD SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFLICT had reached more than 260,000, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said, though the number of those killed in 2015 was lower than the 76,021 people who died in 2014.

In 2015 alone, the monitor documented the deaths of 55,219 people, including 13,249 civilians. Among them were 2,574 children, it said. ...

The group also documented the deaths of 17,686 regime forces, among them over 8,800 Army troops, more than 7,000 Syrian pro-regime militiamen, and 378 members of Lebanon's Hezbollah

### **U.S. Spy Net on Israel Snares Congress**

**Wall Street Journal | December 29**

**P**RESIDENT BARACK OBAMA ANNOUNCED TWO YEARS AGO HE would curtail eavesdropping on friendly heads of state after the world learned the reach of long-secret U.S. surveillance programs.

But behind the scenes, the White House decided to keep certain allies under close watch, current and former U.S. officials said. Topping the list was Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The U.S., pursuing a nuclear arms agreement with Iran at the time, captured communications between Mr. Netanyahu and his aides that inflamed mistrust between the two countries and planted a political minefield at home when Mr. Netanyahu later took his campaign against the deal to Capitol Hill.

The National Security Agency's targeting of Israeli leaders and

**RELATED: "THE WORLD'S NEWEST MOST RADICAL 'STATE'"**

movement.

A total of 1,214 foreign fighters from other countries, including Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan, died fighting for the regime, the Observatory said. ...

Syria's conflict began with peaceful anti-government protests but descended into a brutal civil war after a regime crackdown on dissent.

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

officials also swept up the contents of some of their private conversations with U.S. lawmakers and American-Jewish groups. ...

White House officials believed the intercepted information could be valuable to counter Mr. Netanyahu's campaign. They also recognized that asking for it was politically risky. So, wary of a paper trail stemming from a request, the White House let the NSA decide what to share and what to withhold, officials said. ...

Stepped-up NSA eavesdropping revealed to the White House how Mr. Netanyahu and his advisers had leaked details of the U.S.-Iran negotiations—learned through Israeli spying operations—to undermine the talks; coordinated talking points with Jewish-American groups against the deal; and asked undecided lawmakers what it would take to win their votes, according to current and former officials familiar with the intercepts. ...

### **Hamas Says It Plans to Resume Suicide Attacks in Israel**

**Times of Israel | December 31**

**P**ALESTINIAN TERROR GROUP HAMAS IS REPORTEDLY PLANNING to resume suicide bombing attacks against Israelis, including "political and security figures."

According to Lebanon's *The News*, cited by the Hebrew-language *Maariv* daily on Thursday, a Hamas source said the attacks would be carried out by the organization's " sleeper cells," which have been directed to strike targets inside Israel.

The paper quoted a Hamas leader as saying that "the operations will be carried out soon, and include a list of targets that includes political and security figures inside Israel."

The attacks are reportedly to focus on army and police officials.

Hamas sources also claimed that it was maintaining ties with members of Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah movement.

Israeli officials are aware of the directive to resume the bombings, *The News* reported. Israel 10 days ago uncovered a Hamas

cell operating in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Abu Dis, which had been planning to carry out suicide attacks. The Shin Bet said the cell was controlled by Hamas leadership in the Gaza Strip. ...

A senior Palestinian Authority source told the *Times of Israel* last week that Hamas is attempting to launch major terror attacks against Israel, including suicide bombings, from the West Bank. Information gleaned from interrogations of Hamas operatives arrested recently by PA security services shows that the terror group's leaders in Gaza and abroad have sent orders to local commanders to escalate their activities—from encouraging protests and stabbing attacks to more dramatic and deadly assaults on Israeli civilians, the source said.

At least 25 Israelis have been killed and hundreds more wounded in an ongoing wave of Palestinian violence—including car-rammings, stabbings and shootings—that began in October. More than 130 Palestinians have also died, most while carrying

out terror attacks and many of the others during violent clashes with Israeli security forces.

The current attacks have yet to include suicide bombings, which killed hundreds of Israelis during the Second Intifada at the start of the millennium, and led to a massive Israeli military operation in the West Bank aimed at ending them.

**“The event that causes the *whole* of Jerusalem to be overrun by European armies is a violent conflict *inside* Jerusalem**

**that ends in ‘half of the city [going] forth into captivity.’ First, half of Jerusalem is taken, then the whole city is conquered. This prophecy indicates that a Hamas-dominated Palestinian insurgency, backed by Iran, will take half the city of Jerusalem captive. If you haven’t already, study this prophecy in detail by reading *Jerusalem in Prophecy*, specifically Chapter 3. ... Events in that city are the thermometer that measures how close we are to the most awesome event in human history: the Second Coming of Jesus Christ!”**

“How to Read the Temperature of World Crisis,” theTrumpet.com, Aug. 25, 2011

## EUROPE

# TrumpetHour

THE CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE, IRAN’S MISSILE PROGRAM, RUSSIA AND CHINA’S HYBRID WARFARE, AND MORE | JANUARY 1

HOW 2015 CHANGED THE WORLD, PART 1 | DECEMBER 30

## **T** Pope Francis: Europe’s Top Unifier Richard Palmer | January 4

**P**OPE FRANCIS IS TO BE AWARDED EUROPE’S TOP PRIZE FOR promoting unity.

That news will come as no surprise to those familiar with theTrumpet.com. For years we’ve said the Catholic Church must play a powerful role in European unity.

The European Common Market has “so far ... been unable to bring about full political union,” wrote Herbert W. Armstrong in his book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. “This will be made possible by the ‘good offices’ of the Vatican, who alone can be the symbol of unity to which they can look.”

Few see the signs of the Vatican playing this role, so far. But now, as Europe is becoming increasingly desperate for unity—with the euro, the border-free Schengen zone, and even the European Union itself under threat—we’re seeing more signs that it will look to the Vatican.

The International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen will go to Pope Francis, the prize committee announced on December 23. The prize is given to those who perform “exceptional work ... in the service of European unity.”

Europe has gone through seven years of “weakness, crises and setbacks” causing “a dramatic loss of confidence” wrote the prize committee. “In these times, in which many citizens in Europe seek orientation,” the pope “sends a message of love and encouragement,” it wrote.

The Charlemagne Prize’s website states that the award’s recipients “are the people who most often work toward integration—and who are able to exercise a political influence.”

Pope John Paul II was the first pope to be given the Charlemagne award, just before his death in 2004. He is the only person to ever be given the “Charlemagne Prize Extraordinary.” His award

focused on his role in defeating communism, allowing Eastern and Western Europe to come together.

Pope Francis has merely continued the policy of many of his predecessors.

The *Economist* magazine writes that “the selectors are adamant that Pope Francis, more than anybody else, has breathed new life into the construction of Europe at a time when that effort was sagging.”

In its announcement of the pope’s prize, the awards committee quoted from statements made by the pope directed at Europe—most heavily his 2014 address to the European Parliament.

Unity was the key focus of that parliamentary address. The pope said that he was there to bring “a message of hope and encouragement to all the citizens of Europe.”

“It is a message of hope, based on the confidence that our problems can become powerful forces for unity in working to overcome all those fears which Europe—together with the entire world—is presently experiencing,” he said.

While so many of the EU’s founders saw their work through a Catholic lens, many today do not. But at this crucial juncture, with Europe struggling for unity, it is the pope that is singled out as offering hope for the future.

And it is not just the Charlemagne Prize Committee that sees this hope.

The Konrad Adenauer Foundation is the think tank for German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s Christian Democratic Union. In Germany, all the political parties have a think tank affiliated with them to help formulate their policy. In November, the foundation produced a paper called “Microstate and Superpower—the Vatican in International Politics.”

The conclusion is clear from the title—the Vatican is a superpower. More specifically, though, it notes the power of the Catholic Church as a mediator and a unifier.

The Vatican, the authors write, “has, in fact, been involved in central decision-making and events of world politics for a long time, acting patiently behind the scenes, particularly since the middle of the 20th century.”

The lengthy, but fascinating, paper goes through example after example, from the Cold War right up until the present day where the Catholic Church has established itself as a mediator. The Vatican has developed considerable “soft power ... based on its reputation as an honest broker, a role whose impact has been increasing since the end of the Cold War.”

The pope is now reaching out to the world “not just as head of the church and head of state but as a moral authority,” they write.

As unity is becoming an increasingly desperate need for all of Europe, the think tank for Angela Merkel’s party is thinking about the Vatican’s track record for bringing exactly that.

Europe’s crises are far from over. As times get dark, this hope for unity held out by the Vatican will burn even brighter and gain even more attention.

The historical precedent for this source of unity goes far beyond the EU’s founding fathers. The Charlemagne Prize is certainly an appropriate award for the pope: Charlemagne also used the Catholic Church to bring unity to his empire 1,200 years ago. Charlemagne, or Charles the Great, brought a good chunk of the Continent together as one empire, and he did it through the help of one church.

As the *Catholic Encyclopedia* noted, Charlemagne’s legacy was “the idea of a Europe welded together out of various races under the spiritual influence of one Catholic faith and one vicar of Christ ....”

This is the heritage the Charlemagne Prize deliberately revives, and it’s one European leaders are very familiar with. History shows them that the road to European unity goes through the Vatican.

That same history can also show us where that road eventual leads. To read about the heritage Europe is drawing on right now, and where this joint venture with the Catholic Church will lead, read our free book *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy*.

 Follow [Richard Palmer](#)

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## Two Thirds of Germans Expect ISIS Attack in 2016

**The Local | 30 December**

A MAJORITY OF GERMANS EXPECT THE TERRORIST GROUP ISIS TO attack the country in the coming year.

The poll conducted by YouGov for the Deutsche Presse Agentur news agency shows that 66 percent of Germans expect ISIS to attack them, while only 17 percent believe this will not happen. A

further 17 percent gave no answer to the question.

Up until now Germany has remained untouched by large-scale terrorist attacks. ...

But Germans are nervous in the wake of the ISIS attacks on Paris on November 13, which left 130 people dead. ...

## Even Europe’s humanitarian superpower is turning its back on refugees

**Washington Post, December 30**

WHEN THE SMALL, CRUMPLED BODY OF 3-YEAR-OLD ALAN KURDI washed up on the Aegean coast September 2, Europe’s humanitarian superpower sprang into action.

Sweden’s prime minister headlined gala fundraisers, Swedish celebrities starred in telethons, and a country that prides itself on doing the right thing seemed to rally as one to embrace refugees fleeing for their lives.

But after taking in more asylum seekers per capita than any other nation in Europe, Sweden’s welcome mat now lies in tatters. Overwhelmed by the human tide of 2015, the center-left government is deploying extraordinary new border controls and slashing benefits in an unmistakable signal to refugees contemplating the long trek to Sweden in the new year: Stay out. ...

Those limits can be readily seen in a tent camp where dozens of migrants are bedding down in the frigid Nordic winter and at the train station where many new arrivals are turned back within minutes of setting foot on Swedish soil. ...

The impact of such controls could be felt far beyond Sweden:

The country’s dramatic shift threatens to wreak havoc all the way down Europe’s migrant trail in 2016 by setting off a domino effect in which countries seal their borders for fear that their neighbors will do the same.

Barriers have already risen across the Continent, primarily in the transit nations for migrants traveling by land into wealthy Western Europe. ...

But Sweden’s abrupt reversal is potentially far more consequential. Across Europe this year, two countries have stood out for their uncommonly generous reception policies: Sweden and Germany.

Now, Sweden is actively trying to keep people out, while German Chancellor Angela Merkel is under pressure from critics within her own center-right coalition to do the same after the country welcomed a record 1 million asylum seekers this year. ...

Despite repeated pledges from E.U. officials about the need to gain control of the Continent’s external borders, there has been little concrete action. ...

**17 billion euros to go toward refugees in Germany:** Germany's federal states may put around \$18.5 billion toward handling the refugee crisis in 2016, *Die Welt* said this morning. The figure comes from a survey taken of regional finance ministries. The expenditure will exceed the amount Germany put toward the education and research ministry in 2015. The newspaper added

that actual costs will probably be even higher. The budget was created using the federal government's estimate that 800,000 refugees would enter Germany in 2015. That figure has already been surpassed. At the end of November, 965,000 refugees had arrived in Germany.

## ASIA

### Brave New War

Atlantic | December 29

**F**ROM CHINA IN ASIA TO RUSSIA IN EUROPE ... 2015 HAS SEEN THE flourishing of conflicts that exist in a gray zone, one which is not quite open war but more than regular competition, which is attuned to globalization, which liberal democracies are ill-equipped to deal with, and which may well be the way power is exercised and conflict conducted in the foreseeable future.

Described by scholars as “hybrid,” “full-spectrum,” “nonlinear,” “next-generation” or “ambiguous”—the variations in the description indicate the slipperiness of the subject—these conflicts mix psychological, media, economic, cyber, and military operations without requiring a declaration of war.

In the case of Russia's ongoing campaign in Ukraine, for example, hyperintense Russian propaganda has cultivated unrest inside the country by sowing enmity among segments of Ukrainian society and confusing the West with waves of disinformation, while Russian proxy forces and covert troops launch just enough military offensives to ensure that the Ukrainian government looks weak. The point is ... to destabilize Ukraine psychologically and advance a narrative of the country as a “failed state” ...

China's doctrine of the Three Warfares pushes these non-physical aspects even further, using “legal,” “psychological” and “media” warfare to, in the words of the analyst Laura Jackson, who directed a Cambridge University and U.S. Defense Department research project on the subject, “undermine international institutions, change borders, and subvert global media, all without firing a shot.” ...

An immediate aim of the Three Warfares is to spread China's dominion over the South China Sea, extending the country's maritime borders beyond boundaries recognized by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea in order to control massive energy reserves and strategic sea-lanes worth \$5 trillion; ultimately, the hope is to supplant the United States as the security guarantor in the region. ...

The Chinese and Russian approaches both emphasize information war. ...

There is, of course, nothing new about using information as a

vital instrument of war. But in the past, information tended to be a handmaiden to action. Now the informational element appears to be as important as, if not more important than, the physical dimension. ... The Russian military might be small compared to America's, and the Russian economy may be a mess, but Vladimir Putin has cleverly undermined America's reputation as a “global policeman” and boosted his stature as the man who is restoring Russia as a Great Global Power. ...

... I asked senior officials how [NATO] dealt with new threats. The answer was essentially that ... [t]anks and nuclear missiles, and increasingly cyberattacks, they were on top of. Anything “gray” was only in development. ...

One of the great fears in all this is that a gray-zone conflict—involving, say, U.S. and Chinese military vessels sparring in the South China Sea, or Russia threatening to deploy its nuclear arsenal—could tumble into an open one when some party miscalculates.

More likely, however, is that the patterns on display in 2015 will become more pronounced in the coming year. ...

It's a brave new war without beginning or end, where the borders of peace and war, serviceman and civilian have become utterly blurred—and where you and I are both a target and a weapon.

**“In the new Russian doctrine, if complete peace is represented by the color white and all-out war by black, then between lies nearly an infinite number of shades of gray. ... Of course, much of this ‘new’ kind of warfare is not really new—almost all the aspects it includes have long existed. Russia has used many of these tactics for years. Maybe the recent articles in Russia's military press are more of an attempt by the military to take control of Russia's already existing nonlinear warfare than to introduce a new concept. ... Russia's warfare will continue to reshape Europe in weeks and months ahead.”**

“You Can Conquer Vast Territories Without Big Armies,”  
theTrumpet.com, July 14, 2014

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## Russia: Book of Putin Quotes 'Given to Officials'

BBC | December 28

OFFICIALS ACROSS RUSSIA HAVE BEEN GIVEN A 400-PAGE BOOK OF “prophetic” quotes by President Vladimir Putin as a New Year gift, it’s reported.

The collection, [titled] *Words That Change the World*, was sent to as many as 1,000 people by one of Mr. Putin’s top aides, Vyacheslav Volodin, according to the business newspaper *RBK*. ... In an accompanying letter, Mr. Volodin says the book should be

seen as a guide to the Kremlin’s “values and guiding principles.” He’s also reported to have recommended it to a recent meeting of officials as “required reading for any politician.”

The book is said to include the text of 19 speeches by Mr. Putin, and highlights key quotes in bold that the introduction says “predicted and preordained” world events. ...

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## Abe Offers Apology, Compensation to South Korean ‘Comfort Women’

Bloomberg | December 28

JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER SHINZO ABE MADE A LANDMARK apology to South Korean “comfort women” coerced into Japanese military brothels before and during World War II, with his government agreeing to provide 1 billion yen (US\$8.3 million) to a fund for compensating victims.

The governments of Japan and South Korea agreed that this would be a final “irreversible” solution to an issue that has dogged bilateral ties for decades. ...

South Korean President Park Geun Hye [said] the agreement could be a new starting point for relations with Japan ....

**nations of the East see that United States’ military power is becoming ever more hollow. They see America’s populace war-weary, its policymakers almost comically disunited, and its president power-thirsty at home but deliberately weak internationally. As the hollowness of America’s power becomes more evident, and as U.S. dominance in the Asia-Pacific erodes, many Asian countries are re-balancing and re-aligning. From ... Tokyo to Delhi, they are adjusting to the new reality. The adjustment is most apparent in the increased military cooperation between eastern powers.”**

“Asian Military Cooperation on the Rise,”  
theTrumpet.com, Sept. 1, 2014

**“Despite the hype regarding America’s ‘pivot to Asia,’ the**

## China Preps for Space Warfare

Washington Times | December 30

FOLLOWING RECENT TESTS OF ANTISATELLITE MISSILES AND near-space hypersonic vehicles, China’s military will soon create a new Space Force within the People’s Liberation Army, a sign Beijing is preparing for future space warfare.

Military analysts say there has been no official announcement

of the new space warfare unit; however, unofficial sources in China revealed the unit will be part of a new Strategic Support Forces service that will include nuclear missiles—currently under the Second Artillery Force—along with an electronic information forces, cyberwarfare units, and electronic and signals intelligence. ...

## China’s Armed Drones Appear Built From Stolen Data From U.S. Cyberintrusions

Asia Times | December 30

CHINA’S VIBRANT MILITARY BLOGOSPHERE PRESENTED A VIDEO this month revealing a missile-firing unmanned aerial vehicle in action, dropping bombs against ground targets.

The Caihong-4, or CH-4, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) is a testament to the remarkable success of China’s military in copying vital high-technology weapons ....

Photo analysis of the CH-4 shows the remote-controlled aircraft is very similar to the U.S. military’s front-line combat UAV, the MQ-9 Reaper.

Both aircraft are about the same size and wing-span, and both

sport identical V-tails, landing gear, imaging pods and propeller-driven rear engines. ...

Details of pervasive Chinese military cybertheft were revealed in classified documents made public by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden.

An undated briefing slide from around 2010 titled “Chinese Exfiltrate Sensitive Military Technology” reveals that Chinese hackers had conducted more than 30,000 cyberattacks, including more than 500 described as “significant intrusions in [Department of Defense] systems.” ...



## Now China Wants Okinawa, Site of U.S. Bases in Japan

Daily Beast | December 31

ON THE DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, THREE CHINESE BOATS, ONE modified to carry four cannons, entered Japan's territorial waters surrounding the Senkaku Islands in the southern portion of the East China Sea. The move, a dangerous escalation, is the first time the People's Republic of China sent an armed vessel into an area that Tokyo claims as its own.

The sending of the three Chinese vessels on December 26 appears to signal a new phase of incursions to grab not just the Senkaku Islands but the nearby—and far more important—Ryukyu Islands. Those include Okinawa, which hosts more than half of the 54,000 American military personnel in Japan ...

Geopolitically, Okinawa is key to the American-Japanese alliance and the heart of America's military presence in Japan. But if Beijing gets its way, U.S. military bases will be off Okinawa soon. And Japan will be out of Okinawa, too.

Chinese authorities in the spring of 2013 brazenly challenged

Japan's sovereignty of the islands with a concerted campaign ....

... Beijing's argument, like all its territorial claims, is rooted in long-ago history—1372 to be exact. By that year, as General Luo pointed out to the China News Service, the Ryukyu kingdom was paying tribute to the Chinese court, and Japan did not complete its annexation of the island chain until 1872. ...

Now, Beijing's ambitions are expanding in all directions. While making advances in the South China Sea, it is renewing efforts to take the Senkakus. Its next target looks like the Ryukyus, putting the American bases on Okinawa in play. And China is unlikely to stop there. "Our Navy wants to push through the island chains and reach the eastern Pacific," said Zhang Haipeng, one of the coauthors of the *People's Daily* commentary on the Ryukyus, at the 2013 Renmin University seminar. The eastern Pacific, let's remember, washes onto American shores.

## China Begins Building Second Aircraft Carrier

Wall Street Journal | December 31

CHINA SAID THURSDAY IT HAS STARTED BUILDING A SECOND aircraft carrier, signaling Beijing's ambitions to develop a powerful navy as it asserts itself regionally. ...

"Independent design and construction work [on the second carrier] is under way" in the northeastern city of Dalian, a Chinese Defense Ministry spokesman told a regular news briefing, according to an official transcript. The 50,000-ton vessel is a fully

indigenous design that will be conventionally powered, he said, unlike the nuclear-powered U.S. carriers.

The new carrier will carry Chinese-built J-15 jet fighters and other aircraft ... according to Sr. Col. Yang Yujun. He said the warship will be more technologically capable than China's existing carrier, the Liaoning, which was built from a Soviet-era hull bought from Ukraine in 1998.

## ANGLO-AMERICA



### Daniel 8:12 – A Dual Prophecy

Gerald Flurry, *The Key of David* | January 1

Nearly 30 years ago, a dark spiritual force overthrew God's Church from within. The Prophet Daniel foretold the same outcome in America.



## T Government Gives IRS Authority to Take Away Your Passport

Robert Morley, December 28

UNITED STATES PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA SIGNED THE FAST ACT highway transportation bill on December 4. And buried inside the bill was a little-mentioned provision vastly expanding the power of the government—and increasing potential abuses of power.

The provision was one that, as Politico wrote earlier this year, no one thought would even make it to the president's desk, let

alone get signed.

Beginning in January, the Internal Revenue Service now has the right to revoke your passport for unpaid taxes if it says you owe \$50,000 or more (including penalties and interest). There are 12 million people in the U.S. the IRS says owe taxes.

The IRS does not have to prove you owe the money. It only has

to say that you do. The IRS does not have to ask a judge for permission to revoke your passport. An IRS official just sends an e-mail, and the State Department cancels it. And the law does not provide taxpayers an opportunity to challenge a finding that they owe back taxes in federal court before their passport is revoked.

No pay, no play. You say. *Because we say.*

Konstitution, what Konstitution?

According to lawmakers, this is an effort to force more delinquents to pay their bills. It is shocking that lawmakers passed this bill. How could they give such vast power to an organization that is known to be used by politicians to target their enemies? This is a branch of government that needs less power, not more.

Americans should ask, *why was this bill even needed? And what is the real motivation for this provision?*

The IRS already has the power to file tax liens against all property you own, including property acquired after the lien is filed. The IRS also has the ability to empty your bank accounts without judicial review. It just has to send you a notice of payment saying how much you owe. If you don't challenge or pay within 10 days, it can empty your accounts. This is routine.

The Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act of 2000 also granted the IRS the power to seize the bank accounts of those suspected to be engaged in criminal activity—even when no charges have been filed and no convictions made. They can just take your money. And there is not much you can do. Unless the media picks up the story, the money is just gone. According to Forbes, in 2012 only 20 percent of the cases in which money was seized were criminal charges pursued! Eighty percent of victims were innocent in the eyes of the law—and they had their money stolen by the government anyway.

Forbes calls it an “IRS horror story.” Even the *New York Times* is reporting horror stories of abuse—by the government.

How has America gotten to the point that the government can take your money without even pressing charges against you and without even giving you a chance to defend yourself in court? And now, unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats can revoke your passport if you don't pay the taxes they say you owe—and you are not even entitled to a day in court!

Innocent until proven guilty, trial by jury, judicial review, separation of powers—are these not principles that America was supposedly founded upon?

How about freedom of movement? Is not the right to travel a fundamental freedom? Do you know that in many states, you soon won't be able to even board an airplane without a passport? So now the IRS can ban you from flying *within* America too. How is that constitutional?

The new law gets even worse. Politicians in their wisdom and desire to make the government more efficient let the IRS turn over debts they say you owe to *private debt collectors*. You know, those same violators of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act that intimidate, harass, lie, threaten and break every rule Congress has passed to protect consumers. The very ones that Congress also says needs to be reined in.

Don't understand why America is changing so rapidly? There are answers. “The values that helped make America great are being cast to the ground—from the top!” writes Gerald Flurry in his booklet *America Under Attack*. In it, he explains what is happening to America today and why.

 Follow [Robert Morley](#)

## 80 Primary School Pupils a Year Seeking Help to Change Gender—Charity

John Bingham, *Telegraph* | December 27

UP TO 80 PRIMARY SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN A YEAR IN THE UK are now seeking help towards potentially changing their gender amid signs of classmates encouraging each other to do so, a leading charity working in the area has disclosed.

In some cases children as young as 4 are already in the process of “transitioning” to another sex, according to Susie Green,

chair of Mermaids, a charity which provides support for families of children and teenagers with gender-identity issues.

Meanwhile some schools are seeing signs of a cluster effect, with a number of pupils coming forward to seek support towards a possible change after one takes the first step, she said. ...

## Crime in Los Angeles Rose in All Categories in 2015

Los Angeles Times | December 30

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN A DECADE, ALL CATEGORIES OF crime rose across Los Angeles in 2015 as police struggled to get control of the problem, according to LAPD data.

Violent crime in L.A. climbed 19.9 percent and property crime increased 10.3 percent through December 26 compared with the same period last year, according to the police data. It marked the second year in a row that violent crime rose, but the first time since 2003 that both violent and property crime rose.

The increases follow more than a decade of steep declines in crime, particularly in homicides. Police officials said the recent upswings should be viewed in that larger context. ...

Still, the increases have sparked concern in neighborhoods across the city, including Southside areas that have seen jumps in

gang-related homicides as well as more affluent areas where residents have complained about thefts and car break-ins. ...

Parts of south Los Angeles saw troubling increases in violent crime this year. The area experienced its deadliest August since 2007, with 15 people killed in the last two weeks of the month. ...

But end-of-the-year violent crime figures all showed increases: Police reported 280 homicides, up 10.2 percent from last year, and 1,097 shooting victims, a 12.6 percent increase.

Rapes were up 8.6 percent and robberies rose 12.3 percent, while the biggest change came in the category of aggravated assault, which climbed 27.5 percent. ...

Property offenses also fueled the overall increase, including burglary (4.8 percent), personal theft (6.3 percent), theft from

vehicles (15.1 percent), and motor vehicle thefts (16.7 percent).

All 21 LAPD divisions reported crime increases this year. ...

LAPD officials noted that other large U.S. cities have also

reported more homicides this year, including New York, Chicago and Houston. ...

## **U.S. Companies Led the World in Debt Defaults in 2015, S&P Says** **Bloomberg | December 28**

**A**S OF LAST WEEK, 111 COMPANIES WORLDWIDE HAD DEFAULTED ON their obligations, the highest tally since 2009 when the figure hit 242 for the same period. About 60 percent of this year's global defaults have come from U.S. borrowers, Vazza wrote, up from 55 percent a year ago, when 33 of 60 defaulters were American.

After the U.S., companies from emerging markets were the second-largest defaulters, accounting for 23 percent of the pool, which is a smaller share than last year, according to S&P data.

Plummeting oil prices and speculation about how the Federal Reserve's plan to tighten monetary policy would affect corporate

borrowing costs has made companies more vulnerable, Vazza wrote.

"The current crop of U.S. speculative-grade issuers appears fragile, and particularly susceptible to any sudden, or unanticipated shock," she wrote. ...

Looking ahead, S&P expects the U.S. corporate default rate will rise to 3.3 percent by September 2016 from 2.5 percent a year earlier. The bulk of the failures will come from companies in the oil and gas sector, which accounted for about a quarter of this year's defaults.

## **Study: 2015 Was Record Year for Federal Regulation** **The Hill | December 30**

**2**015 WAS A RECORD-SETTING YEAR FOR THE FEDERAL REGISTER, according to numbers the Competitive Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., released Wednesday.

This year's daily publication of the federal government's rules, proposed rules and notices amounted to 81,611 pages as of Wednesday, higher than last year's 77,687 pages and higher than the all-time high of 81,405 pages in 2010—with one day to go in 2015.

In a blog post on the libertarian think tank's website, the group's vice president for policy, Clyde Wayne Crews, said there

have been 3,378 final rules and regulations among the pages of the Federal Register this year. Some of the major final rules included the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan and its Waters of the United States rule, as well as the Federal Communications Commission's net neutrality order.

He said another 2,334 proposed rules were issued in 2015 and are at various stages of consideration. On top of that, President Obama issued 29 executive orders and 31 executive memorandums, among them were agency directives to expand paid family and medical leave and overtime pay. ...

## **This Day in History: 1999 Panama Canal Turned Over to Panama** **History.com | December 31**

**O**N THIS DAY IN 1999, THE UNITED STATES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, officially hands over control of the Panama Canal, putting the strategic waterway into Panamanian hands for the first time. ...

Interest in finding a shortcut from the Atlantic to the Pacific originated with explorers in Central America in the early 1500s. In 1523, Holy Roman Emperor Charles V commissioned a survey of the Isthmus of Panama and several plans for a canal were produced, but none ever implemented. U.S. interest in building a canal was sparked with the expansion of the American West and the California gold rush in 1848. (Today, a ship heading from New York to San Francisco can save about 7,800 miles by taking the Panama Canal rather than sailing around South America.)

In 1880, a French company run by the builder of the Suez Canal started digging a canal across the Isthmus of Panama (then a part of Colombia). More than 22,000 workers died from tropical diseases such as yellow fever during this early phase of construction and the company eventually went bankrupt, selling its project rights

to the United States in 1902 for \$40 million. President Theodore Roosevelt championed the canal, viewing it as important to America's economic and military interests. In 1903, Panama declared its independence from Colombia in a U.S.-backed revolution, and the U.S. and Panama signed the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty, in which the U.S. agreed to pay Panama \$10 million for a perpetual lease on land for the canal, plus \$250,000 annually in rent.

Over 56,000 people worked on the canal between 1904 and 1913 and over 5,600 lost their lives. When finished, the canal, which cost the U.S. \$375 million to build, was considered a great engineering marvel and represented America's emergence as a world power.

In 1977, responding to nearly 20 years of Panamanian protest, U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Panama's Gen. Omar Torrijos signed two new treaties that replaced the original 1903 agreement and called for a transfer of canal control in 1999. ...

Ships pay tolls to use the canal, based on each vessel's size and cargo volume. In May 2006, the Maersk Dellys paid a record toll of \$249,165. ...

## Database of 191 Million U.S. Voters Exposed on Internet

Reuters | December 29

**A**N INDEPENDENT COMPUTER SECURITY RESEARCHER UNCOVERED a database of information on 191 million voters that is exposed on the open Internet due to an incorrectly configured database, he said on Monday.

The database includes names, addresses, birth dates, party affiliations, phone numbers and e-mails of voters in all 50 U.S. states and Washington, researcher Chris Vickery said in a phone interview.

Vickery, a tech support specialist from Austin, Texas, said he

found the information while looking for information exposed on the Web in a bid to raise awareness of data leaks. ...

"The alarming part is that the information is so concentrated," Vickery said.

Vickery said he has not been able to identify who controls the database, but that he is working with U.S. federal authorities to find the owner so they can remove it from public view. He declined to identify the agencies. ...

Privacy advocates said Vickery's findings were troubling. ...

## New Year's Surprise: Obama Regulation to Give Work Permits to Foreign College-Graduates

Breitbart | December 30

**A**S THE NATION PREPARES TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR, PRESIDENT Barack Obama is preparing a colossal new executive action that could print up work permits for a huge number of foreign white-collar graduates every year, above and beyond the levels set by Congress.

This executive action, which directly bypasses Congressional lawmakers, is likely to reverberate across the presidential race, as GOP voters look to choose a nominee they believe will most effectively roll back the president's still-expanding agenda. And

it will certainly raise new security concerns as it covers categories of immigration utilized by migrants from the Middle East and nearby regions. ...

The 181-page rule focuses primarily on giving work permits to foreign college-grads who will compete against Americans for white-collar jobs, despite the large number of American graduates now stuck in lower-wage positions and struggling to pay off college debts. The rule will also make each foreign graduate much cheaper for U.S. employers to hire than many U.S.-born college grads. ...

## TW IN BRIEF

**M**uslims plotted attack in London: A Muslim couple in London was found guilty on Tuesday of planning a terrorist attack on the city to coincide with the anniversary of the July 2005 suicide attacks. Mohammed Rehman and his wife, Sana Khan, plotted to detonate a bomb that would have inflicted mass casualties in either

the London Underground or the Westfield shopping center. Their online search history shows that the couple has a keen interest in the Islamic State. They had purchased 10 kilograms of urea nitrate to build the bomb. Rehman was arrested after he asked his Twitter followers which location he should target with his suicide bomb.



### Let God Fight Your Battles

Stephen Flurry,

Trumpet Daily | January 1

**H**ow the example of King Hezekiah teaches us to look to God in times of trial



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