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| --- | --- |
| **Jihad Report  Oct 14, 2017 - Oct 20, 2017** | |
| Attacks | 41 |
| Killed | 688 |
| Injured | 837 |
| Suicide Blasts | 6 |
| Countries | 9 |

**Journey to the Hollow Moon**

Scientists have for centuries fantasized about human colonization of the [moon](https://www.theguardian.com/science/moon). That day may have drawn a little closer after Japan’s [space](https://www.theguardian.com/science/space) agency said it had discovered an enormous cave beneath the lunar surface that could be turned into an exploration base for astronauts.

The discovery, by Japan’s Speleological and Engineering Explorer (Selene) probe, comes as several countries vie to follow the US in sending manned missions to the moon.

Using a radar sounder system that can examine underground structures, the orbiter initially found an opening 50 meters wide and 50 meters deep, prompting speculation that there could be a larger hollow.

This week scientists at the [Japan](https://www.theguardian.com/world/japan) Aerospace Exploration Agency (Jaxa) [confirmed the presence of a cave](http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/photo/AS20171018004175.html) after examining the hole using radio waves.

The chasm, 500km (310 miles) long and 100 meters wide, appears to be structurally sound and its rocks may contain ice or water deposits that could be turned into fuel, according to data sent back by the orbiter, nicknamed Kaguya after the moon princess in a Japanese fairytale.

Jaxa believes the cave, located beneath an area of volcanic domes known as the Marius Hills on the moon’s near side, is a lava tube created during volcanic activity about 3.5 billion years ago.

“We’ve known about these locations that were thought to be lava tubes … but their existence has not been confirmed until now,” Junichi Haruyama, a researcher at the [Japan](https://www.theguardian.com/world/japan) Aerospace Exploration Agency, told AFP on Thursday.

The agency said the chamber could be used as a base for astronauts and their equipment, since it would protect them from extreme temperatures – ranging from an average of 107C during the day to -153C at night – as well as radiation from the sun’s ultraviolet rays.

“We haven’t actually seen the inside of the cave itself so there are high hopes that exploring it will offer more details,” Haruyama said.

The discovery will boost plans by several countries to send astronauts to the moon, almost half a century after the [Apollo 11](https://www.theguardian.com/science/apollo-11-moon-landing) mission.

Jaxa recently announced that it aimed to put a Japanese astronaut on the moon for the first time by around 2030, most likely as part of an international mission.

In another sign that the US and Soviet Union’s cold war battle for supremacy has been replaced by an Asian space race, China has said it wants to conduct its first manned mission to the moon in around 2036 as part of its ambitious [lunar and Mars exploration programmes](https://www.theguardian.com/science/2016/aug/28/china-new-space-superpower-lunar-mars-missions). Last year it said it had plans to eventually create a colony there.

“Our long-term goal is to explore, land, and settle [on the moon],” Wu Weiren, the chief designer of China’s moon and Mars missions, told the BBC. “We want a manned lunar landing to stay for longer periods and establish a research base.”

Russia, too, has said it hopes to start building a human colony – initially for just four people – on the moon by 2030.

China, Russia, India and the US have made successful unmanned moon landings, but the US is the only country to have put humans on the lunar surface.

**The Glaciers are About to Expand**

An atmospheric river is poised to funnel gigantic amounts of rain and snow to the Northwest over the next few days.

As much as 15 inches of rain is forecast in the mountains along with several inches in coastal areas, including Portland and Seattle. It could be Seattle's wettest weather since February, the National Weather Service said.

There is also a risk of flash flooding in western Washington and northwestern Oregon on Thursday as a result of the heavy rainfall, the weather service warned.

Snowfall will expand throughout the Washington and Oregon Cascades and parts of the northern Rockies on Thursday — with some light snowfall in higher elevations of northern California. By Friday, snow will continue across the Cascades and throughout the northern Rockies.

On the very tops of the Cascade mountains, a whopping 9 feet of snow could fall, the weather service said.

Some of the rain will make it down to fire-ravaged California in the next few days. However, while a few periods of rain are in store for northern California late Thursday through Friday, a widespread, fire-quenching rainfall is not expected, AccuWeather said.

Another one of these rivers in the sky could funnel rain into Oregon by the weekend.

**Atmospheric rivers**

Made visible by clouds, the ribbons of water vapor known as atmospheric rivers can extend thousands of miles from the tropics to the western USA. They provide the fuel for the massive rainstorms and subsequent floods along the U.S. West Coast.

The one that's fueling the storms this week stretches some 5,000 miles, all the way from Asia.

Though beneficial for water supplies in the western USA, these events can wreak havoc on travel, bring deadly mudslides and cause catastrophic damage to life and property, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said.

One well-known nickname for an atmospheric river is the "Pineapple Express," which occurs when the source of the moisture is near Hawaii. A single strong atmospheric river can transport up to 15 times the water vapor compared with the average flow of water at the mouth of the Mississippi River, according to NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory.

Last winter, an onslaught of atmospheric rivers knocked out the five-year drought in Northern California. Much of the Sierra Nevada saw its rainiest and snowiest October-February period on record, the weather service said.

**The Clinton Crime Syndicate Update**

## An American businessman who went undercover for the FBI was blocked during the Obama administration from telling Congress what he knew about Russia’s efforts to influence the Clintons’ and Obama administration decisions, according to a report.

Attorney Victoria Toensing, a former Reagan Justice Department official and former chief counsel of the Senate intelligence committee, [told The Hill that she is trying](http://thehill.com/policy/national-security/355937-fbi-informant-blocked-from-telling-congress-about-russia-nuclear) to get the Trump administration or the FBI to free her client to talk.

“All of the information about this corruption has not come out,” Toensing said.

She said her client possesses “specific allegations that Russian executives made to him about how they facilitated the Obama administration’s 2010 approval of the Uranium One deal and sent millions of dollars in Russian nuclear funds to the U.S. to an entity assisting Bill Clinton’s foundation.”

At the time, Hillary Clinton was secretary of state and serving on the government panel that approved the deal, the lawyer said. Bill Clinton accepted $500,000 Russian speaking fees in 2010 and collected millions more in donations from parties with a stake in the Uranium One deal. The Clintons and the Obama administration have denied that had any influence on the deal.

But Toensing said her client can also testify that FBI agents made comments to him suggesting political pressure was exerted, and that there was specific evidence that could have scuttled approval of the Uranium One deal if it became public.

“There was corruption going on and it was never brought forward. And in fact, the sale of the uranium went on despite the government knowing about all of this corruption. So, he’s coming forward. He wants the right thing to be done, but he cannot do it unless he is released from the NDA,” she told the outlet.

Toensing said her client was asked by the FBI to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) to prevent him from talking to Congress, and has memos showing how the Obama Justice Department threatened him when he attempted to file a lawsuit to recover monies Russians stole from him and which could have drawn attention to the Russian corruption during the 2016 election.

The department threatened to bring a criminal case against him for violating the NDA, she said. The Hill also said it obtained emails from a civil attorney working with the witness that described the pressure the department was exerting on him to stay quiet.

“The government was taking a very harsh position that threatened both your reputation and liberty,” the civil lawyer wrote in one email, according to the outlet. In another, she wrote: “As you will recall the gov’t made serious threats sufficient to cause you to withdraw your civil complaint.”

The Hill on Tuesday revealed a wide-ranging FBI probe into Russian nuclear industry corruption facilitated by an American consultant who worked for Russian energy giant Rosatom’s Tenex subsidiary to grow Moscow’s uranium business inside the U.S.

The efforts included winning approval for Rosatom’s purchase of Canada-based Uranium One’s American uranium assets, and securing approval to sell uranium to the United States Enrichment Corporation and winning billions in new U.S. utility contracts.

Court records show that Toensing’s client went to the FBI immediately after Russian officials asked him to engage in illegal activity in 2009, according to the report. Working undercover, the client made kickback payments to the Russians with the approval of the FBI.

As a result of the client’s work, the U.S. was able to crack a “multibillion dollar racketeering scheme by Russian nuclear officials on U.S. soil that involved bribery, kickbacks, money laundering and extortion,” The Hill reported.

“In the end, the main Russian executive sent to America to expand Vladimir Putin’s nuclear business, an executive of an American trucking firm and a Russian financier from New Jersey pled guilty to various crimes in a case that started in 2009 and ended in late 2015,” it reported.

**The Sleeping Dragon**

China’s Communist Party opened its once-every-five-years Congress on Wednesday with an extensive speech from President Xi Jinping, who debuted plans for the nation extending into 2050 that include extensive military buildup, economic hegemony, and “sweeping victory” against “corruption,” often interpreted as any dissenting thought within the party.

“It is time for us to take centre stage in the world and to make a greater contribution to humankind,” Xi [declared](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-41647872), according to the BBC, as he [welcomed](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-10/18/c_136689213.htm) over two thousand Communist Party delegates to Beijing.

He [added](http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1070895.shtml) a promise to turn China into a “prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful” country between 2035 and 2050.

Prior to the opening of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Congress, outside observers noted that Chinese state-run media had begun laying the groundwork for the debut of “Xi Jinping Thought,” a new philosophy towards China’s role in the world that would seek to centralize power in Xi’s person and elevate him to greater status within the party. Experts already [consider](http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2017/10/17/xi-jinping-thought-dominates-chinese-communist-party/) Xi one of the most powerful leaders in modern Chinese history, but reports in outlets like Reuters suggest Xi may be seeking to elevate his position to that of “chairman”—a title no president has held in decades—and to introduce a “Xi Jinping Thought” doctrine into the Communist Party Constitution, immortalizing him within the party.

Xi appeared to avoid any specific power-grabs in his speech, judging from extensive coverage in the state-run outlets Global Times and Xinhua. Instead, Xi repeatedly [called](http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1070895.shtml) for a “new era” in Chinese history, one in which the communists could promise the Chinese people “moderately prosperous society in all respects and of moving on to all-out efforts to build a great modern socialist country.”

Xi’s speech introduced to the party the doctrine of “Xi Jinping Thought,” debuting a report titled “Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.” Xi’s tenure has been marked by an emphasis on the “Chinese Characteristics” part of that title, heavily invoking nationalist sentiments and a brand of Chinese exceptionalism meant to elevate him and justify the hallmark mass arrests of “corrupt” officials and repeated [invasions](http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1070845.shtml) of neighboring territories that have defined his tenure.

The report itself offers vague descriptions of Xi’s vision for the future, [summarized](http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1070853.shtml) by the Global Times as:

In the first stage from 2020 to 2035, the CPC will build on the foundation created by the moderately prosperous society with a further 15 years of hard work to see that socialist modernization is basically realized.

In the second stage from 2035 to the middle of the 21st century, the CPC will, building on having basically achieved modernization, work hard for a further 15 years and develop China into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful.

The principal contradiction facing Chinese society has evolved to be that between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people’s ever-growing needs for a better life.

Among other contradictors are Xi’s insistence in the speech that “China will never seek hegemony or engage in expansion,” coupled with his promise to use a fully modernized military to assert Chinese dominance in the region and eradicate separatist movements in breakaway regions like Hong Kong and Taiwan.

“We will never allow anyone, any organisation, or any political party, at any time or in any form, to separate any part of Chinese territory from China,” Xi [vowed](http://www.scmp.com/news/china/policies-politics/article/2115889/road-ahead-china-xi-jinpings-words) while adding, “No political party or group in Taiwan will have any difficulty conducting exchanges with the mainland.”

For Hong Kong, Xi promised that Beijing would work to reap the benefits of their capitalist system without allowing for capitalism in mainland China. “We will continue to support Hong Kong and Macao in their own development into the overall development of the country,” he [asserted](http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1070843.shtml).

In addition to imposing Xi’s personal philosophy, the CPC serves as a marketing tool to entice Western leftists to support the unilateral autocracy of the Communist Party over free societies. This the government articulated in a [column](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-10/17/c_136685546.htm) in Xinhua, where the publication declares, “Chinese-style democracy has never been healthier and China has absolutely no need to import the failing party political systems of other countries.”

Xinhua refers to competitive republics as “confrontational” and claims the West has been engulfed in “crises and chaos” due to its embrace of classical liberal values. “Endless political backbiting, bickering and policy reversals, which make the hallmarks of liberal democracy, have retarded economic and social progress and ignored the interests of most citizens,” the article claims.

The Communist Party Congress is expected to continue through next Wednesday.

**The 2018 Budget Show**

Senate republicans took a major, if relatively easy, step toward passing Trump's tax plan on Thursday night with the critical passage of a budget blueprint **that would protect a $1.5 trillion tax cut from a Democratic filibuster**. By the way, despite all the friendly talk on the networks from Democrats about the growth of the economy, and jobs, and bipartisanship, Senators narrowly voted 51-49 to pass the fiscal year 2018 budget after a several hour-long marathon on the Senate floor. One Democratic amendment that was rejected sought to stop tax cuts from going to the top 1 percent; another would have restored cuts to Medicare. At the end of the day, not one single Democrat would break ranks and vote with America.

It looks like Fred Wilson rode in on her stick pony, wearing her red cowboy carnival barking hat, and convinced every last one of the Democrats to act like spoiled brats fighting over who gets to change the channel on the TV. Yeah, she’s a rock star alright. Like Maxine Waters, she is functionally illiterate and has never written even a thought on a postit note in all her glorious years in Congress. She is not even an empty barrel, but rather more like a bucket of warm piss that needs to be dumped down the drain. Next time you see her struggling to speak in complete sentences, think about that. You won’t have to wait long, I can assure you.

The budget resolution could also pave the way for opening up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska to oil exploration by ensuring that drilling legislation can pass with only Republican votes [according to the NYT](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/19/us/politics/budget-vote-senate.html). Like we need more oil. You are aware that oil usage is flat for the next 20 years, right? Better fuel efficiency. People not able to afford to travel. You know the drill. The price of oil is a weapon. Too high, the Chinese get ready for war. Too low, and Russia gets ready for war. The strategy is to control the supply side.

Flexing their whopping 52-seat majority, Mitch McConnell and the Republicans had a narrow path to getting the 50 votes needed to clear the budget through the upper chamber. But GOP leadership caught a break this week when Sen. John McCain, a holdout over defense spending, announced he would vote yes, and Sen. Thad Cochran, recovering from health issues, returned early to Washington to do what he was told. Good old Thad is going downhill fast with advanced dementia, and rumor has it he managed to keep from needing a diaper change during the ordeal. When are voters going to assert themselves and hose out this establishment from the stinking alleys of the Senate?

The budget’s passage could keep Republicans on track to pass a tax package late this year or early in 2018. That said, there are still plenty of possible complications, not least of all bickering within the GOP over the final shape of the tax package - where the fate of state and local tax exemptions has still to be decided. Basically what that means is that they don’t want any liposuction on their favorite budget increases for the next few years. Count on never seeing an end to unconstitutional spending by the Senate.

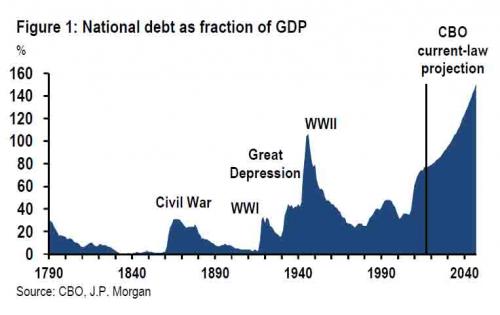
“Passing this budget is critical to getting tax reform done, so we can strengthen our economy after years of stagnation under the previous administration,” said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.). Although the stagnation is real, it is not for any lack of spending. It is a lack of accountability. Oh, they spent the hell out of our money. It just went to places guaranteed to add voters to the Democrats, like sanctuary cities, a massive invasion of people across the Southern border, and fresh and frequent deliveries of military aged refugees coming from the Islamic refugee factory. They’re still going to spend money out of our grandkid’s piggy bank. They’re just going to spend it on different stuff.

The Senate approved the budget after the [previously discussed so-called vote-a-rama,](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-10-19/what-expect-during-todays-tax-reform-vote-rama) a legislative whirlwind in which amendments are considered one after another. As I said, the Democrats may have just as well gone to the gentlemen’s club for the evening, because this was the sing along with Mitch show. In his typical, pint-sized fatalistic determinism, Senator Lindsey Graham, and a member of the Budget Committee, said "this is the last, best chance we will have to cut taxes,” and warned that the consequences would be ruinous if the party failed. “That will be the end of us as a party,” he said, “because if you’re a Republican and you don’t want to simplify the tax code and cut taxes, what good are you to anybody?” I’ll tell you what they are. They’re Democrats.

Where things get laughable is when one considers the context of what just happened: In Congress, the annual budget resolution provides an outline of federal spending and revenues. The Senate’s blueprint, for the 2018 fiscal year that began Oct. 1, **claims to achieve a balanced budget within a decade, assuming greater economic growth and using an accounting method that excludes Social Security**. In order to erase projected deficits, it calls for trillions of dollars in spending cuts over the coming decade. But the cuts exist only on paper, without legislation to achieve them. Not only that, but anything, and I do mean anything, that is projected to take place more than 5 years away, never takes place. Period. The new president comes in, and guess what? It all gets scrapped. That’s exactly why the private corporations that run our election system must be torn apart.

In reality, if the changes don’t take place today or tomorrow, and even better retroactively, then they don’t happen at all. How about stopping all foreign aid today? How about closing 300 Agencies, Departments, Bureaus, and Administrations today? How about letting banks meet the credit needs of their communities today? How about repealing the 16th Amendment and start collecting federal taxes from the spending side of the equation instead of the earning side of the equation, and getting the government out of our personal business today? How about terminating the tenure system at the university level that has been turned into a Marxist regime operating with impunity inside our own country today? There are hundreds of thousands of genius professors who would inspire generations of exploration and peace if they could break through the Communist dictatorships that exist in our secondary educational system. Those changes alone would balance the budget, put us on a path to freedom from long-term indebtedness to our enemies, and help the human race grow up.

The GOP predicts that by 2028 US government spending will equal revenues, here is what will really happen:

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user5/imageroot/2017/05/12/jpm%20debt%20cbo%20forecast.jpg)

Meanwhile, as Republicans played with excel's "goalseek" function, Democrats sounded the alarm, **warning that the aspirational cuts in the budget plan called for slicing more than $1 trillion from Medicaid and about $470 billion from Medicare over a decade**. Unfortunately for Democrats, they have exactly zero say in the matter: Though Democrats have pleaded to have more say in the tax overhaul, parliamentary language in the budget resolution would allow Republicans to pass a tax bill without any cooperation from the minority party.

Passing this budget is not a requirement for passing tax reform,” said Senator Gary Peters, Democrat of Michigan. “Passing this budget is only a requirement to pass a tax bill with as few votes as possible, without input or buy-in from members of the minority.” Of course, this is a complete lie. The fact that every single democrat does exactly what Chuck Schumer tells them to do, and not a damned thing more or less, is the only truth to see here.

For Republicans, the budget debate provided a moment to showcase their main goal in the coming months, which according to the NYT is approving an overhaul of the tax code for the first time in decades, which they hope will lead to greater economic growth. But before they can move ahead with a tax bill, the House and Senate need to agree on the same budget resolution. The House approved its budget resolution, which had long been stalled, on Oct. 5. The House budget also lays the groundwork for a tax bill, but, unlike the Senate’s approach, it brilliantly calls for the legislation to not add to the deficit.

The House budget resolution also seeks more concrete action when it comes to cutting spending, instructing committees to come up with legislation that would produce at least about $200 billion in savings. Imagine a world where they not only reduce taxes, but they also cut spending. I am bumfuzzled.

Ultimately, the only reason why the vote passed so easily is because it doesn't matter. It is only viewed as a mere vehicle for passing tax reform. It appears, regrettably, that the mantra of lowering taxes may be hijacked and repeated by Progressives who want to get aboard the insider trading gravy train and join Elizabeth Warren at the millionaire’s club buffet.

"This is the biggest hoax cast upon the American people ever that this budget process even exists. That’s not saying it has to be this way. No. Not at all. If Steve Bannon’s American band is successful in primarying—that’s a process of running an American challenger against an incumbent Republican—22 of these Congressional circle jerks out of office, then budget reform and tax reform could very much be a reality. Americans have answered the call to action, and believe me they welcome the leadership of Steve Bannon, Sebastian Gorka, and Sarah Palin and yours truly, in the battle for freedom and liberty. We want the freedom to follow our dreams, the liberty from Federal oppression to achieve them.

McCain, explaining why he would support the budget, added: “At the end of the day, we all know that the Senate budget resolution will not impact final appropriations.” His cynicism is the at the core of what has destroyed this country.

**The Top Attributes of a Leader**

A survey of 1,000 people found the official top 10 secrets of success for great leadership. First let me share with you the results of this unscientific poll. We don’t know who they asked to vote on these things. More than likely, it was not leaders. It was probably union workers. First their results, and then I will share with you the truth:

1.Listening (15%) (20% of great leaders listen to the advice of the people closest to the problem. They know the sound, the feel, and the needs of the process.)

2.Caring (13%) (10% of the care should be for the personal success of the follower. Safety, communication, clear instructions, and opportunity for growth are the main things to care about with the follower. Caring should be set at 5%)

3.Goal-setter (11%) (We don’t call them goals any more. We call them targets. We point the team toward the target and make it happen. ONLY the things that are under the control of the team can be targeted. For instance, you cannot set a target of being the top seller of underwear in the world, because you don’t control the other underwear producers. You can say, we will produce no defects. You can say we will increase production by 10%. Target setting should be set at 20%)

4.Friendly (10%) (This is a feel-good attribute. Remove it from the score)

5.Ethical (10%) (Without ethics, you can have no success. Oh, you may have money, but you will lose your soul. The thing to remember, is that your job is 24 hours a day. When you are at the grocery, you are still the plant manager. When you are at the soccer field, you are still the CEO. When you are thinking about cheating or lying or stealing, you are stealing from your company. Ethics means keeping your word at all times and in all places. 20% of great leadership is ethics.)

6.Understanding (10%) (This is the most powerful weapon in the arsenal of leadership. It weakens your enemies and competition. It keeps you from being cheated by bankers, financial charlatans, and from suppliers. If you don’t understand your people, what they have to do to get their job done, your customers, and what they truly want to buy, and your competition, you will fail. 13% is the true score)

7.Hands-on (8%) (This really should relate to willingness to get your hands dirty. If you think driving a forklift is beneath your station, get out of my plant. If you think that welders are not worth having lunch with, you are fired. But, if you think that you must take off your tie and go sweep floors to be respected, then you have already failed. It is not needed to be a good leader, True score is 2%)

8.Solution-focused (8%) (This relates to #1. If you are good listener to your people, you will be capturing the process in writing and measuring its quality. If you’re doing those two things, you will be driven to solutions. Combine this with #1. No score)

9.Reviews performance (8%) (This is the old trap of the old guard. No successful company reviews performance anymore. A clear agreement with clear targets is established at the beginning of the year between the employee and the manager and between the manager and the company. Meeting that target is completely up to the employee. If he meets it, then he gets the raise. If he does not, then the raise is forfeited. Performance reviews are a tool of the ruling class and designed to maintain the master-slave relationship. Remove this from the score)

10.Delegates (7%) (Now, you are talking the truest attribute of leadership. There is nothing that kills a man or his company faster than failure to delegate. The true mark of leadership is being able to clone the leader’s skill in the follower. The true weakness in any leader is the fear of competition from a follower. That being said, never, and I do mean never, allow a follower the opportunity or the power to remove you from office. They will do so 100% of the time, and you will lose your company. The one lesson you must never forget, is that no one can be trusted with all the pieces in your head. Delegate a piece here, and a piece there, but never let the pieces come together in one place, or you will be tossed out on your ass with not even a thank you for making me rich. The true score for proper delegation is 20%)

## Russian President Vladimir Putin has recently warned the United States not to withdraw from their nuclear arms control treaty, noting that doing so would prompt the Kremlin to “hit back fast,” reports Reuters.

“From our side, the response will be instant, and I want to warn, symmetrical,” [cautioned](http://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-putin-usa-energy/putin-dials-up-anti-u-s-rhetoric-keeps-mum-on-re-election-idUSKBN1CO2CX?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews) Putin during the high-profile televised [Valdai discussion](http://valdaiclub.com/events/posts/articles/putin-meets-with-members-of-the-valdai-club/) with foreign academics in the Black Sea resort of Sochi, on Thursday.

His comments come amid [allegations](http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/10/19/report-bill-clinton-asked-permission-from-hillarys-state-dept-to-meet-with-russian-nuclear-officials-at-time-of-uranium-deal/) that the Clintons facilitated the sale of 20 percent of U.S. domestic uranium production to Russia under the administration of former U.S. President Barack Obama.

According to Reuters, Putin accused America of betraying the Kremlin by not reciprocating what he described as the “unprecedented access” Moscow granted Washington to its secret nuclear sites in the 1990s.

The news outlet reports:

Putin accused the United States of upsetting the strategic nuclear balance by modernizing its arsenal of weapons.

Russia would develop new weapons systems, he pledged, if it was forced to, and if the United States withdrew from a landmark arms control treaty — the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty — Russia would hit back fast.

Reportedly, Putin was “visibly angry at times” as he described Russia as the victim of its relationship with the West.

Reuters described Putin’s condemnation of America as “one of his most stinging critiques of U.S. foreign policy.”

Asked by a Germany-based academic to describe the shortcomings of Moscow’s relationship with West, Putin reportedly responded by casting “Russia as the wronged party and its post-Soviet leadership as too naive and trusting.”

“Our biggest mistake was that we trusted you too much. You interpreted our trust as weakness, and you exploited that,” proclaimed Putin, adding:

Unfortunately, our Western partners, having divided the USSR’s geopolitical legacy, were certain of their own incontestable righteousness having declared themselves the victors of the ‘Cold War.’

They started to openly interfere in the sovereign affairs of countries and to export democracy in the same way as in their time the Soviet leadership tried to export the Socialist revolution to the whole world.

Citing opinion polls, Reuters acknowledged that bashing the West plays well with many Russian voters.

Although he is allegedly expected to step down after ruling Russian politics for 18 years, the Russian president refused to say whether he would run for a fourth term in the upcoming presidential elections scheduled for March.

**Putin Warns US Not to Withdraw from Iran Deal**

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“From our side, the response will be instant, and I want to warn, symmetrical,” cautioned Putin during the high-profile televised Valdai discussion with foreign academics in the Black Sea resort of Sochi, on Thursday. His comments come amid allegations that the Clintons facilitated the sale of 20 percent of U.S. domestic uranium production to Russia under the administration of former U.S. President Barack Obama.

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Unfortunately, our Western partners, having divided the USSR’s geopolitical legacy, were certain of their own incontestable righteousness having declared themselves the victors of the ‘Cold War.’

They started to openly interfere in the sovereign affairs of countries and to export democracy in the same way as in their time the Soviet leadership tried to export the Socialist revolution to the whole world. Citing opinion polls, Reuters acknowledged that bashing the West plays well with many Russian voters.

Although he is allegedly expected to step down after ruling Russian politics for 18 years, the Russian president refused to say whether he would run for a fourth term in the upcoming presidential elections scheduled for March.In April, Gen. John Hyten, the head of the U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM), told lawmakers that America is facing “significant challenges” sustaining its defense capabilities, both in the nuclear and conventional realm, and is at risk of no longer holding a military advantage over its enemies including Russia.

**Back Before the War…**

The danger of Washington launching it is real, not Pyongyang. Trump’s rage for warmaking threatens everyone.

Addressing the General Assembly’s disarmament committee on Monday, DPRK UN envoy Kim In-ryong said things “reached the touch-and-go point and a nuclear war may break out any moment.”

North Korea is the world’s only country facing “an extreme and direct nuclear threat” from America, he explained, adding his nation has the right to possess nuclear weapons for self-defense.

He condemned provocative US military exercises near its territory, jointly with South Korea and/or Japan, using “nuclear assets,” he claimed – highlighting the danger of Washington perhaps staging a “secret operation aimed at the removal of our supreme leadership.”

Pyongyang completed its “nuclear force and thus became the full-fledged nuclear power which possesses the delivery means of various ranges, including the atomic bomb, H-bomb and intercontinental ballistic rockets,” he claimed.

North Korea indeed is a nuclear power, heading toward thermonuclear capability, not likely having achieved it, nor ICBMs in its arsenal yet.

Kim exaggerated Pyongyang’s military capability, including by saying “(t)he entire US mainland is within our firing range and if the US dares to invade our sacred territory even an inch, it will not escape our severe punishment in any part of the globe.”

DPRK tests demonstrated no ability to achieve what Kim claimed. The accuracy of its ballistic missiles is unclear, their range far from being able to strike US territory.

It’s unknown if Pyongyang mastered the ability to mount a nuclear warhead on a ballistic missile.

Kim said his government urges a nuclear-free world. It won’t relinquish its capabilities as long as Washington poses a serious threat to its security.

“Unless the hostile policy and the nuclear threat of the US is thoroughly eradicated, we will never put our nuclear weapons and ballistic rockets on the negotiating table under any circumstances,” he stressed.

North Korea hasn’t yet achieved above-ground nuclear detonation capability, or long-range ballistic missiles able to reach Guam – let alone Hawaii or the US mainland.

Trump rejects diplomacy, continues a war of words, maybe something more serious planned ahead.

Sanctions are counterproductive. Any not approved by the Security Council are illegal. Brussels added more for Pyongyang’s “continued and accelerated nuclear- and ballistic-missile programs,” a statement said.

On Monday, Putin signed a decree and annexes, affirming sanctions introduced in 2007 in accordance with the October 2006 Security Council resolution.

It included sanctions on 11 North Korean officials and 10 companies, along with confirming materials, technologies and products banned for export to the DPRK.

In early October, Putin warned of a “confrontational spiral over North Korea’s missile and nuclear program…fanning military rhetoric…lead(ing) nowhere.”

He urged “(a)ll parties (to) display restraint and seek a peaceful solution (through) compromise.”

Washington demands subservience to its will, backing threats with preemptive wars. Are North Korea and Iran next on Trump’s target list?

**When the Fake News Calls the Fake News**

## Former Democratic FEC Chairman, Ann Ravel, is pushing for the introduction of fines for individuals sharing “fake news,” according to a report.

In the proposal, citizens of the United States could face libel penalties for sharing “fake news.”

“After a social media user clicks ‘share’ on a disputed item (if the platforms do not remove them and only label them as disputed), government can require that the user be reminded of the definition of libel against a public figure,” Ravel proposed. “Libel of public figures requires ‘actual malice,’ defined as knowledge of falsity or reckless disregard for the truth. Sharing an item that has been flagged as untrue might trigger liability under libel laws.”

According to the [Washington Examiner](http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/drudge-facebook-nyt-readers-could-face-libel-suits-for-sharing-fake-news/article/2637886), the proposal could affect “users of platforms and news feeds, from Facebook, to Twitter, to the Drudge Report and even New York Times.”

“She would include ‘fake news,’ not just paid ads, to be regulated, though it’s never defined other than the Democrat’s description of ‘disinformation.’ And anybody who shares or retweets it could face a libel suit,” they reported. “She would also use regulation to ‘improve voter competence,’ according to the new proposal titled Fool Me Once: The Case for Government Regulation of ‘Fake News.'”

In response to Ravel’s proposal, former FEC Chairman Lee Goodman claimed, “Ann’s proposal is full blown regulation of all political content, even discussion of issues, posted at any time, for free or for a fee, on any online platform, from Facebook to the NewYorkTimes.com.”

“A fatal flaw of Ann’s proposal is that it cannot define what is, or is not, ‘disinformation’ in a political message,” he continued. “Nevertheless, it proposes to tag threats of libel lawsuits and liability to thousands of American citizens who might want to retweet or forward a message that somebody else subjectively considers to be ‘disinformational.’ I call that the big chill.”

“Americans should not be required to sign a national registry everytime they post a political video on YouTube,” Goodman concluded.

Elections lawyer Andrew Woodson mirrored Goodman’s concerns, adding, “Any proposal built on intimidating Americans from sharing news stories on social media is headed in the wrong direction.”

**Paddock Coverup: Why it is Happening**

## A report indicates that Mandalay Bay security guard Jesus Campos was granted a fluff interview with Ellen DeGeneres as a way of letting him speak publicly without being pressured to give details about the timeline of the Las Vegas attack and open MGM Resorts International (MGM) to a lawsuit.

The timeline of the Vegas attack on October 1 has been changed already, specifically concerning the exact moment that Campos crossed paths with Stephen Paddock on Mandalay Bay’s 32nd floor.

Reporters were first told that Campos discovered Paddock after the attack on concert attendees had begun. Then, on October 9, Sheriff Joe Lombardo said Campos actually [discovered](http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/10/10/hawkins-good-guy-with-a-gun-could-have-stopped-stephen-paddock-before-mass-shooting/) Paddock six minutes before the attack began, that Campos was shot in the leg six minutes before concertgoers were fired upon. Two days later, a Mandalay Bay maintenance worker, Stephen Schuck, also confirmed that Paddock shot at him in the hallway before the attack began.

CBS News [quoted](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/worker-warned-hotel-before-las-vegas-shooter-opened-fire-on-crowd/) Schuck saying he radioed a dispatcher and said, “Call the police. Someone is firing a gun up here, someone is firing a rifle on the 32nd floor.”

MGM, which owns Mandalay Bay, questioned the timeline when it indicated hotel personnel knew there was an armed attacker six minutes before the attack began. The [Associated Press](http://www.breitbart.com/news/hotel-questions-revised-timeline-of-las-vegas-massacre/) quoted MGM saying, “We cannot be certain about the most recent timeline. We believe what is currently being expressed may not be accurate.”

Last week, Campos was scheduled to speak to the media about what he witnessed, but he suddenly disappeared. He resurfaced this week, and it was announced that he would give one–and only one–interview, and that would be to Ellen DeGeneres. He gave that interview on October 18 and was not pressed to answer any questions about the timeline or to give any information about when he discovered Paddock.

Now, the Daily Mail [reports](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4996918/Hotel-insisted-Jesus-Campos-appear-Ellen-fearing-lawsuites.html) that Campos was allowed to do the Ellen interview because MGM knew he would not be pressed on the timeline. According to the Daily Mail, an unnamed source said, “MGM was behind the decision to call off all the interviews and did a deal with Ellen, knowing she would not play hardball on the timeline as long as she had the exclusive.”

The Daily Mail emphasizes that the timeline is crucial because “MGM is worried that families of the 58 people murdered as well as many of the 546 injured in the Mandalay Bay massacre will launch lawsuits potentially worth billions of dollars against the company.”

**The Globalists Target the World to Hurt Trump**

### By Peter Reagan, [*Birch Gold Group*](https://www.birchgold.com/news/global-powers-attempt-to-dethrone-the-dollar) |

China, Russia, and Saudi Arabia are rapidly aligning in response to trade sanctions and political discord from Western nations.

Together, they could soon bring a dramatic end to the global supremacy of America and the U.S dollar.

Foreign leaders have been laying the groundwork to overturn America’s international superpower status for years. But now, their plan is finally coming to fruition.

Let’s examine China, Russia, and Saudi Arabia’s latest steps to dethroning America and the dollar. And while their actions will likely have serious consequences for your bank account, there is one sure way to stay protected…

**My Enemy’s Enemy Is My Friend**

For decades, China, Russia, and Saudi Arabia had little incentive to be allies. In fact, relations amongst the three nations were either cold or nonexistent.

But over the past few years, that all started to change for one simple reason: **The U.S. became their common enemy.**

So what happened to make U.S. relations with these three nations so rocky?

In the case of China, accusations of currency manipulation, threats of increased trade tariffs, and opposition to Beijing’s “One China” policy — the nation’s legal push to classify mainland China and Taiwan as a single entity — brought U.S.-China relations to an all-time low.

The U.S.’s relationship with Saudi Arabia began to crumble back in 2014, when the Obama Administration refused to slow Iran’s growing power in the Middle East, while actually attempting to restore U.S.-Iran relations.

Saudi leaders viewed this as a clear affront to the 1945 meeting between President Franklin D. Roosevelt and King Abdulaziz, which established an agreement to exchange protection from the U.S. for unencumbered oil trade between the two countries — while also setting a new precedent that Saudi oil trade be brokered primarily in U.S. dollars (birthing the petrodollar).

Finally, the U.S. earned its last foe to complete the trifecta by levying massive sanctions against Russia in August this year.

While the U.S. torpedoed its relationships with these three nations, a retaliation plan began taking shape. Now that plan is well underway, and foreign leaders are completing one of its last big steps…

**Joining Forces to Kill the Dollar**

Foreign leaders in Russia, China, and Saudi Arabia are going public with their plan to dethrone the U.S. and kill off the dollar.

Oil is the tool they’ll use to do it.

The dollar’s hegemony as a vehicle for oil trade (aka the petrodollar) is one of its main support structures.

**If the world’s largest oil exporters — Saudi Arabia and Russia — decide to accept payments in some other currency — like Chinese yuan — the dollar will slowly suffocate.**

As you can see, these three countries hold all the cards. And now they’re starting to lay them down…

Russia’s third largest oil producer, Gazprom, is already settling the [entirety of its transactions](https://www.birchgold.com/news/china-assault-on-dollar) in yuan, and China is [fiercely negotiating similar agreements](https://www.cnbc.com/2017/10/11/china-will-compel-saudi-arabia-to-trade-oil-in-yuan--and-thats-going-to-affect-the-us-dollar.html) with other producers located in the world’s most prominent oil exporting nations. And if those producers aren’t keen to accept yuan at face value, China is sweetening the pot with a [new yuan-denominated oil futures contract](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-09-02/de-dollarization-accelerates-china-readies-yuan-priced-crude-oil-benchmark-backed-go) directly convertible to gold.

**To oil producers, these new contracts make the dollar look like Monopoly money…**

On top of all this, Saudi monarch King Salman just made [a historic visit to Russia](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-saudi-terror/russia-saudi-arabia-cement-new-friendship-with-kings-visit-idUSKBN1CA1QU) for a meeting with Vladimir Putin — a surprising move after decades of less than ideal relations.

Oil and energy topics [weighed heavily](https://www.rt.com/business/405749-russia-saudi-new-relations/) on the agenda:

“Following the meeting, the two countries launched a joint energy investment fund worth $1 billion. The fund could include investments in natural gas projects and petrochemical plants.

“Saudi state oil firm Saudi Aramco signed a deal with Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) and gas processing and petrochemicals company Sibur on joint projects in the area of oil refining.

“The two countries also agreed to cooperate in nuclear energy, agriculture, information technology; trade, investments and social development.”

**Everything is falling into place for a three-way alliance between China, Russia, and Saudi Arabia to topple the dollar and U.S. economic supremacy.**

That said, here is one wise move Americans must consider before this situation escalates any further…

**Do This Before Their Plan Is Complete**

If these three nations succeed in their goal, there are two main threats to your savings:

**1) Reduced Spending Power**

What’s happening today could result in one of the most dramatic devaluations the dollar has ever seen. Meanwhile, other foreign currencies would be unaffected, and the yuan would likely **gain** in value.

Since a vast majority of the goods we buy on a daily basis are imported, your dollars stand to lose an excruciating amount of real-world spending power if this comes to pass.

**2) Market Decline**

As the U.S. gets boxed out of international trade by China, Russia, and Saudi Arabia, it will put a significant strain on our national economy. And there’s a good chance that strain will lead to a recession, or worse.

That means anyone with considerable investments in the market could be hit with painful losses.

However, there is a unique class of assets that can guard against both of these risks: “real assets” like physical precious metals.

Precious metals are historically proven to appreciate in value whenever the dollar falls. And they tend to grow significantly amidst market declines, crashes, and recessions.

That said, precious metals offer you the most protection **before** these adverse events take place. When the shoe finally drops, reactive buyers will be snatching up metals fast, which instantly drives up prices.

Don’t wait for this plan to take effect before protecting your wealth.

**The Kennedy Files**

Following years of delays, President Trump announced on Twitter on Saturday morning that he will allow the release of more than 3,000 of classified documents from the FBI, CIA, and Justice Department on the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The unexpected announcement means that a trove of previously unseen documents will be released by the National Archives by October 26.

“Subject to the receipt of further information, I will be allowing, as President, the long blocked and classified JFK FILES to be opened,” Trump tweeted.

In 1992, Congress mandated that all assassination documents be released within 25 years, unless the president asserts that doing so would harm intelligence, law enforcement, military operations or foreign relations. The still-secret documents include more than 3,000 that have never been seen by the public and more than 30,000 that have been released previously, but with redactions, according to CBS. Trump's decision means that thousands of formerly classified documents related to Kennedy’s assassination will be unveiled next week in compliance with the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, which states that the federal government must release them by Oct. 26, 2017.

JFK scholars hope the new documents may provide insight into assassin Lee Harvey Oswald's trip to Mexico City weeks before the killing, during which he visited the Soviet and Cuban embassies. Oswald's stated reason for going was to get visas that would allow him to enter Cuba and the Soviet Union, according to the Warren Commission, the investigative body established by President Lyndon B. Johnson, but much about the trip remains unknown.

Among other protected information slated for release are details about the arrangements the U.S. entered into with the Mexican government that allowed it to have close surveillance of those and other embassies, said Tunheim, a federal judge in Minnesota. Jefferson Morley, a former Washington Post reporter who has written extensively about the Kennedy assassination papers, said **the remaining documents might include files on senior CIA officers from the 1960s who likely knew details of the agency’s surveillance of Oswald in Mexico City**.

“What’s in those files could tell us how those men did their jobs,” said Morley, who wrote a 2008 book on the agency’s Mexico City station chief.  “Is there JFK material in there? Could be. There might be stuff on why we were interested in the Cuban consulate, how we surveilled the consulate, how we did our audio work, and how did we recruit spies there? We might understand much better why they were watching Oswald.”

Morley is also eager to read a never-before released transcript of testimony given by James Angleton, the CIA’s legendary chief of counterintelligence from 1954 to 1975, to senators in September 1975 investigating abuses committed by the intelligence community.

The files on Angleton and the other CIA officers are important because “these are not just major players in the agency’s history, they are major players in the Oswald story,” said Morley, who has a new book on Angleton, “The Ghost,” coming out Oct. 24. “Oswald didn’t come out of nowhere. Angelton was targeting him for intelligence purposes at the Cuban consulate in Mexico City.”

Not everyone is happy, however, and many experts fear that such a large release of secret JFK assassination documents will spur “a new generation of conspiracy theories.”

[Additionally, Politico reported](http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/10/20/trump-block-release-jfk-kennedy-assassination-files-documents-215732) that Trump administration officials were concerned that some of the documents created in the 1990s contain information on recent U.S. intelligence programs and might not be released. Nonetheless, White House spokeswoman Lindsay Walters said that the White House is aiming “to ensure that the maximum amount of data can be released to the public" under the act.

Overnight, [the WaPo confirmed](https://www.washingtonpost.com/amphtml/news/retropolis/wp/2017/10/21/will-trump-release-the-final-jfk-assassination-documents-a-deadline-looms-pressure-grows/), reporting that **President Trump is being urged to withhold the last batch of government documents that could shed more light on the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy.**

A National Security Council official said in an interview that federal agencies are asking the president not to release an unknown number of files held by the National Archives and Records Administration related to Kennedy’s murder.

“There will be a request made to the President to withhold documents, absolutely no question about that,” said the NSC official, who agreed to be interviewed only on the condition of anonymity. “There are definitely files related to sources and methods that agencies are asking to withhold.”

The official declined to identify which agencies are asking Trump to keep some of the Kennedy files secret, saying only that the security council is coordinating the requests.

Meanwhile, as [we reported last week](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-10-17/cia-urges-trump-delay-release-3000-never-seen-documents-jfk-assassination), longtime Trump adviser Roger Stone was urging Trump to release the files, and said in a recent interview he felt “optimistic” that Trump would make it happen. Stone claimed that the CIA is urging President Donald Trump to delay disclosing some of the files for another 25 years. “**They must reflect badly on the CIA even though virtually everyone involved is long dead.”**

Earlier this month, Roger Stone, the political consultant and Trump confidante, [reported on his website](https://stonecoldtruth.com/jfk-foes-unite-for-record-dump/), “Stone Cold Truth,” that CIA Director Mike Pompeo wants the president to delay the record release for another 25 years. Stone, who co-authored a best-selling book in 2013 called, “The Man Who Killed Kennedy: The Case Against LBJ,” said in a Post interview that he opposes any delay.

“**What is the government hiding?” he asked. “The issue now is transparency.”**

Earlier this week, Stone told [Alex Jones](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIrwcWKsI7g) that  he spoke to Trump himself and urged the president to release all the documents.

“Yesterday, I had the opportunity to make the case directly to the president of the United States by phone as to why I believe it is essential that he release the balance of the currently redacted and classified JFK assassination documents,” Stone said on Jones’s show. “A very good White House source — not the President — told me that the Central Intelligence Agency, specifically CIA director Mike Pompeo, has been lobbying the President furiously not to release these documents. Why? Because I believe they show that Oswald was trained, nurtured and put in place by the Central Intelligence Agency.”

Stone said it wasn’t clear what Trump will do. “He did not tip off his current decision,” Stone told Jones. “We’re going to have to wait . . . but he was all ears. He took it all in . . . I think he’s going to do the right thing.” This morning it appears that Trump has decided to side with Stone over the arguments from the NSC and various other "covert" U.S. agencies.

**Blockchain off the Chain**

[**Saving the planet**](https://www.wired.com/2017/05/curious-plan-save-environment-blockchain/)**,**[**fixing healthcare**](https://www.wired.com/2017/02/moving-patient-data-messy-blockchain-help/)**,**[**replacing conventional currency**](https://www.wired.com/2016/02/why-bitcoin-will-thrive-first-in-the-developing-world/) **- there is apparently nothing that the shared-database technology known as blockchains can’t fix.** At least, that’s the impression given by the horde of [governments](https://www.wired.com/2015/12/you-too-can-get-married-on-the-blockchain/), [banks](https://www.wired.com/2016/02/wall-street-is-embracing-the-blockchain-its-biggest-threat/), entrepreneurs, and [tech companies](https://www.wired.com/2016/06/heres-ibm-planning-use-blockchain-software/) working on the technology.

***But what is a blockchain and why the excitement?*** If you’ve got 2 minutes, [WIRED](https://www.wired.com/story/the-fervor-around-blockchains-explained-in-two-minutes/?mbid=nl_102117_daily_intro) can explain...

**PLAY AUDIO HERE**

**The United States (and the world) has been using the worthless fiat federal reserve note that is not backed by any true tangible asset.** The only backing is not even the “full faith and credit of the United States government,” because the government is too far in debt to have any credit.  Faith disappeared a long time ago: our faith in elected officials as public servants.  Instead, they serve themselves upon the labors of the public, and the public services them, in every sense of the word.

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user3303/imageroot/2017/10/20/20171021_crypto.jpg)

**Cryptocurrency is an illusion.  The new “shell game” is to replace one illusion…the fiat currency…with another illusion, the “bitcoin.”**

Russia announced last week several measures to “deal” with the Cryptocurrency…first, by issuing a **Crypto-ruble.**  If you read the fine print, the Russian government is moving in to tax and regulate it, at a rate of 13% on trades for profit, as well as “Crypto-Rubles” that suddenly appear out of nowhere.

It won’t affect the Black Market as much, because 13% is going to be paid to turn a blind eye to the billions of rubles being stolen by the Russian Mafia and oligarchy alike.  The gimmick here is for the government to take a chunk out of it: for now.  The reason “now” is being used, is that eventually they’ll shift gears, pass legislation, and eventually outlaw private trading in it that is not government-sanctioned or government-approved.

A government is only concerned with perpetuating itself and maintaining power.  The most basic way it does this is by controlling the currency of the nation, regulating it, and taxing the citizens.  In the United States, it has been reported by several sources that JP Morgan Chase is going to embrace Cryptocurrency.  Europe is well on its way to establishing a “Euro-BitCoin,” and China has recently relaxed some measures regarding it.

**This is the calm before the storm: the governments are studying it, and studying the masses to find the means to take control of it.**

The gullible masses are playing right into their hands.  The problem with Cryptocurrency is not just in the fact that it is backed by nothing (a fool’s errand before it has been started), but there is no privacy.  None.  If the governments control and monitor all electronic and computer media, then there is no such thing as privacy regarding electronic currency.  This will be the death of cash, and thus the death of any privacy for citizens.

There will be no hiding from the taxing authorities.  All the accounts will be monitored: taxed on any growth, and every single penny accounted for.  The government will know what work you do, for how much, and how much “Crypto-currency” you have in your accounts.  All electronic, nebulous, unbacked garbage.  How about a nice “glitch” where suddenly, your entire account falls to a zero balance?  That “glitch” can happen anytime.

No, the politicians and the oligarchs will have gold, silver, real estate, mining rights and contracts, and ownership of every utility and municipal function upon which the public is dependent.  Eventually the Crypto-Dollars will be handed out sparingly to “exchange for food, clothing, and to pay their bills,” and the whole thing is designed for one thing:

**To keep the population at a starveling, subsistence level while those in power own everything, and them as well: Ruled by the politicians and oligarchs, fooled by the press and the religious pulpits, and killed by the enforcement arms of police and military.**

In 1910, the meeting on Jekyll Island, Georgia took place leading up to 1913.  It was then that the framework for the transfer of the power of the U.S. government over the nation’s currency to the federal reserve was established.

**“The real truth of the matter is, as you and I know, that a financial element in the larger centers has owned the Government ever since the days of Andrew Jackson.”**

**President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s letter to Colonel Edward Mandell House,**

**Fmr. Advisor to President Woodrow Wilson    November 21, 1933**

***The aim is global governance.  The Cryptocurrencies arose out of a desire to use something other than the dollar and other failing fiat notes not backed by anything.  The irony is that the Cryptocurrencies are the vehicle for the globalists.***

Once each nation has its Cryptocurrencies in place, they can “align” them, and virtually abolish all economic buffers and barriers…which will come crashing down just as the illegal aliens in Europe and the United States are destroying the borders, language, culture, and societies.  The whole thing is trumpeted as a recourse, but it is nothing more than an extension of an Alinsky principle “organizing the organized.”  At the right moment, the governments will swoop in, regulate, and tax these Cryptocurrencies.

***Once cash is eliminated, hard assets such as gold, silver, and other resources will be simple to control.  Where did you obtain that gold?  How did you obtain it, and is it in our records?***

The power lies in the receipt, the payment receipt showing where you obtained that product and how you obtained it…all based on POS (point of sale), the electronic monitoring of every expenditure at the register.  The “successful” employment of Cryptocurrency will mean that the people have been completely duped and have handed all privacy into the control of the government.  Once they control everyone economically, they will use that control to seize other aspects of daily life that are not regulated.  **They’ll know how much you make, where you work, and how much you have available.**

Or what you think you have available, because in the blink of an eye, they’ll make your Crypto dollars disappear, and you’ll have no recourse, just as they have no accountability.  If politicians steal money now, while cash still exists, think of how much they’ll be able to steal when everything is done electronically…when all the bankers and oligarchs are under their control/in a symbiotic-parasitic relationship and they can pass any law they wish.  **Cryptocurrency is a scam that will eventually lead to the final enslavement of the U.S.**

Sex: A Retirement Plan

t was the kind of evening Zoë Brock was accustomed to, an intimate dinner party at an Art Deco hotel on a waterfront avenue in Cannes. The Australian model was ushered to an empty seat at a long table on a lush patio overlooking a swimming pool.

She didn’t recognize the man seated next to her, but would quickly find out he was Harvey Weinstein, a brusque American producer in town for the film festival.

That first encounter of champagne and small talk would end in a much less elegant fashion hours later in a hotel room, where Weinstein stood before Brock naked and solicited a massage. She said she locked herself in a bathroom to escape him.

Still shaken by that night in 1998, Brock believes the events were set in motion by men connected to Weinstein.

"Someone put me there next to him — that was on purpose. I am pretty sure that there are a lot of people that would like to sit next to Harvey Weinstein,” said Brock, 43, who was represented by a Milanese modeling agency at the time. “So why was it me?"

Weinstein, 65, is best known for his pioneering career in the independent film industry, but over the last two decades he has also carved out a significant business in fashion — executive producing the television show "Project Runway," investing in the clothing brand Halston, and backing the high-end womenswear company Marchesa, which was co-founded by his wife, former model Georgina Chapman. The foray generated a profitable TV franchise, lucrative partnerships and cachet among the global jet set.

But that success was only one of the benefits for Weinstein. In interviews with the Los Angeles Times, nearly a dozen people with ties to the industry — including models, casting directors, publicists and executives connected to "Project Runway" — said that he used fashion as a pipeline to women. They said that models, oftentimes young and working overseas far from home, were particularly vulnerable.

In addition to Brock, more than 10 other former or current fashion models — including Cara Delevingne and Angie Everhart — have accused Weinstein of a wide range of sexual misconduct.

Someone put me there next to him — that was on purpose. I am pretty sure that there are a lot of people that would like to sit next to Harvey Weinstein.

Zoë Brock, model

In a previously unreported incident, former Brazilian model Juliana De Paula told The Times that Weinstein groped her and forced her to kiss other models that he had taken to his loft in New York a decade ago. When she tried to leave, she said, he chased her through the apartment, naked. She fended him off with a broken glass.

“He looked at me and he started to laugh,” she recalled. “I was shocked. I was completely in disbelief.”

Another model, Samantha Panagrosso, said Weinstein made unwanted sexual advances toward her during the Cannes Film Festival in 2003. When Weinstein began touching her legs under the water at a hotel pool and she rebuffed him, he pointed at another model, she recalled in an interview with The Times. “Look at her, I’m going to have her come to my room for a screen test,” she said Weinstein told her.

When Panagrosso told friends about his continuing advances, she said, they laughed it off: “Sam, don’t be so naïve, you know Harvey can make you a star.”

Since the New York Times and the New Yorker first wrote about Weinstein’s alleged assaults earlier this month, more than 50 women have come forward to describe their experiences, and he has been fired by [Weinstein Co.](http://www.latimes.com/topic/entertainment/movies/the-weinstein-company-ORCRP0017724-topic.html), the indie studio he co-founded in 2005 that has released films including “The King’s Speech.”

[**FULL COVERAGE: Harvey Weinstein sexual harassment scandal »**](http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/la-harvey-weinstein-sexual-harassment-scandal-20171010-storygallery.html)

Six women have accused Weinstein of rape or forcible sex acts, and he is under investigation for sexual assault in Los Angeles, New York and London.

Weinstein has entered counseling and apologized for some of his behavior. But, through his spokeswoman Sallie Hofmeister, Weinstein has “unequivocally denied” any allegations of nonconsensual sex. As for the accounts of Brock and Panagrosso, Hofmeister said, “Their recollection of events differs from that of Mr. Weinstein."

### Becoming a fashion fixture

Weinstein's transformation into a fashion player was an unlikely turn for a movie producer at the zenith of his career.

By 2000, films released by Weinstein’s company, Miramax, had collected dozens of [Oscars](http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/envelope/oscars/), including best picture awards for “The English Patient” and “Shakespeare in Love.” Weinstein had garnered a reputation for his bullying tactics and aggressive Academy Awards campaigns in pursuit of the gold statuette that burnished his reputation as a kingpin of prestige films.

He was also among a growing wave of major movie producers to expand into television. His “Project Greenlight” documented the travails of would-be filmmakers and made a splash when it launched on HBO in 2001.

Also around this time, the fashion world was being buffeted by change. Glossy magazines, such as Vogue and Elle, were putting A-list Hollywood actresses on their covers because they helped sell more copies than lesser-known fashion models. For high-end magazine publishers — and for models aspiring to break into Hollywood — Weinstein had the right connections.

And he thrived on being at the nexus of culture.

“For these powerful people, the most seductive currency is the one they do not own,” said a current business associate of Weinstein. “He used his Hollywood connections, which reflected well in fashion and in television — and even politics.”

It wasn’t long before the former fashion novice was just as much a fixture at New York Fashion Week as he was on the red carpet of Hollywood movie premieres.

Interviews with six people connected with Weinstein’s cable television show “Project Runway” help shed light on his fascination with fashion. These individuals declined to be identified, partly because of ongoing business ties to the Weinstein Co.

They said the success of “Project Greenlight” had increased Weinstein’s appetite for television — and what he wanted more than anything was a program that featured fashion models.

Weinstein’s spokeswoman said that “Project Runway” was developed as a replacement for “Project Greenlight,” which was ending its run — and not as a vehicle to meet women. He simply thought it was a good idea for a television show, Hofmeister said.

In the foreword of the 2012 book “Project Runway,” Weinstein wrote that he has “always been intrigued and inspired by the creative process.”

“I have learned along the way that talent can come from anywhere,” he wrote.

In the early 2000s, Weinstein introduced his Miramax executives to a German fashion model, Daniela Unruh, who was in her early 20s at the time, saying she had an idea for a reality show. Unruh pitched a program called “Model Apartment,” which would follow a group of models living together.

Executives were skeptical that such a show would be compelling, but optioned Unruh’s idea for a token amount — about $8,000, according to one former Miramax employee. Unruh receives modest royalties from “Project Runway.”

Her concept was retooled to focus on fashion designers competing for their big break. Development of the show gained traction when supermodel [Heidi Klum](http://www.latimes.com/topic/entertainment/heidi-klum-PECLB002828-topic.html) signed on, but the process was slow — and Weinstein was growing impatient.

“He kept asking: ‘Where’s my model show?’” recalled a former employee. “He wouldn’t drop it.”

Fearful of Weinstein’s reaction — because the show featured designers with sewing machines and not models — the producers figured they needed to amp up the participation of beautiful women. The producers concocted an awkward competition within the show that allowed designers to pick the model they found most appealing, which resulted in aspiring models, occasionally in tears, being dismissed.

“That was designed as a vestigial element for Harvey,” the television executive said.

“Project Runway” launched in 2004, and over the course of its 16-season run, more than 200 models have appeared, according to the Internet Movie Database.

The hit program grew into one of Weinstein’s most lucrative franchises. He leveraged its popularity to land a huge $150-million, five-year deal in 2008 with Lifetime, where he moved the show from Bravo.

And he eventually got his model-themed reality show on Lifetime: “Models of the Runway,” which lasted just two seasons.

But after dozens of women came forward this month to discuss Weinstein’s alleged misconduct, his name was quickly stripped from the credits of “Project Runway.”

### Deepening fashion ties

The same year that “Project Runway” debuted, Weinstein met his future wife.

Weinstein encountered Chapman, a British model and costume designer, at a party in New York in 2004, not long after he split from his first wife, Eve Chilton Weinstein, according to various published reports. Weinstein was in his early 50s and Chapman in her late 20s when they began to date.

That year she also co-founded the Marchesa fashion brand with Keren Craig, her longtime friend and classmate at Chelsea College of Art and Design. Weinstein worked behind the scenes to help them launch their label — again expanding his reach deeper into the fashion world.

Vogue was soon featuring the New York-based company’s clothes in its pages. Weinstein also asked actresses to wear Marchesa gowns to big award shows and events.

Within months, [Renee Zellweger](http://www.latimes.com/topic/entertainment/movies/renee-zellweger-PECLB004041-topic.html), fresh off winning a supporting-actress Oscar for “Cold Mountain,” strolled the red carpet in a strapless Marchesa dress at the London premiere of the Miramax-distributed "Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason." A procession of Weinstein-connected stars soon followed, among them Cate Blanchett, [Scarlett Johansson](http://www.latimes.com/topic/entertainment/movies/scarlett-johansson-PECLB002594-topic.html) and Felicity Huffman.

Marchesa’s meteoric rise raised eyebrows — and questions about what accounted for it.

“Marchesa's breathtaking success has the fashion world talking — and rolling its eyes too. Just how much of that success, observers wonder, is due to the Harvey Factor?” a Los Angeles Times article asked in 2006, a year before Weinstein and Chapman wed.

Competitors complained that stars wore Marchesa on the red carpet because they — and their agents, managers and lawyers — needed to please the powerful Weinstein.

“Now we have Harvey Weinstein married to the designer, who is able to put her dresses on … anybody in Hollywood,” said Julia Samersova, a former modeling agent who works as a casting director in New York. “Yes, it is really that simple. Who is going to say no to the wife of Harvey Weinstein?”

This week, amid the rapidly unfolding sex scandal, the actress Huffman confirmed, via her publicist, that Weinstein did demand that she wear Marchesa gowns at public appearances. But the publicist denied reports that he had threatened to withhold funding from her 2005 movie “Transamerica.”

Chapman, in an interview for the 2006 Times story, laughed off any suggestion that Weinstein was Marchesa’s guiding force. "If anybody looks at how Harvey dresses, they realize he doesn't have terribly much to do with designing,” she said.

Neither Chapman nor Craig responded to requests for comment.

Who is going to say no to the wife of Harvey Weinstein?

Julia Samersova, former modeling agent

In 2007, Weinstein expanded his fashion holdings: Weinstein Co. and Hilco Consumer Capital bought Halston, the once-venerable American fashion house that had fallen on hard times. Weinstein became a member of the company’s board, and Jimmy Choo co-founder Tamara Mellon and actress [Sarah Jessica Parker](http://www.latimes.com/topic/entertainment/television/sarah-jessica-parker-PECLB004218-topic.html) also got involved in the revival effort. But Halston soon foundered, and Weinstein departed the venture in 2011.

Some in the business, like Fern Mallis, the former executive director of the Council of Fashion Designers of America, have now sought to downplay Weinstein’s role in the industry — while also expressing support for Marchesa’s founders.

"I’m appalled like everyone else about his behavior and support all the brave women speaking out," Mallis said. "He was not an ‘influence’ in the fashion industry, and I feel very bad for Georgina and Keren, who are very talented designers and built a terrific business with Marchesa.”

Other industry power players with ties to Weinstein have also denounced him, including Vogue editor Anna Wintour, and designer Tom Ford, whose 2009 film “A Single Man” was distributed by Weinstein Co.

Chapman, 41, announced last week that she was leaving Weinstein and would focus on caring for their two children.

### A pipeline to models

While the fashion industry proved lucrative for Weinstein and burnished his reputation as a tastemaker, it also filled his world with even more young, beautiful women.

Several women who have publicly accused Weinstein of misconduct described incidents in which he used his fashion business ties and ownership of “Project Runway” as enticements or pretexts for meetings.

Former aspiring actress Lucia Evans told the New Yorker that Weinstein said during a meeting that she’d “be great in ‘Project Runway’” before allegedly forcing her to perform oral sex. Model Ambra Battilana Gutierrez’s 2015 meeting with Weinstein began with discussions of her working as a lingerie model before he allegedly grabbed her breasts and put his hand up her skirt, according to the New York Times.

In an interview with the Los Angeles Times, a television actress claimed that when she rebuffed Weinstein’s advances about a decade ago — saying that she had nothing suitable to wear to events he wanted to take her to, including the Cannes Film Festival — he would tell her that he could deliver 10 Marchesa dresses.

Separately, a former British model said that when Weinstein was pursuing her about a decade ago in London, he persuaded her to switch modeling agencies to a higher-profile one where he had connections. She also said he suggested he could help her launch an acting career. “The whole thing was a control thing,” said the woman, who spoke on the condition of anonymity over concerns about repercussions from discussing the matter.

This sort of behavior is not new to the fashion and entertainment industries, which are plagued by a culture of exploitation, said Victoria Keon-Cohen, a model who spearheaded a unionizing effort a decade ago in London and is now a filmmaker.

“There’s a very dominant feeling of favors for work,” she said, adding that this is especially the case in fashion, where “very vulnerable young girls and boys are trying to advance their careers.”

### An encounter in Cannes

Brock, the fashion model from Australia, traveled to Cannes in 1998 at the invitation of her Italian agent. Fresh off of working Paris Fashion Week, Brock, then 24, was eager to network.

Over dinner at the Majestic Hotel, Brock said, she and Weinstein had “a really good conversation,” chatting about a mutual friend — a female director whose film Miramax had recently distributed. “It felt like Harvey was family,” she said.

Eventually, some in the dinner group made their way to the Hotel du Cap Eden-Roc, a luxury property 30 minutes away where Weinstein had a suite. Brock said she soon found herself alone in the room with Weinstein.

Before long, Weinstein was naked and pleaded with her for a massage, Brock said. When she declined, Brock said, he asked to give her one. “I relented and let him touch my back and shoulders,” she said. “But I couldn’t handle his hands on me, so I bolted out of there, and bolted into the bathroom and locked the door.”

She still had to ride back to Cannes with Weinstein. On the way, an apologetic Weinstein offered to make Brock “a star” and be her “Rock of Gibraltar,” she said.

That night, she called her mother and actor Rufus Sewell, who stars on Amazon Studios’ “The Man in the High Castle,” to tell them what had occurred. Both confirmed speaking that night to Brock and hearing her account.

When she finally made her way back to the yacht where she was staying around 5:30 a.m., she said, she felt — and looked — like “a whore.”

“I was wearing yesterday’s dress, with yesterday’s makeup, and messed hair,” she said. “Having to crawl back into the boat looking like that made me look like the sort of person who would have slept with Harvey Weinstein to further my career. And I am not that person.”

### ‘This is not going to be fun at all’

Nearly a decade later and halfway around the world, another former model experienced an upsetting encounter with Weinstein.

One night in 2007, De Paula and some model friends were introduced to Weinstein during a karaoke party at the lounge above Cipriani Downtown, a buzzy Italian restaurant in Manhattan.

Soon, a plan was hatched to go to Weinstein’s loft in Soho, said De Paula, who previously modeled in Brazil and has since had other jobs in fashion, including as a manager of a photography studio in New York.

Once Weinstein, De Paula and three models were inside the elevator, he began fondling the women’s breasts and making them kiss each other, De Paula said. “Forcing. Like putting both heads together,” she said.

She said the women tried to resist, but were “embarrassed” and unsure of how to fend him off. The elevator opened inside Weinstein’s residence, and he began disrobing. “My [alarm] bells rang,” she said. “It was, oh my gosh, this is not going to be fun at all.”

De Paula said that Weinstein ushered the three models into his bedroom, but she ran into the adjoining bathroom. She heard at least one woman yell “stop” multiple times, but didn’t have a clear view of the bedroom.

After a while, De Paula said, she fled the bathroom, ran through the bedroom and into the kitchen. A nude Weinstein followed her there, she said.

“He was moving toward me. I got scared, and I was afraid,” De Paula said.

He was moving toward me. I got scared, and I was afraid.

Juliana De Paula, former model

She reached for a wine glass, broke it, brandished it, and gave Weinstein an ultimatum: “You let me out of here right now, or this is going to have serious consequences.”

She said Weinstein, laughing, asked, “Are you serious?” before allowing her to depart.

The next day, De Paula told her then-roommate about the alleged episode with Weinstein. The roommate told The Times that he remembered the conversation, recalling a “distressed” De Paula describing the events at Weinstein’s loft.

"Mr. Weinstein says the story is a fabrication,” said Hofmeister, Weinstein’s spokeswoman.

A few months after the alleged incident, De Paula went to a Dec. 5 concert at Cipriani Wall Street where Aretha Franklin performed. Weinstein’s attendance was noted in a press release recapping the event.

“He came up to me, super nice — it seemed like it was somebody else,” said De Paula, who now lives in Brazil. “I didn’t have the courage to look at him. I looked down.”

Weinstein asked for her phone number. She declined.

### Fashion looks inward

As with Hollywood, the Weinstein scandal has prompted the fashion industry to ponder how women are treated and whether it is doing enough to protect vulnerable participants.

Several people interviewed for this article acknowledged that Weinstein had, for years, a poor reputation in the fashion business, but little if anything was ever done to spotlight this. Some are hoping for big changes. On Tuesday, the Model Alliance, a nonprofit trade group, issued a statement saying, “No person should tolerate any sort of unwanted or inappropriate conduct, nor should our industry.”

Brock said that she hopes her personal story about Weinstein might help spur change in the business.

“I hope that from this moment on, young girls, from every country, start to value themselves as more than the objects the industry has always treated them as,” she said.

**Photons and Space travel**

A spacecraft destined to explore a unique asteroid will also test new communication hardware that uses lasers instead of radio waves.

The Deep Space Optical Communications (DSOC) package aboard NASA's Psyche mission utilizes photons -- the fundamental particle of visible light -- to transmit more data in a given amount of time. The DSOC goal is to increase spacecraft communications performance and efficiency by 10 to 100 times over conventional means, all without increasing the mission burden in mass, volume, power and/or spectrum.

Tapping the advantages offered by laser communications is expected to revolutionize future space endeavors - a major objective of NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD).

The DSOC project is developing key technologies that are being integrated into a deep space-worthy Flight Laser Transceiver (FLT), high-tech work that will advance this mode of communications to Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 6. Reaching a TRL 6 level equates to having technology that is a fully functional prototype or representational model.

As a "game changing" technology demonstration, DSOC is exactly that. NASA STMD's Game Changing Development Program funded the technology development phase of DSOC. The flight demonstration is jointly funded by STMD, the Technology Demonstration Mission (TDM) Program and NASA/ HEOMD/Space Communication and Navigation (SCaN).

Work on the laser package is based at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

"Things are shaping up reasonably and we have a considerable amount of test activity going on," says Abhijit Biswas, DSOC Project Technologist in Flight Communications Systems at JPL. Delivery of DSOC for integration within the Psyche mission is expected in 2021 with the spacecraft launch to occur in the summer of 2022, he explains.

"Think of the DSOC flight laser transceiver onboard Psyche as a telescope," Biswas explains, able to receive and transmit laser light in precisely timed photon bursts.

DSOC architecture is based on transmitting a laser beacon from Earth to assist line­of­sight stabilization to make possible the pointing back of a downlink laser beam. The laser onboard the Psyche spacecraft, Biswas says, is based on a master-oscillator power amplifier that uses optical fibers.

The laser beacon to DSOC will be transmitted from JPL's Table Mountain Facility located near the town of Wrightwood, California, in the Angeles National Forest. DSOC's beaming of data from space will be received at a large aperture ground telescope at Palomar Mountain Observatory in California, near San Diego.

Biswas anticipates operating DSOC perhaps 60 days after launch, given checkout of the Psyche spacecraft post-liftoff. The test-runs of the laser equipment will occur over distances of 0.1 to 2.5 astronomical units (AU) on the outward-bound probe. One AU is approximately 150 million kilometers-or the distance between the Earth and Sun.

"I am very excited to be on the mission," says Biswas, who has been working on the laser communications technology since the late 1990s. "It's a unique privilege to be working on DSOC."

The Psyche mission was selected for flight in early 2017 under NASA's Discovery Program, a series of lower-cost, highly focused robotic space missions that are exploring the solar system.

The spacecraft will be launched in the summer of 2022 to 16 Psyche, a distinctive metal asteroid about three times farther away from the sun than Earth. The planned arrival of the probe at the main belt asteroid will take place in 2026.

Lindy Elkins-Tanton is Director of the School of Earth and Space Exploration at Arizona State University in Tempe. She is the principal investigator for the Psyche mission.

"I am thrilled that Psyche is getting to fly the Deep Space Optical Communications package," Elkins-Tanton says. "First of all, the technology is mind-blowing and it brings out all my inner geek. Who doesn't want to communicate using lasers, and multiply the amount of data we can send back and forth?"

Elkins-Tanton adds that bringing robotic and human spaceflight closer together is critical for humankind's space future. "Having our robotic mission test technology that we hope will help us eventually communicate with people in deep space is excellent integration of NASA missions and all of our goals," she says.

In designing a simple, high-heritage spacecraft to do the exciting exploration of the metal world Psyche, "I find both the solar electric propulsion and the Deep Space Optical Communications to feel futuristic in the extreme. I'm proud of NASA and of our technical community for making this possible," Elkins-Tanton concludes.

Biswas explains that DSOC is a pathfinder experiment. The future is indeed bright for the technology, he suggests, such as setting up capable telecommunications infrastructure around Mars.

"Doing so would allow the support of astronauts going to and eventually landing on Mars," Biswas said. "Laser communications will augment that capability tremendously. The ability to send back from Mars to Earth lots of information, including the streaming of high definition imagery, is going to be very enabling."

As a "game changing" technology demonstration, DSOC is exactly that. NASA STMD's Game Changing Development program funded the technology development phase of DSOC. The flight demonstration is jointly funded by STMD, the Technology Demonstration Missions (TDM) program and NASA/ HEOMD/Space Communication and Navigation (SCaN). Work on the laser package is based at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California

**Propaganda Alert**

Beware there is a propaganda source out there called DemandProgress.org. They are using millions of dollars and targeted litigation to destroy Donald Trump by any means necessary. They have already forced the FCC to drop its review of a merger between Sinclair Broadcast Group and Tribune Media. This merger would provide a tiny bit of competition to the lockstep Fascist message we here from the main stream media.

So, just be aware that anything you see with the sideways fist next to the term DemandProgress.org, that they are not demanding progress at all. What they are demanding is a silencing of free speech.

**The Reign of the Judges: Funded by George Soros**

## ****Doug Jones, the Democratic candidate for December’s Senate special election in Alabama, spearheaded an effort on behalf of a legal group massively funded by billionaire George Soros that sought to fundamentally transform the role of U.S. Attorneys from one of prosecuting criminals to activists that enact a so-called progressive criminal justice agenda.****

Among other things, Jones’ project called on federal prosecutors to reduce or avoid sentences for drug offenders, make decisions about seeking jail time on individual cases based upon federal incarceration levels and use their pulpits to “spread change” and work with outside “community organizations” to root out the “causes of violence.”

One section of the report seeks to put U.S. Attorneys in the role of social justice warriors who go to schools to preach against “bullying,” coach Little League teams and mentor at risk youths. All this while working to “develop solutions to problems that do not involve prosecutions, such as mediating disputes and participating in school intervention programs.”

Jones is running against Republican challenger Roy Moore, whose victory in the GOP primary against establishment-backed candidate Luther Strange has been seen nationwide as a stunning electoral victory for Trumpian nationalist policies that promote the working class. Jones was previously appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama.

**Jones’ Soros-Funded Report**

The Brennan Center for Justice at New York University Law School is a liberal policy [institute](https://www.brennancenter.org/) that says it “focuses on the fundamental issues of democracy and justice.” It has been the recipient of numerous [grants](https://www.mrc.org/articles/soros-backed-voting-study-promoted-soros-funded-media) from Soros’s Open Society Foundations totaling over $7,466,000 from 2000 to 2010 alone.

In 2014, the Soros-funded Brennan Center released a 69-page [document](https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/analysis/Federal_Prosecution_For_21st_Century.pdf) titled, “Federal Prosecution for the 21st Century,” which was the culmination of a Brennan Center project led by Jones.

The report was specifically based on the [results](https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/keynote-address-shifting-law-enforcement-goals-to-reduce-mass-incarceration) of a Brennon Center initiative co-chaired by Jones calling itself the Blue Ribbon Panel that convened “criminal justice experts, including leaders in law enforcement, prosecutors and public defenders, former government officials, and federal grant recipients, to provide comments on the performance measures” and form the basis of the recommendations in the report.

Jones served as co-chair of the Blue Ribbon Panel and he also wrote the introduction to the report. His name is listed on the cover of the Brennan document.

The report itself acknowledges the support of Soros’s Open Society Foundations to the Brennon Center’s Justice Program, which sponsored the initiative spearheaded by Jones.

The report was [launched](http://www.brennancenter.org/event/shifting-law-enforcement-goals?splash=) at a September 23, 2013 conference keynoted by then-Attorney General Eric Holder and titled, “Shifting Law Enforcement Goals to Reduce Mass Incarceration.”  In his [opening remarks](https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/keynote-address-shifting-law-enforcement-goals-to-reduce-mass-incarceration), Holder singled out Jones for co-chairing the Brennan Center’s Blue Ribbon Panel.

**Jones:  Federal Prosecutors Can Create ‘Change’**

In his introduction, Jones laments that when he and his colleagues on the panel served as prosecutors, “there was an underlying drive to focus almost exclusively on the enforcement of federal laws without engaging in crime prevention.”

“Federal prosecutors have many tools to create this change,” Jones wrote. “They can use their resources to change prosecutorial practices; their bully pulpit and convening power to change hearts and minds; and their leverage in hiring young prosecutors to pick not only the best and the brightest, but also those with a nuanced view of justice.”

Jones used language reminiscent of the Obama administration’s infamous interagency memos that enacted “prosecutorial discretion” – which was widely regarded as de facto amnesty – when it came to bringing charges against young illegal aliens. Jones wrote that the report’s recommendations “encourage prosecutors to keep in mind the larger purposes of the justice system when recommending sentences, choosing what charges to bring and whom to prosecute, and deciding the terms of plea negotiations.”

The report itself goes on to recommend that “given their enormous power and discretion over charging and sentencing decisions, U.S. Attorneys possess a unique lever to spread change.”

The report states: “Prosecutors are well-positioned to create opportunities to improve public safety while also reducing the nation’s incarceration footprint. They are granted unique authority to make charging decisions, enter cooperation agreements, accept pleas and frequently dictate sentences or sentencing ranges.”

**Sentence Recommendations Based on Incarceration Rates**

When it comes to prosecuting crime, U.S. Attorneys were urged to “change perceptions that longer sentences are always better.”

One radical recommendation entailed having the prosecutor make decisions about an individual case based upon the total number of federal prisoners that originated from the prosecutor’s district:

A second success measure would focus on the number of total federal prisoners that originated from the district overall, and how that number fluctuates over time. This measure allows the district to determine whether it is increasing or decreasing its prison population over time. It also allows a district to discern how it fares against other districts. Notably, the size of the prison population is affected not only by the number of sentences to prison but also by the length of sentences of these prisoners. Therefore, this second measure captures broader information than the first measure.

This second measure can also influence decisions prosecutors make in their cases, encouraging them to reduce charges or recommend whenever appropriate for less (or even no) incarceration time.

**Letting Drug Offenders Off the Hook**

A key goal of the report was to push reduced sentencing for drug offenders. This has also been a major policy aim for Soros. His Open Society Foundations [gave](https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/about/programs/us-programs/grantees/drug-policy-alliance-0) a whopping $50 million to the New York-based Drug Policy Alliance, which seeks to decriminalize drug offenses. The Alliance’s [main aim](http://www.drugpolicy.org/about-us#vision-mission), according to its website, is to create a world in which people “are no longer punished for what they put into their own bodies but only for crimes committed against others.”

The Jones-led report opines that “shifting prosecutorial priorities to include focusing on reducing the numbers of people sent to prisons could have a dramatic impact. Not accepting certain types of drug cases, altering charging decisions or recommending diversion or alternative sentences for drug offenders would reduce the number of drug offenders entering the Federal Bureau of Prisons and are well within a prosecutor’s discretion.”

It recommends considering an “alternative sanction” for drug offenders in lieu of prison. “Rigorous studies have shown that drug treatment programs and close supervision, such as federal probation, can both reduce recidivism rates and costs,” the report added.

**Social Justice Warriors**

The report presents the case for U.S. Attorneys to work with outside organizations to root out the “causes of violence.”

Many U.S. Attorneys at the Blue Ribbon Panel said, with great force and conviction, that they thought preventing violent crime ought to be a priority for U.S. Attorneys’ Offices. …

These attorneys recognized the need to move from a standard “enforcement” model of prosecuting those who commit violent crimes — such as firearms offenses, high-level narcotics trafficking, gang activity or bombings — to one of trying to reduce or eliminate the causes of violence.

Emphasizing the joint sentiment of other U.S. Attorneys not present at the event, panelists suggested that a new model requires working with community organizations, faith-based organizations, youth groups, those with prior criminal justice contacts and schools to identify and address the issues which drive the problem of violence.

It urged outreach activities, which can include “participating in town hall meetings, partnering with schools, developing relationships with churches and faith-based organizations and engaging with underrepresented populations, such as Native Americans and many urban neighborhoods.”

The report documented that some members of Jones’ Blue Ribbon Panel have instituted “requirements that the attorneys who serve in their office work to improve the community,” including coaching Little League teams.

The report states:

For example, some U.S. Attorneys require prosecutors to participate in community outreach outside of work, such as coaching Little League teams, mentoring at risk youths or speaking at local elementary schools about preventing violence. To quote one former U.S. Attorney at the Blue Ribbon Panel, “I pulled people out and told them that we needed to be involved in our communities and that interacting with the community wasn’t just for social workers.”

Jones’ report hails that some U.S. Attorneys “have changed their attorney Performance Work Plans (which evaluate and set goals for prosecutors) to ask how many community meetings prosecutors have attended to speak about anti-violence initiatives or how many trips they have made to speak to underserved communities.”

The Brennan report hails a project led by U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida Wifredo Ferrer titled Violence Reduction Partnership, which required “prosecutors to conduct workshops in schools on preventing bullying and protecting against Internet predators.”

The report also pushed a strategy whereby prosecutors go outside the preview of the U.S. judicial system to monitor disputes within the framework of working locally within the community.

The report advocates a strategy that “often entails opening up a neighborhood prosecutor’s office in a storefront.”

“Prosecutors speak with neighborhood residents to better understand their concerns regarding crime. They use that information to choose which crimes to prosecute and which charges to bring. They also develop solutions to problems that do not involve prosecutions, such as mediating disputes and participating in school intervention programs.”

To push its agenda, the Brennan Center recommended that the Obama administration enact “Success Oriented Funding,” which “ties government funding as tightly as possible to clear priorities that drive toward the twin goals of reducing crime and reducing mass incarceration.”  In other words, more funding would seemingly be granted to jurisdictions that enact shorter sentences for offenders.

**Jones Has Deeper Ties to Soros Group**

Besides his work heading Brennan’s panel on reforming the role of U.S. Attorneys, Jones is also a member of a group formed in 2015 by the Soros-funded Brennan Center calling itself Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration. The group [says](https://www.brennancenter.org/press-release/130-top-police-chiefs-and-prosecutors-urge-end-mass-incarceration) it aims to push “reforms to reduce incarceration and strengthen public safety.”

Jones participated in a Brennan [conference](http://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/events/092314%20Shifting%20Law%20Enforcement%20Goals%20-%20FINAL%20AGENDA.pdf) titled, “Shifting law enforcement goals to reduce mass incarceration.”

On his 2017 Senatorial campaign website, Jones pushes a living wage plan for the state and country that, as Breitbart News [reported](http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/10/19/roy-moore-challenger-doug-jones-pushing-acorn-pet-project-known-devastating-workers-small-businesses/) last week, has a history of hurting small businesses, negatively impacting local economies and decreasing employment opportunities for low income workers. The brief economic policy listing on Jones’ campaign website calls for the enactment of a “living wage,” which would hike the minimum wage above the federal minimum.

The Brennan Center played a [leading role](http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/10/19/roy-moore-challenger-doug-jones-pushing-acorn-pet-project-known-devastating-workers-small-businesses/) in helping to craft living wage ordinances and ballot measures for numerous cities and states.

The living wage was originally a project of the controversial former group known as ACORN, or the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, which played a central role in enacting the scheme in several cities