**Once Upon a Time**

I went food shopping yesterday with one of my roomies. I know. Not really newsworthy, right? But this was different, because it doesn’t snow very often in North Carolina. The day before it snows, people go food shopping. It’s a repeatable phenomenon, believe me. Eggs, milk, bread, sure enough.

But people think about eating and hunkering down and “surviving” the storm. I bought two of everything on my list including angel hair pasta. Then, we made our way to the checkout. I noticed the fresh millennial beeping the items for the person in front of me, when I decided to act out a little story in the check out line with my roomie. I was playing both parts. The checkout snowflake got very quiet and never looked up. The shoppers in line were transfixed. Here’s generally what I said:

“Nana? What was it like in the olden days under capitalism when you went to the store? Please tell me the story again.”

“Oh, it was quite amazing. They used to have 50 different brands of cereal in brightly colored boxes. And they were stacked twenty deep on the shelf. They had fresh bread baked the night before and thousands of cans of soups and meats beyond the imagination. They had a dozen large tables with fresh vegetables and fruits from all over the land just laying out for people to choose from.

“What about the government brands?”

“Oh, there weren’t any of those. Hundreds of farms and companies competed for our business with advertisements and coupons and free samples. Ten thousand people a day could come and shop at any store they wanted, and the store never ran out of anything, ever.”

“Are you sure you’re telling the truth? That’s just a story. Right?”

“I know it’s hard to believe now. I know. You could buy as much as you wanted, but most people just bought what they needed for a few days, because they knew they could come back and get more any time night or day.”

“How come? I mean, what happened? What happened to the brightly colored boxes and bread that isn’t a week old? What happened to the meats and the fresh, green and fruity foods?”

“Well, baby. The people used to own their land. They could grow as much as they wanted and sell it to the markets. Then, they could buy cars, and houses, and that money created millions and millions of jobs for people. All of that ended when they made it illegal to own land, or for the private production of food. They said it was for our safety and national security, but it wasn’t.”

“Will it ever be that way again, Nana? I mean, the brightly colored boxes?”

“No, baby. I’m so sorry. I shouldn’t have told you. Help Nana take this to the bus, now. Okay?”

Well, you should have seen the checkout line. They had a look of fear on their faces, because they knew that this is exactly what the globalists are telling us right now. They hear this from crazy old Bernie and they hear it from crazy, sexy Alexandria. They casually shopped yesterday, but they were just a step away from hoarding and packing their SUVs full and stopping at the QT to fill up, before the storm. Which storm? Well, the one that came last night, of course. Or is it the one that is coming in 2020?

**Pardon Assange**

And the definition according to the same site for pardon is:

1. **a release from the penalty of an offense; a remission of penalty, as by a governor.**
2. **the document by which such remission is declared.**

So in other words, a preemptive pardon would dismiss any anticipated charges against Julian and would then allow him to be free due to the fact there would be no extradition once he walked out of the Embassy.

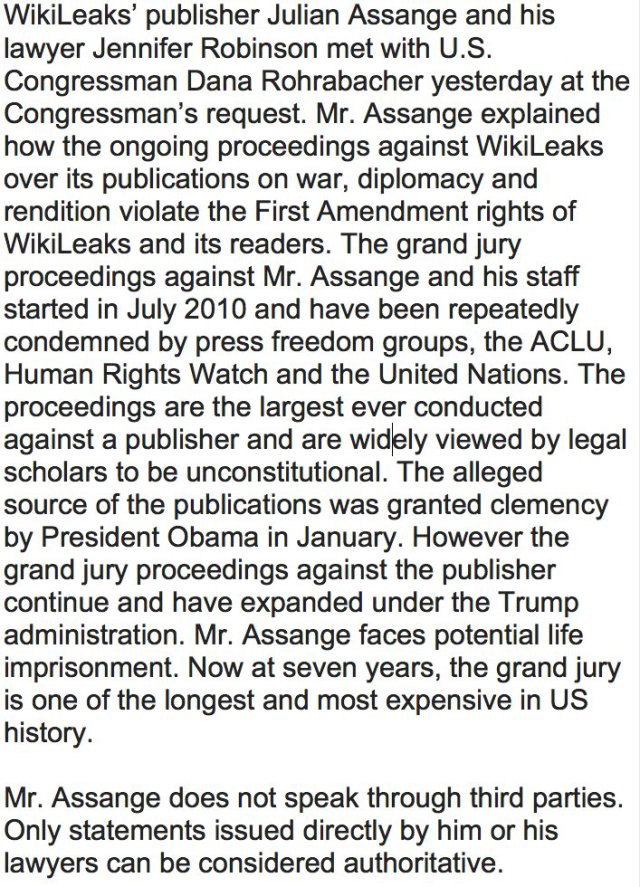
Why do we need this you ask? Let me explain, since the leaks Manning released to Wikileaks the United States has sought to arrest Julian on charges of spying and several other items. The government is obviously not going to drop this matter themselves and by Trump issuing this pardon, it would make any charges null and void. Assange would be a free man!

Another reason I feel Assange deserves this is because [Obama](https://medium.com/@AngelFox1/preemptive-pardon-for-julian-assange-explained-a43d1afb48a3) (for whatever reason) has already gave clemency to Manning for his crimes, so why is government still seeking to indite the publisher of the leaks? If other media outlets are not prosecuted for publishing leaks sent to them, why is government still pursuing charges against Wikileaks? Simply put, Wikileaks never committed a crime to begin with and just exercised it’s right to freedom of speech and free press as outlined in the First Amendment of the Constitution.

When the party who delivered the original documents to the publisher has been pardoned, it makes no sense to go after the one who published!



Recently, a US Congressman, [@**DanaRohrabacher**](https://twitter.com/DanaRohrabacher) visited Assange in the embassy and discussed proof of no Russian interference through the DNC leaks and Podesta emails and offered this proof. Rohrabacher agreed to deliver this information to President Trump himself. Also discussed was the following:



This was posted on @JulianAssange’s twitter page today. So please, if you could find it in your heart, write a letter to the President and request a preemptive pardon for Julian Assange and Wikileaks.

Here is the address and website for the President:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

President Donald J. Trump

**The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500**

Here is a phone number to call and leave a message:

202–456–1111

You can also donate to Julian’s legal fee at [justice4assange.com](http://justice4assange.com/) or donate to Wikileaks at [Wikileaks website](http://wikileaks.org/) .

**Atomic Wolves**

This story has all the makings of a new John Carpenter movie. The European grey wolf population has boomed at the site since the human population moved out and it became a virtual wildlife preserve.

Research now reveals some of the wolves - [potentially affected by damaging radiation](https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/6130017/what-chernobyl-nuclear-disaster-radiation-animal-mutations-safe/)- have been crossing Ukraine's borders into Russia and Belarus.

The news has sparked concerns among some in the scientific community that the animals may mate and spread mutant genes to other packs.

The site became off limits to humans after the nuclear power plant disaster on 26 April 1986, due to concerns about the high levels of radiation.

Explosions destroyed a reactor at the plant releasing about [400 times more radioactive fallout](https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/3046869/hunters-massacre-radioactive-wild-boars-fukushima-nuclear-disaster-exclusion-zone/) than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

GETTY - CONTRIBUTOR

Scientists fear the wolves may now spread mutant genes across Europe

The site became off limits to humans after the nuclear power plant disaster on 26 April 1986

Particles were spread thousands of miles across Europe, dozens of residents were killed and many more exposed to the deadly radiation.

It now seems that the lack of human interference at the disaster site has allowed the wolves to thrive in the 1,000 sq mile exclusion zone.

They began to take over the eerie site in 2016 and the pack's population is now thought to be seven-times larger than usual.

During a study of their movements scientists [GPS](https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/7911846/the-european-grey-wolf-population-has-boomed-at-the-site-since-the-human-population-moved-out-and-it-became-a-virtual-wildlife-preserve/) fitted trackers to 13 adults and one juvenile to see how far they strayed.

Wolves were tracked leaving the exclusion zone and one even crossed into Russia (stock)

Scientists believe the mutant gene theory is worth looking into

The researchers found while the adult wolves stayed within the zone, the juvenile roamed far beyond its boundaries.

The young wolf began to consistently move away from its [home](https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/7911846/the-european-grey-wolf-population-has-boomed-at-the-site-since-the-human-population-moved-out-and-it-became-a-virtual-wildlife-preserve/) range about three months after scientists began [tracking](https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/7911846/the-european-grey-wolf-population-has-boomed-at-the-site-since-the-human-population-moved-out-and-it-became-a-virtual-wildlife-preserve/) its movements.

Over the course of 21 days, it ended up about 186 miles (300 km) outside the exclusion zone first heading to Belarus and then Russia.

This raised questions about the affect of wolves potentially affected by radiation carrying mutant genes to pass onto other wolf communities.

Studies of other animals -mostly smaller ones like birds, rodents, and insects -show that Chernobyl radiation can cause mutations and ill health.

And work done in creatures such as barn swallows and voles suggests these mutations may be transferred to the next generation.

These also had the potential to spread radioactive contaminants, notes Tim Mousseau, of the Uni of South Carolina who was not involved in the wolves study.

The study's lead author and wildlife ecologist Michael Byrne told Live Science he believes the mutant gene theory is something worth looking into.

But the University of Missouri animal movement and ecology expert was quick to add:  "We have no evidence to support that this is happening.

"No wolves there were glowing - they all have four legs, two eyes and one tail."

The Chernobyl exclusion zone is also home to other species including moose, horses, bison, boars and red badgers.

Last year, we told how radioactive boars were running wild in the Czech Republic after [eating mushrooms contaminated after the Chernobyl disaster.](https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/2932530/radioactive-wild-boars-are-roaming-europe-after-eating-mushrooms-contaminated-after-the-chernobyl-disaster/)

**Trump’s New AG**

# Trump to nominate William Barr for attorney general

President Trump announced Friday he intends to nominate William Barr, who led the Justice Department during President George H.W. Bush's administration, to serve as attorney general.

Before departing the White House for Missouri, Trump confirmed to reporters he had picked Barr to replace former Attorney General Jeff Sessions, who was forced out of the post last month.

“He was my first choice since day one,” Trump said of Barr, "respected by Republicans and respected by Democrats."

Barr was attorney general from 1991 to 1993.

Since Sessions resigned as attorney general at Trump’s request, Matt Whitaker, Sessions’ chief of staff, has been serving as the acting attorney general.

Many Senate Democrats, however, were critical of Whitaker, raising objections to his previous comments on special counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election. Whitaker's appointment has also been challenged in a number of lawsuits.

Several lawmakers, though, [signaled approval](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/congress/trumps-front-runner-to-replace-jeff-sessions-has-bipartisan-appeal) of Barr to serve as the nation’s top law enforcement official.

Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn, R-Texas, told reporters that he believed Barr is the “kind of person that could get confirmed," and Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., also said he believes Barr could garner bipartisan support.

The president praised Barr’s credentials before departing for an event in Kansas City, Mo., calling him “one of the most respected jurists in the country.”

“A terrific man,” Trump said. “A terrific person. A Brilliant man.”

If confirmed by the Senate, and depending on the length of his confirmation process, Barr could oversee Mueller’s investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 elections. Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein had oversight of the probe after Sessions recused himself last year.

Sessions’ recusal was a major source of consternation for Trump, who publicly condemned his attorney general for the decision on multiple occasions.

Barr has worked with Mueller before, as he served as attorney general while Mueller led the Justice Department’s criminal division.

Prior comments from Barr on the Russia probe are likely to be a subject of inquiry for Senate Democrats during his confirmation.

Last year, Barr [told the Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2017/07/05/as-mueller-grows-his-russia-special-counsel-team-every-hire-is-under-scrutiny/?utm_term=.264737df9b2f) regarding the political contributions made by members of the special counsel’s team that “prosecutors who make political contributions are identifying fairly strongly with a political party.”

“I would have like to see [Mueller] have more balance on this group,” he continued.

Barr also [defended](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/former-attorney-general-trump-made-the-right-call-on-comey/2017/05/12/0e858436-372d-11e7-b4ee-434b6d506b37_story.html?utm_term=.d0f7593fae6b) in the Washington Post the president’s decision to fire former FBI Director James Comey, saying he “crossed a line” when he announced the outcome of the bureau’s investigation into Hillary Clinton’s use of a private email server.

In announcing the results of the probe, Barr said Comey “arrogated the attorney general’s authority to himself.”

After leaving his post as attorney general in 1993, Barr served in a number of senior corporate roles, including as general counsel and executive vice president of Verizon Communications.

He currently works at Kirkland & Ellis LLP in Washington.

**Solar News**

We can't count on waning solar activity to help bail us out of our [climate-change problem](https://www.livescience.com/37057-global-warming-effects.html) in the near future, a new study suggests.

Solar activity waxes and wanes on 11-year cycles, which scientists have been monitoring for the past few centuries by carefully [tracking](https://www.space.com/42656-strong-solar-activity-predicted-climate-change.html) sunspots — dark, magnetically active patches on the sun that serve as launch pads for flares and eruptions of superhot plasma known as [coronal mass ejections](https://www.space.com/11506-space-weather-sunspots-solar-flares-coronal-mass-ejections.html) (CMEs).

Variations in solar activity have significant consequences for us here on Earth. For example, powerful CMEs that slam into our planet can spawn big geomagnetic storms that disrupt satellite communications and power grids. High-activity solar cycles pump out more strong CMEs, triggering more such storms. [[The Sun's Wrath: Worst Solar Storms in History](https://www.space.com/12584-worst-solar-storms-sun-flares-history.html)]

And these variations may also impact climate. For example, some recent research has tied big solar eruptions to [reduced cloud formation](https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/2016JA022689), potentially affecting how much solar radiation makes it down to the planet's surface and how much gets bounced back to space.

Indeed, some scientists think a prolonged dip in solar activity known as the [Maunder Minimum](https://www.space.com/13660-solar-activity-cycle-grand-minimum.html), which occurred from about 1645 though 1715, helped intensify the Little Ice Age. The Little Ice Age — which subjected Europe and North America to much colder winters than the ones we currently experience — lasted from about 1300 through the mid-19th century, so the Maunder Minimum sits right in the middle of it chronologically.

The potential association between these two events is debated, however; researchers still don't know for sure exactly what caused the Little Ice Age.

Solar activity has been trending downward over the last few cycles, and the most recent one, known as Solar Cycle 24, has been the weakest in more than a century. This has sparked some speculation that we [could be headed toward another Maunder-like dip](https://www.livescience.com/51597-maunder-minimum-mini-ice-age.html) — and, perhaps, a bit of a reprieve from some of the worst effects of global warming.

But this scenario likely won't come to pass, at least not over the next decade or so, according to the new study, which was published Thursday (Dec. 6) in the journal [Nature Communications](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-018-07690-0.epdf).

Researchers Prantika Bhowmik and Dibyendu Nandi — both based at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata — came up with a new way to simulate solar activity over century-long timescales. Their approach incorporates magnetic-field evolution models of both the sun's surface and interior.

The duo's simulations match up very well with actual solar activity over the past 100 years, as measured by sunspot counts. And they make predictions about the coming Solar Cycle 25.

Many of us take the sun for granted, giving it little thought until it scorches our skin or gets in our eyes. But our star is a fascinating and complex object, a gigantic fusion reactor that gives us life. How much do you know about the sun?

Bhowmik and Nandi's work suggests that the new cycle will begin about a year from now and peak in 2024. The simulations also indicate that the solar-activity slide will stop, at least for a spell: Solar Cycle 25 should be of similar or of greater intensity than [Solar Cycle](https://www.space.com/42656-strong-solar-activity-predicted-climate-change.html) 24.

"The behavior of the magnetic field and the particles emitted from the sun has a profound effect on the Earth's climate and living conditions of the Earth's inhabitants, as well as various other [activities](https://www.space.com/42656-strong-solar-activity-predicted-climate-change.html) that involve long-range communication and satellite technology," Somak Raychaudhury, director of the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics in Pune, India, [said in a statement](http://www.cessi.in/solarcycle25prediction/).

"Normally, we assume that these effects are too complex for us to predict and restrict ourselves to reacting to these phenomena as best we can," added Raychaudhury, who was not involved in the new study. "Bhowmik and Nandy's models show considerable predictive power, and it looks like we will now be able to predict the fluctuations of solar activity much more reliably."

**War With Russia**

How many times have you heard this? War With Russia. Like I have said a thousand times, Russia is a gas station posing as a country. They could never win a war against America. They are one tenth the size, and they are always skittering along near the bankruptcy line. The Soviet Union was a superpower. Russia is not. They are a single State of the old Soviet Empire. They don’t have the tax base or budget to last more than a few months against us. However, I will admit that war does not need to look like the wars of the past. Not now. All developed nations have a vulnerability to EMP weaponry we did not have 30 years ago. Not that we have not proposed solutions to that vulnerability. Believe me, I have. But someone inside our government want us to be vulnerable. That entity does not want our solution. It’s as though they want America to be defeated easily.

**As I have stated many times, the new US-Russian Cold War is more dangerous than was its 40-year predecessor that the world survived. The chances are even greater that this one could result, inadvertently or intentionally, in actual war between the two nuclear superpowers. Herein lies another ominous indication. During the preceding Cold War, the possibility of nuclear catastrophe was in the forefront of American mainstream political and media discussion, and of policy-making. During the new one, the fake stream news does not even want to talk about it.**

In fact, it has escalated. Consider a few examples. There has been risk taking on all sides. Russian planes fly at high speed low and fast over US Navy vessels. They fly next to our recon aircraft and make 90% runs at our borders with nuclear armed long-range bombers, forcing us to scramble jets in response. Then, they turn at the last second as though they intended to do so all along; until the one time we think they are bluffing. Then, they’re not bluffing.

**Then there is the numbing effect of the fake stream news. Russiagate’s core allegations—US-Russian collusion, treason—all without a shred of evidence**. They have become a central part of the new Cold War. They are waging the propaganda war on all fronts, on all stations, and with the most famous news actors. In fact, they utilize Hollywood actors, famous musical artists, and a dozen different billionaires.

If nothing else, they severely constrain President Donald Trump’s capacity to conduct crisis negotiations with Moscow while they further vilify Russian President Vladimir Putin for having, it is widely asserted, personally ordered “an attack on America” during the 2016 presidential campaign. Some Hollywood liberals even openly state that they are at war with America. They are focused on destroying America.

In October 2018, the would-be titular head of the Democratic Party, Hillary Clinton, added her voice to this reckless allegation, [flatly stating](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/hillary-clinton-compares-russian-interference-in-2016-to-911-attacks/2018/10/02/6197a226-c674-11e8-9b1c-a90f1daae309_story.html?utm_term=.8ba42c480cc8) that the United States was “attacked by a foreign power” and equating it with “the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.”

Clinton may have been prompted by another outburst of malpractice by [The New York Times](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/09/20/us/politics/russia-interference-election-trump-clinton.html) and [The Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/the-apprentice-book-excerpt-at-cias-russia-house-growing-alarm-about-2016-election-interference/2018/09/18/51eb1732-b5c5-11e8-94eb-3bd52dfe917b_story.html?utm_term=.231da96b8029). On September 20 and 23, respectively, those exceptionally influential papers devoted thousands of words, illustrated with sinister prosecutorial graphics, to special retellings of the Russiagate narrative they had assiduously promoted for nearly two years, along with the narrative’s serial fallacies, selective and questionable history, and factual errors.

Again, for example, the now-infamous Paul Manafort, who was Trump’s campaign chairman for several months in 2016, was said to have been “pro-Kremlin” during his time as a lobbyist for Ukraine under then-President Viktor Yanukovych, when in fact he was pro–European Union. Again, Trump’s disgraced national-security adviser, Gen. Michael Flynn, was accused of “troubling” contacts when he did nothing wrong or unprecedented in having conversations with a Kremlin representative on behalf of President-elect Trump.

Again, the two papers criminalized the idea, as the Times put it, that “the United States and Russia should look for areas of mutual [interest](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-06/war-russia),” once the premise of détente. And again, the Times, while assuring readers that its “Special Report” is “what we now know with certainty,” buried a related acknowledgment deep in its some 10,000 words: “No public evidence has emerged showing that [Trump’s] campaign conspired with Russia.” (The white-collar criminal indictments and guilty pleas cited were so unrelated that they added up to Russiagate without Russia.)

**Astonishingly, neither paper gave any credence to an**[**emphatic statement**](https://www.realclearpolitics.com/video/2018/09/14/woodward_no_evidence_of_collusion_between_trump_and_russia_i_searched_for_two_years.html)**by the Post’s own Bob Woodward—normally considered the most authoritative chronicler of Washington’s political secrets—that, after two years of research, he had found no evidence of collusion between Trump and Russia.**

Nor were the Times, the Post, and other [print](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-06/war-russia) media alone in these practices, which continued to slur dissenting opinions. CNN’s leading purveyor of Russiagate allegations [tweeted](https://twitter.com/jimsciutto/status/991292250184470531?lang=en) that an American third-party presidential candidate had been “repeating Russian talking [points](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-06/war-russia) on its interference in the 2016 election and on US foreign policy.” Another prominent CNN figure was, so to speak, more geopolitical, [warning](https://www.cnn.com/2018/09/18/opinions/idlib-deal-syria-russia-robertson-opinion-intl/index.html), “Only a fool takes Vladimir Putin at his word in Syria,” thereby ruling out US-Russian cooperation in that war-torn country. Much the same continued almost nightly on MSNBC.

**For most mainstream-media outlets, Russiagate had become, it seemed, a kind of cult journalism that no amount of solid and verifiable counterevidence or analysis could dent. This is precisely how a Cold War is waged.**

Still more, what began two years earlier as complaints about Russian “meddling” in the US presidential election became by October 2018, for [The New Yorker](https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/10/01/how-russia-helped-to-swing-the-election-for-trump) and other publications, an accusation that the Kremlin had actually put Donald Trump in the White House. For this seditious charge, there was also no convincing evidence—nor any precedent in American history.

**At a higher level, by fall 2018, current and former US officials were making nearly unprecedented threats against Moscow.** The ambassador to NATO, Kay Bailey Hutchison, [threatened](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-nuclear-russia/u-s-would-destroy-banned-russian-warheads-if-necessary-nato-envoy-idUSKCN1MC1J6) to “take out” any Russian missiles she thought violated a 1987 treaty, a step that would certainly risk nuclear war. The secretary of the interior, Ryan Zinke, [threatened](https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/409944-zinke-threatens-russian-oil-russia-threatens-war) a naval “blockade” of Russia. In yet another Russophobic outburst, the ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, [declared](https://twitter.com/nikkihaley/status/1041794482746875905?lang=en) that “lying, cheating and rogue behavior” are a “norm of Russian culture.”

***These may have been outlandish statements by untutored political appointees, but they again inescapably raised the question: Who was making Russia policy in Washington—President Trump, with his avowed policy of “cooperation,” or someone else?***

But how to explain, other than as unbridled extremism, the [comments by Michael McFaul](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/global-opinions/wp/2018/09/28/time-to-start-preparing-the-next-round-of-sanctions-against-russia/?utm_term=.f3ec33e8f833), a former US ambassador to Moscow, himself a longtime professor of Russian politics and favored mainstream commentator? **According to McFaul, Russia had become a “rogue state,” its policies “criminal actions” and the “world’s greatest threat.” It had to be countered by “preemptive sanctions that would go into effect automatically”—“every day,” if deemed necessary.** Considering the possibility of “crushing” sanctions [proposed recently](https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/400074-senators-introduce-bill-to-slap-crushing-new-sanctions-on-russia) by a bipartisan group of US senators, this would be nothing less than a declaration of permanent war against Russia: economic war, but war nonetheless.

**Meanwhile, other new Cold War fronts were becoming more fraught with hot war, none more so than Syria.**On September 17, Syrian missiles accidentally shot down an allied Russian surveillance aircraft, killing all 15 crew members. The cause was combat subterfuge by Israeli warplanes in the area. The reaction in Moscow was indicative—and potentially ominous.

At first, Putin, who had developed good relations with Israel’s political leadership, said the incident was an accident caused by the fog of war. His own Defense Ministry, however, loudly protested that Israel was responsible. Putin quickly retreated to a more hard-line position, and in the end vowed to send to Syria Russia’s highly effective S-300 surface-to-air defense system, a prize long sought by both Syria and Iran.

**Clearly, Putin was not the ever-“aggressive Kremlin autocrat” unrelentingly portrayed by US mainstream media.**A moderate in the Russian context, he again made a major decision by balancing conflicting groups and interests. In this instance, he accommodated long-standing hard-liners in his own security establishment.

**The result is yet another Cold War trip wire.** With the S-300s installed in Syria, Putin could in effect impose a “no-fly zone” over large areas of the country, which has been ravaged by war due, in no small part, to the presence of several foreign powers. (Russia and Iran are there legally; the United States and Israel are not.) If so, this means a new “red line” that Washington and its ally Israel will have to decide whether or not to cross. Considering the mania in Washington and in the mainstream media, it is hard to be confident that restraint will prevail.

In keeping with his Russia policy, President Trump may reasonably be inclined to join Moscow’s peace process, though it is unlikely the mostly Democrat-inspired Russiagate party would permit him to do so.

**Last week, another Cold War front has also become more fraught, the US-Russian proxy war in Ukraine having acquired a new dimension.**In addition to the civil war in Donbass, Moscow and Kiev have been challenging each other’s ships in the Sea of Azov, near the newly built bridge connecting Russia with Crimea. On November 25, this erupted into a small but potentially explosive military conflict at sea. Trump is being pressured to help Kiev escalate the maritime war—yet another potential trip wire.

Here, too, the president should instead put his administration’s weight behind the long-stalled Minsk peace accords. But that approach also seems to be ruled out by Russiagate, which by October 6 included yet another Times columnist, Frank Bruni, [branding all such initiatives](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/06/opinion/sunday/lindsey-graham-brett-kavanaugh.html) by Trump as “pimping for Putin.”

**After five years of extremism, as demonstrated by these recent examples of risking war with Russia, there remained, for the first time in decades of Cold War history, no countervailing forces in Washington—no pro-détente wing of the Democratic or Republican Party, no influential anti–Cold War opposition anywhere, no real public debate.**

There was only Trump, with all the loathing he inspired, and even he had not reminded the nation or his own party that the presidents who initiated major episodes of détente in the 20th century were also Republicans—Eisenhower, Nixon, Reagan. This too seemed to be an inadmissible “alternative fact.”

And so the eternal question, not only for Russians: What is to be done? There is a ray of light, though scarcely more. In August 2018, [Gallup asked Americans](https://news.gallup.com/poll/241124/favor-diplomacy-sanctions-russia.aspx) what kind of policy toward Russia they favored. Even amid the torrent of vilifying Russiagate allegations and Russophobia, 58 percent wanted “to improve relations with Russia,” as opposed to 36 percent who preferred “strong diplomatic and economic steps against Russia.”

**This reminds us that the new Cold War, from  NATO’s eastward expansion and the 2014 Ukrainian crisis to Russiagate, has been an elite project.**Why US elites, after the end of the Soviet Union in 1991, ultimately chose Cold War rather than partnership with Russia is a question beyond my purpose here. As for the special role of US intelligence elites—what I have termed “Intelgate”—efforts are still underway to disclose it fully, and are still being thwarted.

**A full explanation of the post-Soviet Cold War choice would include the US political-media establishment’s needs—ideological, foreign-policy, and budgetary, among others—for an “enemy.”**Or, with the Cold War having prevailed for more than half of US-Russian relations during the century since 1917, maybe it was habitual. Substantial “meddling” in the 2016 US election by Ukraine and Israel, to illustrate the point, did not become a political scandal. In any event, once this approach to post-Soviet Russia began, promoting it was not hard. The legendary humorist Will Rogers quipped in the 1930s, “Russia is a country that no matter what you say about it, it’s true.” Back then, before the 40-year Cold War and nuclear weapons, the quip was funny, but no longer.

**Whatever the full explanation, many of the consequences I have analyzed in War With Russia? continue to unfold, not a few unintended and unfavorable to America’s real national interests.** Russia’s turn away from the West, its “pivot to China,” is now widely acknowledged and embraced by leading Moscow policy thinkers. Even European allies occasionally stand with Moscow against Washington. The US-backed Kiev government still covers up who was really behind the 2014 Maidan “snipers’ massacre” that brought it to power. Mindless US sanctions have helped Putin to repatriate oligarchic assets abroad, at least $90 billion already in 2018. The mainstream media persist in distorting Putin’s foreign policies into something “that even the Soviet Union never dared to try.” And when an anonymous White House insider [exposed in the Times](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/08/reader-center/anonymous-op-ed-trump.html) the “amorality” of President Trump, the only actual policy he or she singled out was on Russia.

**Putin has been elevated to some kind of anti-globalist hero figure. He has also been attacked for so long by so many of the Left, that he has been immortalized as invincible. The** Post even managed to characterize popular support for his substantial contribution to improving life in Moscow as “a deal with the devil” - but **it is important to note that this derangement is only formalized in the American Fake Stream News.**

A Post correspondent said that “the Putin brand has captivated both anti-establishment and anti-American politicians all over the world.” Does that even make sense? Both camps claim him as a hero? A [British journalist confirmed](https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/syrian-ceasefire-turkey-russia-erdogan-putin-trump-a8548871.html) that, as a result, **“many countries in the world now look for a reinsurance policy with Russia.”**And an American journalist living in Moscow [reported](https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2018/03/russian-elections/555863/) that the “ceaseless demonization of Putin personally has in fact sanctified him, turned him into the Patron Saint of Russia.” What many people do not care about it, is the fact that Putin controls 40% of the natural gas supply for Europe. The very country they allegedly want defense against is their bigger energy provider. They could not survive a single winter without Putin.

Voters might be able to fix this, but the election system in America is hopelessly corrupt. No one has confidence that foreign citizens are not greatly influencing our elections.  In order to change Cold War policy fundamentally, leaders are needed. And we have traditionally elected those leaders. But now, leadership is not the focus of the voter. It has strictly become a matter of who will give the most free stuff that gets elected.

The American people elected a business leader who has been prepared for times just such as these. But the globalists are afraid Trump will take apart the benefit machine they built. They don’t want the budget balanced. They don’t want the economy to grow. They don’t want to expand America’s productivity. They want only what’s good for their personal situation.

With Trump trying to make world peace, we have a globalist force inside our country that wants war. With Trump trying to show us how to grow and be healthy, we have a Fascist alternate government made of lifelong bureaucrats who sole mission is to protect their corporations from competitors such as small, innovative companies. Those new ideas must be crushed. The owners of those new companies must be driven into bankruptcy or prison when they try to raise money in the public sector.

This is the war they have chosen. In this war, Russian is not alone. They have an ally. There are hundreds of sleeper cells, trained, armed, and funded by Barack Obama to fight Americans every step of the way, once the lights go out. They have a ruthless leader waiting in the wings to take the mic and begin dissolving State borders until the governors look like department managers. The sad part is that nearly half the country does not even care that they are doing this.

Make no mistake, the mainstream left and state serving-media voices are trying to gaslight an entire generation into believing any candidate that wants peace with Russia may be a foreign conspirator worthy of prison, shame, and family persecution.

Former congressman Ron Paul, as a peace presidential candidate, did not regurgitate war propaganda against Russia either. Neither did Senator Rand Paul when he ran. What Paul hotel do you see in Moscow? Yet for future generations, many in the media want to ensure no such candidate ever runs again without baked-in misgivings of treason and criminality.

No serious observer of recent events can honestly believe the mono-narrative the old media, including “hard news” outfits, has tried to curate about the 2016 election. However, the aim of the last two years of conspiratorial hysteria has been to sear into the minds of low information voters suspicion of any successful political figure who even half challenges the conventional wisdom that America must perpetually spend hundreds of billions on NATO, collect citizens' private conversations, sanction Russian citizens, and intervene in Russia's local border disputes.

This is nothing new. When Martin Luther King Jr. used his national spotlight to challenge the moral authority of the Vietnam War, he was denounced as a subversive agent of enemy foreign powers.

What voters need to understand is that those who challenge bipartisan orthodox foreign policy are the leaders most likely to keep them safe from foreign authoritarians. Free trade and travel with Russia would do more to undermine internal Russian tolerance for Putin's corruption than any bellicose grandstanding and arms build up ever could. In fact, Putin's administration's domestic popularity was at an all-time low prior to the Obama administration's 2013-2014 involvement in the Ukrainian civil conflict. Like clockwork, with economically damaging sanctions and foreign missiles accumulating along their border, the Russian public has begrudgingly fallen back into the arms of the local devil they know.

Conservatives and liberals informed by military wisdom must remind the public the lessons of history when we abandon a policy of strategic independence on the world stage. Sanctions and debt-financed bloated budgets are the best gifts we can give to corrupt foreign regimes. They saddle our economies with capital-destroying debt and malinvestment, and they repel otherwise sympathetic populations by ruining their lives over Machiavellian nihilistic turf wars with their rulers.

**The Real question to consider**

How would we feel if China placed missiles all along the Mexican and Canadian border? How would we feel if their state department and intelligence agencies helped install a rabidly anti-American leader in Canada and armed them to the teeth? One would think that with all the cultural leftist and media preening about social mindfulness of others, the nightly news narratives about Russia and other foreign bogeymen would illustrate this context for viewers. But alas, DC interventionist interests and their career bureaucratic allies prove too intoxicating for power-struck press fawners.

In 2017, the US reported military budget was 610 billion dollars. This was before Trump's 700 billion defense bill in 2018. In contrast, Russia spends roughly 66 billion a year on defense. No matter what TV talking heads say, it is never a winning strategy to spend over ten times an adversary to remain safe. One of these country's citizens is getting a better return for every dollar taken from the productive sector. I have news for you. It is not you.

Putin and other rival powers are carefully negotiating the same economic minefield that bankrupted the Soviet Union: allow a debt-crippled economy, deeply hampered by crony corporatism, to destroy its currency by creating too much of it to finance foreign adventures. In fact, Russia has a large fake inflatable military that shows up to satellites that keeps the Pentagon hopping. The bureaucrats and military cronies cannot help it: with a decades-long world reserve currency to export the effects of spending, their specialist knowledge blinds them with stupendous tunnel vision. Behold, their glorious strategy: “Putin bad, money grow on tree, my pension nice, me too smart to put skin in game, other people pay for our smart plans, we spend 700 billion and still behind rivals' nuclear technology, we spend 10 trillion more.”

Whatever they are feeding in Foggy Bottom's farm-to-table cafes does not a Sun Tzu make. Morally-blind people locked in herd inertia cannot course correct. For merely questioning NATO spending and floating a desire to talk to Putin, Trump and his entire family have received a two year media-massaged rectal exam by Robert Mueller, an architect of the Iraq War trillion dollar disaster.

But sober people who understand that money is scarce and free trade and travel undermines and defangs foreign (and domestic) authoritarians, can do something about our predicament. We can just say no. Just say no to sending youth into a military that has been abused of its original constitutional designs as it polices the world's internal disputes for cronies.

Just say no to voting for anyone that does not oppose the folly of trillion dollar interventions that make the world less safe, less free, and less interested in America's model of liberty.

Just say no to media outlets that stupidly cheer family-starving sanctions, drone strikes, and failed coups and then scapegoat the president in office when the wars drag on too long or show too many maimed and killed.

Just say no to fetid, decrepit, dying DC groupthink - toxic as it is for our minds, bodies, and souls.

**Conflict Possibilities**

Every manager knows that conflict is inevitable. It is how we deal with the conflicts that makes us successful or not. Is there a conflict between Russia and America? Between Trump and Putin? Well, yes. Why?

Ah, that is the great question. The globalist forces inside our own government would have us believe that Russia is evil and will lie at every turn. They want us to believe that Putin wants to rule the world. They want us to believe that Europe is in danger of invasion and occupation by Russia.

Really? Would anyone in their right mind want to occupy Europe? There is only one force that wants to take over Europe. Muslims. They have invaded it a half dozen times and been defeated every time. Well, all except this last time. Hitler discovered something for the globalists. He discovered the perfect fighting machine.

Islam is an ideology hat believes all women are property of men. They will kill anyone who tried to prevent them from raping any woman they want, any time they want, regardless of their age. Hitler loved these fighters, because they only had one way to get to heaven; dying in battle. Perfect.

In less than 55 years, the globalists melted the borders between countries, forced them to adopt a single currency, which they control, and facilitated an invasion of Muslims into their towns and cities so effectively, that there is no way they can recover. Well, not without violence.

This brings us to the apex of this century, I believe. The globalists have the numbers, and they need weapons to make their plan work. America has the weapons, but we also have the weapons salesmen. They want to make money, and there are a dozen countries with lots of money to buy weapons.

So, will Russia attack and bring America to its knees? No. Why? Because without the weapons, the wars stop. And war is the goal of the globalists. They don’t want victory. They want battle. They are not panicking over the yellow vest revolt in France. They are rejoicing. Why? Because every person wearing a yellow vest is mad as hell. They are not happy. They are not loving anyone. They are fighting. It is what they tried the get Obama to do with America. They wanted the Ferguson experiment to expand to a national movement. Obama’s OFA paid tens of millions dollars to Black Lives Matter and ANTIFA to organize the streets into a war zone. Just like France.

But here is the difference. You cannot stop a free man. You cannot stop a free woman. There is only one thing standing in between the globalists and their goal. The armed American. No, I am not talking about the American government. That is largely Fascist in its operation since Roosevelt’s leadership in 1933. Global, multi-billion dollar corporations send their loyal officers into the Agencies to protect them against competition. They block innovation and starve out entrepreneurship that might harm their revenue stream.

The armed American, however, is concerned with only one thing. They practice every weekend with their firearms in thousands of ranges all over the country for one thing. Almost without exception, they tell me during interview that they are practicing for the time when they have to fight for their rights against the government. Which government? Doesn’t matter. If you come for their right to speak, or to keep and bear arms, you will face them; tens of millions of them. They make up the largest citizen army on Earth.

No match for the military, you say? Hah! How has the strongest military in the world faired against Afghanistan? Somalia? The Taliban? Al Qaeda? They don’t have one hundredth the people or the weapons Americans do. No military on earth could fight its way through even one city, let alone 150 cities all armed to the teeth and all marksman with their own private weapons and a trillion rounds of ammunition. Believe me. If the armed American was the problem, you would know about it by now.

So, if Russia were to attack us, it would have to be an asymmetrical attack. In other words, they would have to attack our power grid or use biological warfare. They wouldn’t last two days. America has weaponry that does not rely on the continent to be operational. Within hours, they would be dark and cold and starving to death. They know this as well.

Europe will never attack anyone, let alone Russia. A third of Europe’s gas supply comes from Russia. Within the next ten years, 50% of Europe’s gas supply will be controlled by Putin or his successor.

Now, you see the key, don’t you? You see the solution to world peace. It is not the continuation of battle after battle. The dark globalists will lose their grip on humanity again, because we see the light now. We know how to have peace and harmony across the globe. When you turn on the light, the darkness will flee to the shadows again.

Trade. Russia sells natural gas that Europe needs. Europe sells machines and cars and clothing the Russians need. America sells everything to everyone. So, please. Listen. Stop selling weapons to warlords around the world. Stop meddling in elections around the world. Freedom and liberty are the only threats to subjugation by wicked ideologies. If the yellow vests in France tell us anything, it is that all power rests with the people, not with the globalist elite who think they can make us wage war against carbon. Have you ever heard anything so silly in your life? The real scary thing is, that they actually thought they could make us believe it and forfeit our money to them to fight it.

Now, if we could reject the globalist practice of using the color of people’s skin to separate us from one another. I am so sick and tired of hearing about the color of people’s skin. It needs to end. All of it. No more organizations using skin color as a basis for membership. No more color-based anything. Period. It all needs to end. Finally.

Remember, that which we once abhorred, we soon tolerate, then accept.

**Ion Driving in Space**

The [BepiColombo mission](https://www.space.com/35671-bepicolombo-facts.html) to Mercury that left Earth [on Oct. 19](https://www.space.com/42195-bepicolombo-mercury-spacecraft-launch-success.html) has a long, [seven-year journey](https://www.space.com/42205-why-its-hard-to-get-to-mercury-for-bepicolombo.html) ahead of it, but the spacecraft just ticked off an important milestone.

On Dec. 2, the spacecraft used two of its ion thrusters to make its first [maneuver](https://www.space.com/42646-bepicolombo-fires-ion-thrusters-toward-mercury.html) — a procedure that came after weeks of careful testing. The success means that the most powerful [electric-propulsion engine](https://www.space.com/38444-mars-thruster-design-breaks-records.html) system ever to explore space is now up and running.

"[Electric propulsion technology](https://www.space.com/40999-tiny-electric-thrusters-interplanetary-space-propulsion.html) is very novel and extremely delicate," Elsa Montagnon, Spacecraft Operations Manager for BepiColombo, said in [a statement released by ESA](http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Operations/BepiColombo_now_firing_on_all_cylinders). "This means BepiColombo's four thrusters had to be thoroughly checked following the launch, by slowly turning each on, one by one, and closely monitoring their functioning and effect on the spacecraft."

The team also needed to fit in that testing during the time when the spacecraft would always be visible from and point its antennae toward Earth so that they could properly monitor the tests. In mid-December, the thrusters will begin the series of 22 long burns that will be necessary for it [to reach Mercury](https://www.space.com/42206-bepicolombo-mercury-mission-first-photo.html). The entire journey will cover 5.6 billion miles (9 billion kilometers).

BepiColombo's powerful ion thrusters are located on the Mercury Transfer Module, which is ferrying the mission's two science orbiters to Mercury. Once the assembly arrives in 2025, the three spacecraft will separate and the orbiters will bid farewell to the [electric engines](https://www.space.com/28732-nasa-dawn-spacecraft-ion-propulsion.html) and their eerie blue glow.

**The Congressional Betrayal**

It’s Trump’s fault. What? It doesn’t matter. It’s Trump’s fault. Well, there is something you should know, because the truth matters. Just ask Julian Assange. The president does not control the country’s purse strings: Congress does… and that should frighten you.

Fact is, the president has attempted to mitigate the [debt crisis](https://spectator.org/congress-not-trump-is-responsible-for-americas-debt/). He did campaign on the issue. Though, to be fair, he was not anywhere near as vocal on the matter as other Republicans have been (many of those Republicans previously campaigned on this issue in [order](https://spectator.org/congress-not-trump-is-responsible-for-americas-debt/) to win their congressional seats and then never address the matter until the next election cycle, when they need votes and talking points).

In fact, Trump campaigned not as an austerity man but as a man who could better manage America’s massive welfare state (which accounts for the overwhelming majority of America’s debt) and he vowed to increase the already-massive defense budget. Those who expected Trump, who in another life was proud to be called the [“King of Debt,”](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/as-the-king-of-debt-trump-borrowed-to-build-his-empire-then-he-began-spending-hundreds-of-millions-in-cash/2018/05/05/28fe54b4-44c4-11e8-8569-26fda6b404c7_story.html?utm_term=.1842a671ad86)to be a man of austerity did not understand either what Trump was saying on the campaign trail or what the 62 million Americans who voted for him in 2016 wanted.

Still, as even the recent Daily Beast article concedes, in the words of presidential spokeswoman, Hogan Gidley, the president has [taken action](https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/5/8/17316126/rescission-request-omb-trump-fiscal-budget)to reduce some of the debt load in the country “including in [Trump’s] first budget that actually would’ve balanced [the budget] in 10 years, a historic, common-sense rescissions proposal.”

Naturally, this was but a start. And, by the time the proposal worked its way through the Republican-controlled Congress earlier this year, between the tax cuts last year and the $1.3 trillion spending bill passed this year, the deficit was blown up again and the debt was massively expanded. When Trump leaves office, there is set to be a “hockey stick”-like increase in the national debt that could trigger the collapse of the American economic system.

Think about this, though: if Congress ultimately controls the purse strings, and the debt has been piling up since the Reagan years, how is this all of a sudden Trump’s problem? If Congress has been talking about this matter since the 1980s, why hasn’t it formulated the necessary legislation for reining in government spending?

In fact, in the hyper-partisan corridors of power, in which Democrats and Republicans routinely squabble over everything they can, the one area of bipartisan consensus appears to be on the matter of government spending: both parties always spend more of our money whenever they can. It doesn’t matter whether the Ayn Rand-worshiping “ONE TRUE CONSERVATIVE” Paul Ryan is Speaker of the House or Nancy Pelosi is running things.

Government will continue to spend money it doesn’t have on programs that the country may not necessarily need. If the country does need such expensive programs, rather than take the politically riskier path of responsibility ([raising taxes](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-kennedy-bush/george-h-w-bush-honored-for-courage-with-1990-tax-hikes-idUSBREA4308G20140505), as George H.W. Bush was forced to do during his single term in office), then Congress will continue putting things on the credit card, expecting that my generation and [future](https://spectator.org/congress-not-trump-is-responsible-for-americas-debt/) ones will pay for these policies (which, of course, we can’t — no generation ever could).

Presidential economic advisers, such as Stephen Moore and Larry Kudlow, acknowledge that the debt is a real problem for the United States. Yet, they (like Trump), believe that the country can outgrow its debt. But, even at four percent GDP growth, the country cannot grow its way out of this level of debt (which is [expected](https://tradingeconomics.com/united-states/government-debt-to-gdp)to be 107.7 percent of GDP in 2018) — and maintaining four percent GDP growth (or higher) in an advanced economy like United States is by no means a fait accompli (even China, with its historically high GDP rate is starting to slow down).

Given America’s declining fertility [rates](https://spectator.org/congress-not-trump-is-responsible-for-americas-debt/); its high cost of living; and other factors that contribute or weaken long-term economic growth, it is unlikely that such levels can be sustained. That is, unless the United States is home to an economic revolution of the kind that the cotton gin, the automobile, and computers provided previously. Even then, the kind of debt load that America now possesses will make outgrowing the current debt nearly impossible — not without tax increases (which neither I nor anyone else really wants).

Until the next great economic revolution occurs in this country that truly spurs astronomical economic growth as the industrial and computing revolutions previously did, we will be forced to hew to classical economic logic that’s long been abandoned by successive Congresses: don’t spend more money than you make and always save for a rainy day.

Unfortunately, the president doesn’t control these things. He can demand for Congress to take certain actions (and, as noted above, has) but he’s not the decider here. Congress is the only entity that can really change things for the better and Congress only takes action when its members are consistently threatened by the loss of votes or campaign money in an election year. Since the 1980s, the American voters have not held their elected representatives and senators accountable enough to warrant the kind of drastic legislative change needed to tamp down on America’s debt problem.

If you want to cut down on the debt, force Congress to do its job by voting the bums out and making The Swamp’s life miserable until they do what you want them to do. Otherwise, get ready for an implosion very soon.

**They’re Dicks.**

Dick’s doubled down after Parkland and purged the rest of the AR-15s from its stores and then instituted a discriminatory policy against legal adults.

And it’s biting it right in the kiester, too. In remarks made to the Goldman Sachs Retailing Conference and first reported by the Washington Free Beacon, CEO Edward Stack explained that the 3.9 percent decline in the company’s sales during the third quarter could be partially attributed to its ban on the sale of assault-style rifles and on the sale of all firearms to customers under 21 years old — both of which were implemented in the wake of the Parkland shooting in February.

“Well I think it’s definitely a factor, and it’s nothing that we didn’t anticipate,” Stack said of the sales downturn during the call. “As we put out kind of our guidance for the year and our earnings guidance for the year, we knew this would happen when — we’ve made some decisions on firearms in the past and we’ve had a pretty good idea of what these consequences were going to be. We felt that was absolutely the right thing to do. We would do the same thing again if we had a mulligan, so to speak, to do it again.”

In addition to the firearm-purchasing restrictions, Dick’s also hired a number of Washington, D.C. lobbyists in May to advocate for more-stringent gun-control regulations. Taken together, the restrictions and the lobbying effort led the National Shooting Sports Foundation to expel Dick’s and caused a number of major gun manufacturers to sever ties with the retailer — developments that Stack admitted were detrimental to its third-quarter performance.

I’d say, “Who cares?” but the truth is, I do.

Honestly, it couldn’t happen to a better company. You see, while I might not like its decisions, Dick’s is a private entity (even if publicly traded) and can make whatever decisions it chooses so long as it doesn’t disobey the law. Had it stuck with just not selling AR-15s, so be it. I’d have thought it was a stupid decision but within the company’s rights.

But Dick’s couldn’t just leave it there. It had to institute a discriminatory age limit for long gun sales – something that is blatantly illegal to do – and then double down by hiring lobbyists to push an assault weapon ban.

Dick’s deserves what’s happening to it. The only downside is the people who are going to be hurt by the company’s actions. CEO Edward Stack claims that only 62 employees resigned over the policy, but I’m going to call male bovine excrement. If that number isn’t an outright fabrication, it’s only reflective of the number of people who clearly stated they were leaving over the policy. Others simply got new jobs and used that as the reason. People tend to be conflict-averse, so they come up with less divisive reasons to leave.

Such as a new job. But the company is in trouble, and it’s because of decisions made not for the good of the company, decisions that could get Stack some brownie points and maybe an invite to sit at the cool kids’ table. Of course, he may not be a corporate CEO for much longer if the company continues spiraling downward.

If I was an investor, I would be talking to my attorney. Stack should be sued for his bonuses and fired.

**The Pulsing of America**

## U.S. military warns electromagnetic pulse weapons in Iran, Russia and North Korea could melt down nuclear power plants, shut down the electricity grid for 18 months and WIPE OUT millions of Americans

EMP, or electromagnetic pulse weapons use missiles equipped with an electromagnetic pulse cannon.

This uses a super-powerful microwave [oven](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6449619/Air-Force-warns-electromagnetic-pulse-weapons-Iran-Russia-North-Korea-destroy-America.html) to generate a concentrated beam of energy.

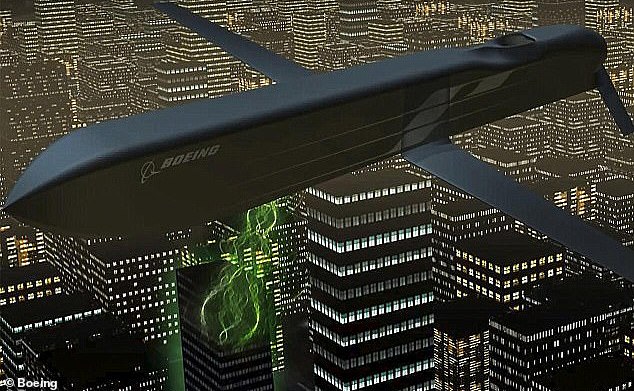
The energy causes voltage surges in electronic equipment, rendering them useless before surge protectors have the chance to react. The aim is to destroy an enemy's command, control, communication and computing, surveillance and intelligence capabilities without hurting people or infrastructure.

The military is warning the U.S. government to prepare for a potential electromagnetic pulse weapon attack, as countries like [**North Korea**](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/north_korea/index.html), [**Russia**](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/russia/index.html) and [**Iran**](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/iran/index.html) develop the special arms. Where did these rogue counties get such weaponry? They were traded the technology for support for the Clinton Crime Syndicate to take over America. Billions of dollars were poured into NGOs willing to launder some of the money back to the Syndicate. The sale of weapons to one country begins a cycle of proliferation through spies, corrupt politicians, and criminals.

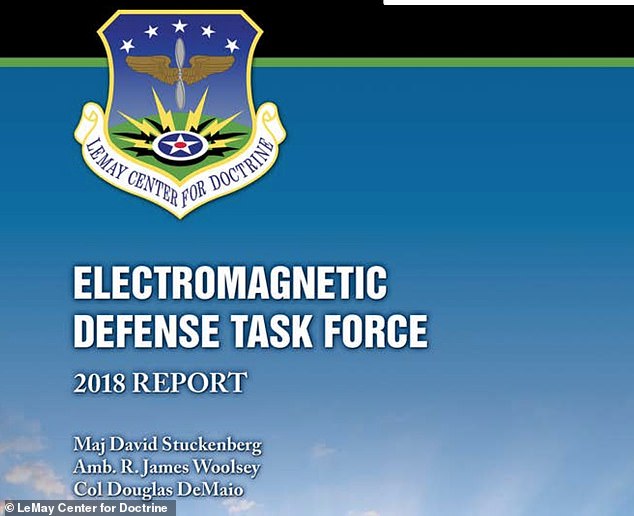
The shocking report, first published by X-Squared radio and then published by the Air Force's very own Air University, reveals that the U.S. is dismally unprepared for such an attack that could wipe out all electricity. The loss of power for more than a couple of weeks at the right time of year might kill 50 percent of the US Coastal cities, and lead to utter chaos over the rest of the country as everything from food to fuel to pharmaceuticals would be terminated immediately and take months to years to recover. 15% of the American population in stress areas of society would almost certainly perish. Another 10% of the population would be at risk simply due to overpopulation of a given city.

And it could take 18 months to restore the electricity grid and social order.

'Based on the totality of available data an [electromagnetic spectrum](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6449619/Air-Force-warns-electromagnetic-pulse-weapons-Iran-Russia-North-Korea-destroy-America.html) attack may be a threat to the United States, Democracy and world order,' the 2018 report says.



**An Air Force report reveals the U.S. is utterly unprepared for an electromagnetic pulse weapon attack that could be launched by Russia, Iran or North Korea. The U.S. has also been developing their own EMP weapons such as Boeing's Champ, or Counter-electronics High-powered microwave Advanced Missile Project, which is under construction (above)**



+2

**The shocking 2018 report (above) reveals how unprepared the U.S. is for a potential attack that could kill off 90 per cent of the East Coast, displace 4.1million people, and it could take 18 months to restore the electricity grid and social order**

EMP weapons use light, lasers, invisible microwaves and electromagnetic energy to cut off electricity. Natural sources of EMS appear in solar storms or artificially in hardware like radar or nuclear weapons.

North Korea, Russia, Iran as well as the U.S. have been developing such weapons. But, the report warns, the U.S. needs to start preparing against an attack.

If the U.S. suffered an EMP hit, electricity would be lost, the military's weapons would be downed, 99 nuclear reactors would likely melt down without electricity to cool them, and 4.1million people living near nuclear reactors would be displaced as radioactive cloud spread, according to the [**Washington Examiner.**](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/washington-secrets/military-warns-emp-attack-could-wipe-out-america-democracy-world-order)

'An EMP would cause instantaneous and simultaneous loss of many technologies reliant on electrical power and computer circuit boards, such as cell phones and GPS devices,' the report says.

Military and commercial jets would be degraded, bases would be cut off, and power and GPS would go dark making defense and counter-attacks virtually impossible. The U.S. would be unable to determine who even launched the attack as they would be deployed via satellite.  The attack would dismantle or interfere with electricity, affecting transportation, food processing and healthcare. In fact, 90 per cent of the population on the East Coast would die in a year of the attack.

'Failures may include long-term loss of electrical power (due to loss of emergency generators), sewage, fresh water, banking, landlines, cellular service, vehicles,' the report says.

Civil unrest is predicted to start within just 'hours' of the attack.   Within a few days, mass migrations would occur out of the cities and into the countryside to seek water and food. Groceries would be wiped out within 24 hours or less.

'Because control of 5G is roughly equivalent to control of the Internet, open 5G is critical to freedom and free-market economics. Meanwhile, access to the 5G-millimeter wave bandwidth will be critical to operations in all war-fighting domains, in particular, space command & control,' the report says.

'As electromagnetic technologies fuse in new and often dangerous ways, it’s critical that the military and industry make honest evaluations of present and future conflict states to ensure we’re proactive rather than reactive,' Lt. Gen. Steven Kwast said.

The report's authors Air Force Maj. David Stuckenberg, former CIA director James Woolsey, and Col. Douglas DeMaio want the government to declare a potential EMP attack as a critical issue.

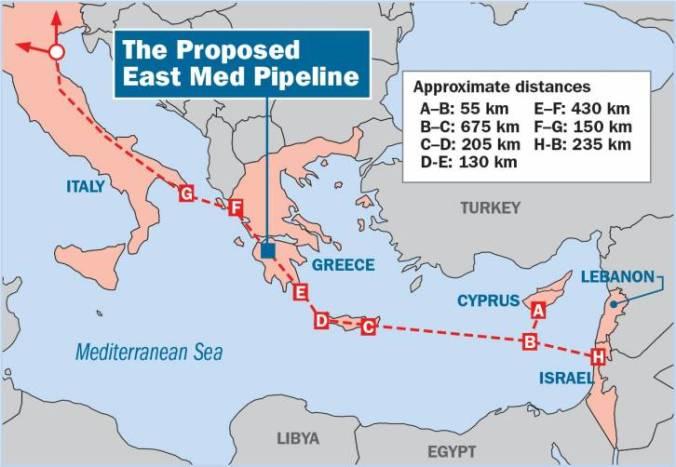
'The potential for an adversary to inflict damage on states through EMS attack has grown significantly. An EMP attack affects all devices with solid-state electronics and could render inoperative the main grid and backup power systems, such as on-site generators,' the report says.

**The Gassing of Europe**

War makes things difficult for energy barons. The banks are usually the cause of most wars. Oh, you can throw an occasional religion in there, but at the end of the day, it can probably be rooted in a war over land or resources or money. The forced migration of a hundred million people from their homelands we have witnessed since the Bush’s decided to destabilize the Middle East is all for a big picture. Former president and human being George H.W. Bush openly read his prepared speech about the formation of a new world order. That order had a few things in mind that free people have been fighting since the dawn of time.

So, who are the powerhouses this time? I mean we know about Russia. We know about the United States. We know about Iran and Turkey and all the other players in the fight over the rights to Syria. Why? Well, I have told you many times why. That war will never end, because the winner gets to own the pipeline for gas from the Golan Heights to Europe. 400 million people who need gas to heat their homes and operate their power plants. Well, a little twist is about to change everything. And, it won’t be for the better, as it turns out.

**Israel announced a major pipeline project from the gas fields off its shore involving four countries, terminating in northern Italy.**The EastMed Pipeline could be one of the longest in history as well as one of the most technically difficult to pull off.

[](https://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/inline-images/eastmed-pipelin.jpg?itok=EVaIH0VS)

The deal was announced on World Israel News a few days ago and has **been in negotiation for a couple of years now.**

**It’s being billed as a counter to both Arab and Russian power but that’s not really true.**This will supposedly deliver 20 bcm annually to Cyprus, Greece and Italy and come at a significant cost because of the challenge of it.  But the first train will be 10 bcm according to IGI Poseiden’s website, the company building the pipeline.  10 bcm is similar in size to the Southern Gas Corridor bringing gas in from Azerbaijan.

*The agreement has been some two years in the works, with the four countries’ energy czars signing a memorandum of understanding regarding the pipeline in December 2017. It is considered a technically difficult project to complete not only because of the depth of the undersea route, but also because it will have to pass through a volcanic area in the ocean bottom between Cyprus and Greece.*

No discussion of cost was in the announcement. Actually, whatever it costs, it is cheaper than war, and while the boys of the TransAtlantic Banks and the Russians fight over the land route, the Israelis and the Italians are crafting a sea route. Why do you think Italy wants out of the EU? Why do you think that the once mighty financial empire of Rome wants their sovereignty back? Why do you think Brussels is so determined to keep its boot on the neck of the Italians?

**It was all about the politics.  But, the politics of this is Kabuki theatre.  If you have ever seen one, you know what I mean. The actors wear a dozen masks that change instantly as the dance continues. Only at the last, do we get to see who the man behind the mask really is. The Russians are in a race to beat the pipelines to Italy. Turkstream is ongoing and Europe’s gas needs are accelerating. The entire alliance with Syria was formed solely to ensure Russia’s control over the gas supply to Europe. Putin will never have to face war with Europe’s new army, or NATO, because he controls the heat and lights in everyone’s homes.**

This is a European Union project developed by [IGI Poseidon](http://www.igi-poseidon.com/en/eastmed)under the auspice of the EU’s Connecting Europe Facility program.  The EU is footing a lot of the bill for this. At the end of the day, they are the consumers, and they will pay to get it. The bankers are going to win, no matter what happens. That’s the way a hedge works.

Russia already supplies between 35% – 40% of Europe’s gas.  That share has increased because of rising demand and no new pipeline developments. **And for Europe, the most economical gas is that delivered by Russian pipes.**Both the STC and EastMed pipelines will be profitable but only after the EU portion of the funding is written off, which it will be. The contractors that build the pipeline may be actually paid, but I doubt it.

**EastMed, like the STC, has been in development for nearly ten years.  Turkstream went from idea to reality in two.**These are projects force-fed onto European consumers for political purposes, not economic ones.  Diversification of supply is fine if it makes economic sense.  But if it doesn’t, all it’s doing is lengthening the time to profit for the people who paid for the project in the first place, the**consumers through their taxes.**

Moreover, **if these projects were fundamentally economic they wouldn’t require such a long time to negotiate.** The negotiations stem from none of the principles wanting to pay for the uneconomic part of the costs.  And that’s where the EU steps in to provide that cost which is then passed onto the consumer. It isn’t the profits off the gas that is as important as WHO controls the supply. Russians want to do what they always wanted to do. They wanted to control Europe. The Italians controlled Europe for over a thousand years, and they soon will again with this new pipeline.

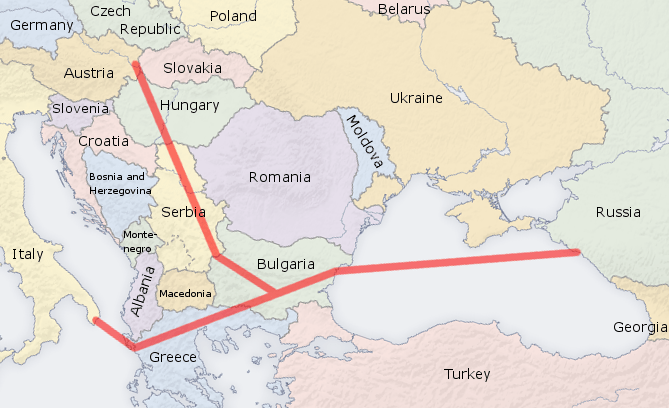
**In the end, none of this will truly matter since the need for gas into Europe is so high and unlikely to be replaced by anything else in the foreseeable future.  Europe is wedded to bad environmental ideas which, in turn, become bad energy policy. Gas is pollution free, and they refuse to build more nuclear plants to solve their energy needs.**

French President Emmanuel Macron that France would be shutting down 14 of its 58 nuclear reactors by 2035.  The only thing keeping France’s insanely Marxist economy functioning is its cheap nuclear-generated electricity. Without electricity, the entire continent will be plunged into the dark ages, no pun intended. Macron wants to drop this from 72% of current power needs to 50% and spin up unreliable sources like solar and wind. He may not live to see it, at the rate he is going.

**But, back to Israel and the politics of EastMed, this pipeline, like the SCT from Azerbaijan, doesn’t threaten Russian market share because of its ultimate cost.  Transport**[**costs money**](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-01/ins-and-outs-israels-pipeline-europe)**, even for piped gas.  And the longer the pipeline the more transport costs matter. What will matter is the political control. Now that the project cat is out of the bag, it be interesting to see if Brussels or Russia is the first to begin killing off the board members of EastMed.**

Simply explained, if the pipeline goes North through Syria, the Russians will be happy with their investment in the alliance with Assad. If it goes across the Med and through Italy, the Italians regain their prominence and the EU loses another nation to sovereignty. In my opinion it is doubtful that the Israelis will lose either way, economically. Europe needs the gas, and unless a better source is found underneath the Netherlands, they are going to face war if they want to maintain their control over Italy.

What I think is interesting is the **dichotomy between what Germany gets and what Italy gets in terms of gas supply.** Germany gets the massive Nordstream 2 bringing in more than twice what Italy gets from the more expensive EastMed and SCT will bring.

[](https://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/inline-images/russias-south-stream-pipe-line.png?itok=CediDoiE)

**Remember, SouthStream’s original plan was to go through Bulgaria, across to Austria and a second stream across Greece to Italy.  That was quashed because of U.S. interests in keeping Russia down. Providing that much power to Putin over Europe was what Hillary championed for ten years. There is the real Russia Collusion.**   And because Israel wanted EastMed and the Saudis were working for a pipeline through Turkey through Syria the war broke out and Damascus was destroyed.

And Angela Merkel was only too happy to [oblige](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-01/ins-and-outs-israels-pipeline-europe) to keep Greece and Italy from accessing cheap Russian gas. No, they can have expensive Azeri and Israeli gas instead.

This is yet another reason why**Italy needs to be done with the EU.  It is obvious  Germany and France want control over energy inflows to ensure political as well as economic dominion over any state that thinks about getting uppity to their rule.**

This latest [win](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-01/ins-and-outs-israels-pipeline-europe) for European Energy Security is exactly that. It will be most interesting to watch Salvini fight his war against Brussels and the new European army forming up. Trump is being smart by staying out of it and dealing with the victors of this war over the gassing of Europe.

**Precious Metals Through the Mail**

On November 9, the Canadian government amended rules for "non-mailable items" and snuck into those rules is a prohibition against mailing ". . . gold bullion, gold dust and non-manufactured precious metals unless mailed under an Agreement between Canada Post and the mailer"

Precious metals are now a prohibited item and can be seized if mailed from a source that does not have this agreement with the government. Worse, anyone found violating the non-mailable guidelines can be charged with an Indictable offense and may be IMPRISONED for up to five years. Originally, it was believed that money was being laundered through the use of precious metals. Possibly, but not in the quantities that small investors buy them. Anything up to 100 ounces of silver is not going to be used to launder money. This is seen my most of the boards I researched as a way to track very small investors who want to hedge against inflation of their storage money. The banks don’t pay crap for interest, and everyone knows that silver is shorted to about one tenth its real value. They make it illegal to ship between investors, without having a contract with the Canadian government. Basically, it is turning silver into the same thing as a firearm. You cannot sell your firearm and ship it through the mail without an FFL on both ends. Then, you pay a “transfer fee” to the State to get the gun into your hands and registered with the State. By the way, all silver bars have serial number on them.

What's mind-boggling about this is that Canada Post is a Crown Corporation owned by the government. Yet ANOTHER crown corporation, the Canada Mint, SELLS Silver, Gold, Platinum, Palladium Bullion (i.e. non-manufactured precious metals) and quite often Canadians can actually BUY that bullion . . . at Canada Post Offices!

So, the government of Canada wants to know the name, signature, and address of every person who receives precious metals by mail. That should concern everyone within the sound of my voice tonight.

**Cayotes of the Caravan Now Fugitives**

Why did tens of thousands of people leave their homes and march thousands of miles with no food or water to the America border? Because there were very highly paid organizers who marketed the idea that once a person set foot into the USA, they were going to get a better life. They lied to thousands of innocent people, because they were being paid like event planners by billionaires like Michael Blumberg. His Pueblo Sin Fronterra was the largest group marketing the American dream as a ploy to attack Donald Trump.

But, President Trump was ahead of the Socialists trying to meddle in the 2018 election. He sealed off the border. The ones who managed to find a crack in the border fence were arrested and detained. Now, Mexican cities are enraged by the freeloading masses that choke their peaceful streets. As Mexicans become increasingly impatient with the caravan of illegal immigrants staying in Tijuana, the city’s mayor suggested arresting the organizers of the caravan.

Fox News correspondent Griff Jenkins sat down with Tijuana Mayor Juan Manuel Gastelum to discuss the caravan currently camping out in his city. Gastelum told Fox News that the federal police should arrest the organizers of the caravan for “putting people at risk. Let’s take care of them in a legal way.”

It’s not surprising that Gastelum is growing impatient with the caravan. There is an estimated over 6,000 migrants settled in his city, and they are beginning to cause problems.

“We’ve have never, never, never, never had this problem,” Gastelum said. “Some of these people are coming in violently, disrespectfully, not as a good, law-abiding citizen. And that’s what’s hurt us. In those six hours that the border was closed, we lost approximately 129 million pesos,” he said. “That’s not fair. How do you think people from Tijuana feel towards those people who are making problems?. I’m not going to break public services to solve this problem.”

Tijuana residents who legally cross the border every day to work in San Diego were unable to go to work because of the temporarily closed border. It cost the city the equivalent of over 6 million dollars.

Gastelum is not alone in his disdain for the caravan. Mexicans in general seem to have a negative view of the caravan that settled in their country. A poll conducted by Mexico City newspaper El Universal revealed that 70 percent of Mexicans have a negative view of the migrant caravan. Ultimately, Gastelum places the blame on the caravan organizers.

“Those are the real criminals because they’re dealing with the lives of people,” he added.

It’s true that this entire crisis wouldn’t exist if the organizers didn’t manipulate thousands of people into thinking they’d be able to illegally enter the United States. These caravans will keep coming if the organizers go unpunished. In my opinion, all of Michael Blumberg’s money and all of George Soros’s money should be seized and used to build the wall. Steyer and Singer and the rest of the billionaires who seek to overthrow the American government through this subterfuge should have their money frozen and confiscated to pay for the cost of their meddling. It could happen by tomorrow with the stroke of a pen. Call it an act of sedition or classify them an enemy combatant and take them to a Tribunal and make it happen.

Tijuana’s mayor gets it. We should too.

**The HRC Indictments**

Sex crimes with children, child exploitation, money laundering, perjury, and pay to play, reads the partial list of crimes that, claim New York City Police Department sources, could “put Hillary and her crew away for life.”

Shocking evidence of such criminality has been found on ex-congressman Anthony Weiner’s laptop computer, claim the sources, which was seized from him by NYC officials investigating his allegedly having sent sexually explicit texts to a 15-year-old girl. Moreover, Hillary Clinton’s “crew” supposedly includes not just close aide and confidante Huma Abedin and her husband, Weiner, but other aides and insiders — and even members of Congress. There is even more evidence on the server that was hidden from subpoena. Every American reporter should be asking every day “where is the server?”

NYPD sources said these new emails include evidence linking Clinton herself and associates to:

• Money laundering

• Child exploitation

• Sex crimes with minors (children)

• Perjury

• Pay to play through Clinton Foundation

• Obstruction of justice

• Other felony crimes

NYPD detectives and a [sic] NYPD Chief, the department’s highest rank under Commissioner, said openly that if the FBI and Justice Department fail to garner timely indictments against Clinton and co- conspirators, NYPD will go public with the damaging emails now in the hands of FBI Director James Comey and many FBI field offices.

“What’s in the emails is staggering and as a father, it turned my stomach,” the NYPD Chief said. “There is not going to be any Houdini-like escape from what we found. We have copies of everything. We will ship them to Wikileaks or I will personally hold my own press conference if it comes to that.”

These allegations, if true, could explain why Director Comey reopened the investigation into Clinton’s mishandling of classified information, a move that shook the political world and caused Comey to come under fire. As the NYPD chief put it, the new e-mails contents truly are “alarming.”

According to FBI sources, both Abedin and Weiner are trying to cut immunity deals with federal officials and that, if they didn’t cooperate, they’d face long prison sentences. Abedin’s turning state’s evidence would no doubt be devastating for Clinton, as the two women have for years been joined at the hip. Abedin has at times been like Clinton’s shadow, has been called her “body woman,” and has even been rumored to be Clinton’s lesbian lover. So Abedin likely knows where, as is said, the bodies are buried.

Of particular note, the new e-mails allegedly contain information revealing that Hillary, Bill Clinton, Weiner, and numerous congressmen took trips to convicted billionaire pedophile Jeffrey Epstein’s private island, where he is said to pimp out underage minors of both sexes to prominent people. The trips were taken aboard Epstein’s Boeing 747, dubbed the “Lolita Express”; the pedophile’s island, in the US Virgin Islands, has been called “Sex Slave Island.”

These revelations would also explain why Clinton used powerful software called BleachBit to scrub damning information from her private server. According to BleachBit’s website, its program gives criminals and others the ability to “shred files to hide their contents and prevent data recovery.”

Yet it can’t scrub bumbling perverts from your personal life, and Weiner’s laptop also contains incriminating e-mails revealing the mishandling of classified information by Abedin and Clinton, say the sources. Both women “sent and received thousands of classified and top secret documents to personal email accounts,” and this information could have been “accessed, printed, discussed, leaked, or distributed by untold numbers ... of unknown individuals,” writes True Pundit.

Consequently, according to True Pundit, FBI sources say the new Clinton investigation has been broadened and now includes matters such as how:

• Abedin forwarded classified and top secret State Department emails to Weiner’s email

• Abedin stored emails, containing government secrets, in a special folder shared with Weiner warehousing over 500,000 archived State Department emails.

• Weiner had access to these classified and top secret documents without proper security clearance to view the records

• Abedin also used a personal yahoo address and her Clintonemail.com address to send/receive/store classified and top secret documents

• [a] private consultant managed Weiner’s site for the last six years, including three years when Clinton was secretary of state, and therefore, had full access to all emails as the domain’s listed registrant and administrator via Whois email contacts.

If these new allegations are all accurate, they just add more intrigue to a presidential campaign that is truly unprecedented, with a torrent of WikiLeaks and Project Veritas revelations and now Clinton’s Weiner woes. From vote fraud to inciting violence to child sex abuse to pay-for-play to perjury, it’s becoming clear to many that the Democratic Party — and the Clintons in particular — are essentially a criminal syndicate. As former assistant FBI director James Kallstrom said in a Sunday interview, “The Clintons, that’s a crime family, basically. It’s like organized crime. I mean the Clinton Foundation is a cesspool.... God forbid we put someone like that [Clinton] in the White House.” And now we know better why, as I wrote Sunday, this “appears standard FBI sentiment. I personally know of an ex-agent — someone with knowledge of Clinton ‘crime family’ dealings — who I’m told is having trouble sleeping at night due to the prospect of a Clinton presidency.”

This is precisely why I wrote the best-seller *Charm of Favor*. All these revelations raise important questions: How could Hillary Clinton and her cohorts have bumbled so badly that they appear a cross between Inspector Clouseau and Boss Tweed?

And if Clinton is so careless with her own personal survival, how can she be trusted with national survival?

The answer is that they were not bumbling idiots. They were not careless. They were protected. Both Clintons have engaged in continual criminality over the decades — and have been allowed to skate at every turn, because they have dirt on everyone. The FBI has been the opposition research firm for the Democrats since 1935. They have not become corrupt. They have always been rooted in corruption. Their unchecked power has given them the ability to alter the course of history. They have continuously attacked America and sought to protect the Democrats in al their criminal activities. This lack of accountability has led to ever-increasing brazenness, just as with a child never punished for wrongdoing. That’s why they smile and carry on as though nothing can touch them.

Perhaps, with the writing of the blockbuster book, Clinton corruption has reached critical mass. Maybe, just maybe there will be justice. One by one, the dark leaders of the most corrupt and bloodthirsty cabal ever known are dying of old age. The Clinton Crime Syndicate needs to be taken down tomorrow, if America, in fact the world, is going to survive in peace.

Unless there is a rebellion inside the FBI, I fear there is no hope for the rule of law. It has become the rule by law.

The Clintons are a “crime family” and Hillary a “pathological liar,” [said](http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/presidential-races/303458-former-fbi-official-clintons-are-a-crime-family) former assistant FBI director James Kallstrom during an interview Sunday. And it appears his belief is shared by current rank-and-file FBI agents, as a rebellion has apparently been brewing within the bureau.

The latest shocking news on this front is that despite a plea deal to destroy laptops (evidence) belonging to Clinton associates, those devices were *not* destroyed and are still in the possession of the FBI. As the *Daily Caller* [reports](http://dailycaller.com/2016/10/29/dc-attorney-fbi-never-destroyed-laptops-of-clinton-aides/):

Washington D.C. attorney Joe DiGenova said on The David Webb Show on SiriusXM Friday night that despite the FBI agreeing to destroy the laptops of Clinton aide Cheryl Mills and ex-campaign staffer Heather Samuelson as part of immunity deals made during the initial investigation of Clinton’s email server, agents involved in the case refused to destroy the laptops.

“According to the agreement reached with the attorneys who handed over their laptops, the laptops were to be destroyed per the agreement after the testimony was given — the interviews were given — by the attorneys. The bureau and the department agreed to that,” DiGenova said. “However the laptops contrary to published reports were not destroyed and the reason is the agents who are tasked with destroying them refused to do so. And by the way the laptops are at the FBI for inspection by Congress or federal courts.”

DiGenova said the laptops have already been subpoenaed and the FBI is waiting for Congress to ask for them.

As to this report’s credibility, *American Thinker’s* Thomas Lifson [notes](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2016/10/joe_digenova_fbi_agents_refused_orders_to_destroy_laptops_and_they_still_exist.html) that “DiGenova, a former US Attorney and Washington, DC superlawyer is no flake. He has plenty of contacts within the FBI and a reputation to protect. So I take his words on Sirius/XM’s David Webb show quite seriously.”

Ever since FBI director James Comey (shown above) shook the political world Friday by announcing that the bureau was reopening the investigation into Clinton’s illegal use of a private e-mail server, theories as to why he’s acting now have proliferated. After all, since consensus was that Comey was covering for the Democrats at the Obama administration’s behest, no one expected a revisiting of Clinton’s criminality just over a week before the election.

Of course, given that [tens of thousands of e-mails](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2016-10-29/fbi-found-tens-thousands-emails-belonging-huma-abedin-weiners-laptop) — some apparently Clinton related — were recovered from ex-congressman Anthony Wiener’s laptop during an investigation into his having sent illicit text messages to a 15-year-old girl, the most obvious explanation is that of Watergate journalist [Carl Bernstein](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/video/2016/10/28/bernstein_fbi_would_not_reopen_case_unless_new_evidence_was_a_real_bombshell.html), that whatever was found is “a real bombshell.” As Thomas Lifson [wrote](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2016/10/3_competing_theories_on_why_the_fbi_reopened_the_hillary_email_server_investigation.html) in “3 competing theories on why the FBI re-opened the Hillary email server investigation,” “It is possible that something so dramatic came up in the pertinent emails that postponing a public reaction by not announcing the reopening of the investigation would, [sic] be regarded as political interference by covering up a smoking gun until after the election. In this scenario, Comey is assuming the evidence cannot be suppressed, and that he would be held accountable after it comes out. This scenario also indicates that we could be headed for a constitutional crisis, involving the possible indictment of a president-elect before an election. Or the evidence being turned over to the House of Representatives for impeachment hearings.”

The second theory Lifson outlined was one put forth by radio host Rush Limbaugh. As Lifson wrote, “By announcing an FBI Investigation resuming, Comey is putting a lid on further attention to Wikileaks. I guess this means that Clinton forces will argue we must wait for the investigation to be complete (after the election) before speaking about what the evil Russians are planting into our politics.”

Lastly, Lifson wrote that Comey “might be seeking to restore his badly damaged reputation, recognizing that the damage he has inflicted on the FBI is substantial. Three days ago, *American Thinker* published an [open letter](http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2016/10/a_retired_fbi_agent_addresses_james_comey_on_the_hillary_clinton_investigation.html) from a retired FBI agent, Hugh Galyean, that laid out some of the damage Comey has inflicted on the institution he leads. There is little doubt that this reached many in the FBI family, putting in print what people have only whispered about. If those silenced voices start speaking out, Comey could face a serious loss of face. In this scenario, he is heading off a staff rebellion, possibly including mass resignations.”

This last theory is lent great credence by the news that the plea-deal laptops were never destroyed. If that story is true, it reflects a rebellion more serious than most anyone had imagined — with agents *defying a direct order*. This also adds weight to a related theory: that agents are so disgruntled that not only could some “resign and reveal,” but that active personnel could actually leak the truth to the media. If this is the case, Comey might be trying to get out ahead of such a development.

None of this is hard to imagine. While the FBI director is a political appointee perhaps chosen based on party or ideological loyalty, rank-and-file agents didn’t join the bureau for political power or money. They often are people who chose their career because they wanted to serve their country, and many (if not most) take their [oath](https://www2.fbi.gov/publications/leb/2009/september2009/oath.htm) to “support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic” very seriously. And word has it that they have no respect for Comey, viewing him as a “dirty cop.”

The aforementioned James Kallstrom vindicated this assessment, saying “that FBI Director James Comey and the rest of the FBI’s leadership were responsible for holding back the investigation, not the rest of the bureau,” [reports](http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/presidential-races/303458-former-fbi-official-clintons-are-a-crime-family) the *Hill*. “‘The agents are furious with what’s going on, I know that for a fact,’ he said.”

This is, apparently, because the agents know what Kallstrom does. As the *Hill* further writes:

“The Clintons, that’s a crime family, basically,” Kallstrom said. “It’s like organized crime. I mean the Clinton Foundation is a cesspool.”

... He also blasted Attorney General Loretta Lynch, claiming that she impeded the investigation into Clinton’s private server.

“The problem here is this investigation was never a real investigation,” he said. “That’s the problem. They never had a grand jury empanelled, and the reason they never had a grand jury empanelled, I’m sure, is Loretta Lynch would not go along with that.”

“God forbid we put someone like that in the White House,” he added of Clinton.

This appears standard FBI sentiment. I personally know of an ex-agent — someone with knowledge of Clinton “crime family” dealings — who I’m told is having trouble sleeping at night due to the prospect of a Clinton presidency.

Two other people who may now have trouble finding the [arms of Morpheus](https://www.google.com/#q=arms+of+morpheus) are Clinton and her longtime aide and confidante (and rumored lesbian lover) Huma Abedin. Abedin, who has [questionable Islamic connections](http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/presidential-campaign/292310-huma-abedins-ties-to-the-muslim-brotherhood), is Anthony Wiener’s estranged wife and is apparently responsible for the Clinton-related e-mails found on his laptop. Note that Abedin may have legal problems herself, having [sworn under oath](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/10/29/huma-abedin-swore-under-oath-she-gave-up-all-the-devices-containing-state-department-emails.html) that she relinquished “all devices” and having signed, under penalty of perjury, a document [stating](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_CAMPAIGN_2016_CLINTON_EMAIL?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2016-10-29-15-19-57) she wasn’t retaining any copies of the relevant materials.

Whether or not the new Clinton e-mails contain devastating information, they certainly provide an excuse for Director Comey to reopen the investigation, thus controlling a bureau rebellion that could lead to his own scandalization and career destruction. He may now realize that it’s a matter of Clinton — or him.

**The UN Seeks to Criminalize Protests Against Forced Migration**

You have heard about the UN Migration Pact? It seeks to make it a jail sentence if you speak out against Brussels policy of forced migration. Well, not so fast. A previously obscure 34-page, jargon-filled document is causing political convulsions across Europe — even though it’s not even legally binding.

Italy this week became the latest in a string of European countries to say it would not sign the U.N.’s Global Compact on Migration at a ceremony in Marrakech in just under two weeks. From the Netherlands through Belgium and Germany to Slovakia, the pact has triggered infighting in ruling parties and governments, with at least one administration close to breaking point.

The fight over the pact illuminates how migration remains a combustible issue across the Continent, three years after the 2015 refugee crisis and with next May’s European Parliament election on the horizon. Far-right parties keen to make migration the key campaign issue have seized on the pact while some mainstream parties have sought to steal their thunder by turning against the agreement. Liberals and centrists, meanwhile, have found themselves on the defensive — arguing that the agreement poses no harm and migration is best handled through international cooperation.

Louise Arbour, the senior U.N. official overseeing the pact, said she is surprised by the controversy, as diplomats from 180 countries — including many that have now pulled out — signed off on the text last summer after two years of negotiations.

The initiative was launched at the request of Europe after the migration surge of 2015, Arbour said. The countries now having “second thoughts or misgivings” were very active during the negotiations and “extracted compromises from the others,” she told POLITICO in an interview.

The recent wave of European withdrawals was triggered by conservative Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz, who renounced the pact at the end of October. Arbour, a former Canadian judge and U.N. human rights commissioner, said the recent backtracking illustrates a clear “disconnect” between some countries’ foreign policies “and domestic pressures or national concerns that were not included into the process.”

She stressed the compact is not binding and, after its formal adoption next month, “there is not a single member state that is obligated to do anything that it doesn’t want to.”

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, to give it its full name, sets out a “cooperative framework” for dealing with international migration. Signatories agree, for example, to limit the pressure on countries with many migrants and to promote the self-reliance of newcomers. The document states that no country can address migration alone, while also upholding “the sovereignty of States and their obligations under international law.”

That assurance has not been enough to placate many in Europe. Hungary, whose Prime Minister Viktor Orbán has made anti-migrant policies his signature issue, pulled out while the pact was being negotiated. But the recent wave of European withdrawals was triggered by conservative Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz, who renounced the pact at the end of October.

German Interior Minister Horst Seehofer (left), Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz (center) and his coalition partner Heinz-Christian Strache (right) meet in Vienna to discuss immigration, July 2018 | Michael Gruber/Getty Images

Heinz-Christian Strache, the leader of the far-right Freedom Party, Kurz’s coalition partner, declared that “Austria must remain sovereign on migration” and said the country is “playing a leading role in Europe.” At least in terms of the pact, that turned out to be true with Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Estonia, Croatia and Switzerland all following Vienna’s lead.

Slovakia is among the most recent countries to withdraw its support for the pact. After an EU summit on Sunday, Prime Minister Peter Pellegrini said Bratislava would not support the pact “under any circumstances and will not agree with it.”

Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajčák on Thursday said he would resign after parliament decided to reject the pact. Lajčák was president of the U.N. General Assembly when the migration pact was adopted.

Populist parties in other countries have forced the pact to the top of the political agenda. The Dutch government under Prime Minister Mark Rutte has come under pressure from far-right leaders, including Geert Wilders and Thierry Baudet, who refers to the agreement as the “U.N. Immigration Pact.” The government ordered a legal analysis of the text last week to ensure that signing it will not entail any legal consequences. The Cabinet finally decided on Thursday that it would support the pact, but would add an extra declaration, a so-called explanation of position, to prevent unintended legal consequences.

In Germany, the pact has become an issue in the battle to succeed Angela Merkel — the EU politician most associated with a more liberal approach to migration — as leader of the ruling Christian Democratic Union (CDU). Two of the leading contenders for the post, Jens Spahn and Friedrich Merz, have both criticized the agreement and called for it to be amended.

The pact is a major cooperation project … a political initiative to align initiatives for the common benefit” — Louise Arbour

The German chancellor mounted a spirited defense of the pact, telling the Bundestag last week that the agreement is in Germany’s national interest as it will encourage better conditions for refugees and migrants elsewhere in the world.

Arbour argued that although the pact is not legally binding, it is still worthwhile. “The pact is a major cooperation project … a political initiative to align initiatives for the common benefit,” she said.

But such arguments cut little ice with the WerteUnion (“Union of Values”), a group of thousands of conservative members of the CDU and its Bavarian sister party. It takes issue with multiple sections of the pact, such as a declaration that migrants “regardless of their status, can exercise their human rights through safe access to basic services.” The group argues that as German social benefits are high, such a commitment would encourage migrants to come to Germany.

In Belgium, the pact has put liberal Prime Minister Charles Michel’s coalition government at risk. The Flemish nationalist N-VA, the biggest party in government, has demanded Belgium withdraw from the agreement. Michel is caught between his commitment to the pact and his coalition partner’s rejection of it — while seeking to fend off a Francophone opposition that will take any opportunity to portray him as a puppet of the Flemish nationalists ahead of federal, regional and European elections next May.

Searching for a way to keep his government afloat, Michel has been consulting with a handful of European countries including Denmark, Estonia, the U.K. and Norway, to produce a joint statement to be attached to the pact, according to Belgian media. Another idea is for several of those countries to join the Netherlands in signing a common “explanation of position,” Dutch newspaper De Volkskrant reported.

Arbour said it’s too late to start making changes to the pact itself. Renegotiating the text or attaching an extra statement is “not what other [countries] have signed up to,” she said.

But that is exactly what we are about to see. The Un has never had power, except in their own imaginations. They are more concerned with keeping the finest buffet lunch in New York fully funded that they are in doing wah is in the interest of the greater good. They are primarily an anti-American body of socialists, seeking their next free lunch on your dime.

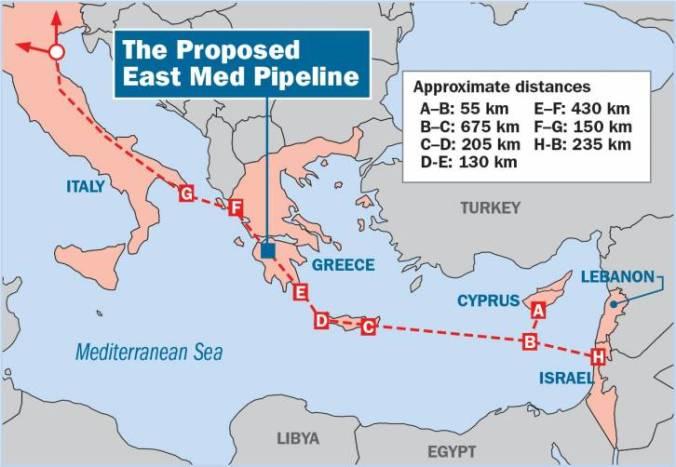
I, for one, speak out every day against forced migration. If you want fine me or jail me for saying this, come and get me.

**The Gassing of Europe**

War makes things difficult for energy barons. The banks are usually the cause of most wars. Oh, you can throw an occasional religion in there, but at the end of the day, it can probably be rooted in a war over land or resources or money. The forced migration of a hundred million people from their homelands we have witnessed since the Bush’s decided to destabilize the Middle East is all for a big picture. Former president and human being George H.W. Bush openly read his prepared speech about the formation of a new world order. That order had a few things in mind that free people have been fighting since the dawn of time.

So, who are the powerhouses this time? I mean we know about Russia. We know about the United States. We know about Iran and Turkey and all the other players in the fight over the rights to Syria. Why? Well, I have told you many times why. That war will never end, because the winner gets to own the pipeline for gas from the Golan Heights to Europe. 400 million people who need gas to heat their homes and operate their power plants. Well, a little twist is about to change everything. And, it won’t be for the better, as it turns out.

**Israel announced a major pipeline project from the gas fields off its shore involving four countries, terminating in northern Italy.**The EastMed Pipeline could be one of the longest in history as well as one of the most technically difficult to pull off.

[](https://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/inline-images/eastmed-pipelin.jpg?itok=EVaIH0VS)

The deal was announced on World Israel News a few days ago and has **been in negotiation for a couple of years now.**

**It’s being billed as a counter to both Arab and Russian power but that’s not really true.**This will supposedly deliver 20 bcm annually to Cyprus, Greece and Italy and come at a significant cost because of the challenge of it.  But the first train will be 10 bcm according to IGI Poseiden’s website, the company building the pipeline.  10 bcm is similar in size to the Southern Gas Corridor bringing gas in from Azerbaijan.

*The agreement has been some two years in the works, with the four countries’ energy czars signing a memorandum of understanding regarding the pipeline in December 2017. It is considered a technically difficult project to complete not only because of the depth of the undersea route, but also because it will have to pass through a volcanic area in the ocean bottom between Cyprus and Greece.*

No discussion of cost was in the announcement. Actually, whatever it costs, it is cheaper than war, and while the boys of the TransAtlantic Banks and the Russians fight over the land route, the Israelis and the Italians are crafting a sea route. Why do you think Italy wants out of the EU? Why do you think that the once mighty financial empire of Rome wants their sovereignty back? Why do you think Brussels is do determined to keep its boot on the neck of the Italians?

**It was all about the politics.  But, the politics of this is Kabuki theatre.  If you have ever seen one, you know what I mean. The actors wear a dozen masks that change instantly as the dance continues. Only at the last, do we get to see who the man behind the mask really is. The Russians are in a race to beat the pipelines to Italy. Turkstream is ongoing and Europe’s gas needs are accelerating. The entire alliance with Syria was formed solely to ensure Russia’s control over the gas supply to Europe. Putin will never have to face war with Europe’s new army, or NATO, because he controls the heat and lights in everyone’s homes.**

This is a European Union project developed by [IGI Poseidon](http://www.igi-poseidon.com/en/eastmed)under the auspice of the EU’s Connecting Europe Facility program.  The EU is footing a lot of the bill for this. At the end of the day, they are the consumers, and they will pay to get it. The bankers are going to win, no matter what happens. That’s the way a hedge works.

Russia already supplies between 35% – 40% of Europe’s gas.  That share has increased because of rising demand and no new pipeline developments. **And for Europe, the most economical gas is that delivered by Russian pipes.**Both the STC and EastMed pipelines will be profitable but only after the EU portion of the funding is written off, which it will be. The contractors that build the pipeline may be actually paid, but I doubt it.

**EastMed, like the STC, has been in development for nearly ten years.  Turkstream went from idea to reality in two.**These are projects force-fed onto European consumers for political purposes, not economic ones.  Diversification of supply is fine if it makes economic sense.  But if it doesn’t, all it’s doing it lengthening the time to profit for the people who paid for the project in the first place, the**consumers through their taxes.**

Moreover, **if these projects were fundamentally economic they wouldn’t require such a long time to negotiate.** The negotiations stem from none of the principles wanting to pay for the uneconomic part of the costs.  And that’s where the EU steps in to provide that cost which is then passed onto the consumer. It isn’t the profits off the gas that is as important as WHO controls the supply. Russians want to do what they always wanted to do. They wanted to control Europe. The Italians controlled Europe for over a thousand years, and they soon will again with this new pipeline.

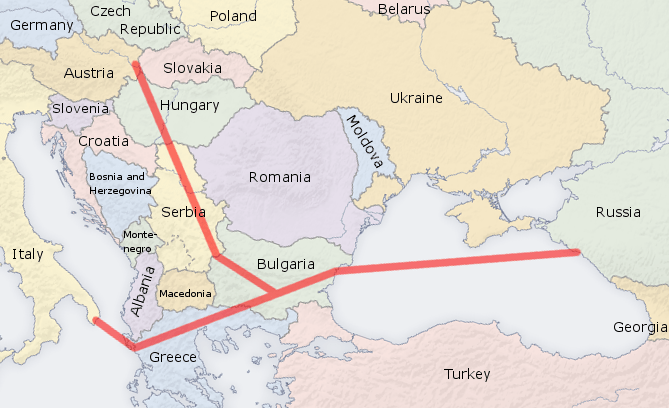
**In the end, none of this will truly matter since the need for gas into Europe is so high and unlikely to be replaced by anything else in the foreseeable future.  Europe is wedded to bad environmental ideas which, in turn, become bad energy policy. Gas is pollution free, and they refuse to build more nuclear plants to solve their energy needs.**

French President Emmanuel Macron that France would be shutting down 14 of its 58 nuclear reactors by 2035.  The only thing keeping France’s insanely Marxist economy functioning is its cheap nuclear-generated electricity. Without electricity, the entire continent will be plunged into the dark ages, no pun intended. Macron wants to drop this from 72% of current power needs to 50% and spin up unreliable sources like solar and wind. He may not live to see it, at the rate he is going.

**But, back to Israel and the politics of EastMed, this pipeline, like the SCT from Azerbaijan, doesn’t threaten Russian market share because of its ultimate cost.  Transport**[**costs money**](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-01/ins-and-outs-israels-pipeline-europe)**, even for piped gas.  And the longer the pipeline the more transport costs matter. What will matter is the political control. Now that the project cat is out of the bag, it be interesting to see if Brussels or Russia is the first to begin killing off the board members of EastMed.**

Simply explained, if the pipeline goes North through Syria, the Russians will be happy with their investment in the alliance with Assad. If it goes across the Med and through Italy, the Italians regain their prominence and the EU loses another nation to sovereignty. In my opinion it is doubtful that the Israelis will lose either way, economically. Europe needs the gas, and unless a better source is found underneath the Netherlands, they are going to face war if they want to maintain their control over Italy.

What I think is interesting is the **dichotomy between what Germany gets and what Italy gets in terms of gas supply.** Germany gets the massive Nordstream 2 bringing in more than twice what Italy gets from the more expensive EastMed and SCT will bring.

[](https://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/inline-images/russias-south-stream-pipe-line.png?itok=CediDoiE)

**Remember, SouthStream’s original plan was to go through Bulgaria, across to Austria and a second stream across Greece to Italy.  That was quashed because of U.S. interests in keeping Russia down. Providing that much power to Putin over Europe was what Hillary championed for ten years. There is the real Russia Collusion.**   And because Israel wanted EastMed and the Saudis were working for a pipeline through Turkey through Syria the war broke out and Damascus was destroyed.

And Angela Merkel was only too happy to [oblige](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-01/ins-and-outs-israels-pipeline-europe) to keep Greece and Italy from accessing cheap Russian gas. No, they can have expensive Azeri and Israeli gas instead.

This is yet another reason why**Italy needs to be done with the EU.  It is obvious  Germany and France want control over energy inflows to ensure political as well as economic dominion over any state that thinks about getting uppity to their rule.**

This latest [win](https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-12-01/ins-and-outs-israels-pipeline-europe) for European Energy Security is exactly that. It will be most interesting to watch Salvini fight his war against Brussels and the new European army forming up. Trump is being smart by staying out of it and dealing with the victors of this war over the gassing of Europe.

**Precious Metals Through the Mail**

On November 9, the Canadian government amended rules for "non-mailable items" and snuck into those rules is a prohibition against mailing ". . . gold bullion, gold dust and non-manufactured precious metals unless mailed under an Agreement between Canada Post and the mailer"

Precious metals are now a prohibited item and can be seized if mailed from a source that does not have this agreement with the government. Worse, anyone found violating the non-mailable guidelines can be charged with an Indictable offense and may be IMPRISONED for up to five years. Originally, it was believed that money was being laundered through the use of precious metals. Possibly, but not in the quantities that small investors buy them. Anything up to 100 ounces of silver is not going to be used to launder money. This is seen my most of the boards I researched as a way to track very small investors who want to hedge against inflation of their storage money. The banks don’t pay crap for interest, and everyone knows that silver is shorted to about one tenth its real value. They make it illegal to ship between investors, without having a contract with the Canadian government. Basically, it is turning silver into the same thing as a firearm. You cannot sell your firearm and ship it through the mail without an FFL on both ends. Then, you pay a “transfer fee” to the State to get the gun into your hands and registered with the State. By the way, all silver bars have serial number on them.

What's mind-boggling about this is that Canada Post is a Crown Corporation owned by the government. Yet ANOTHER crown corporation, the Canada Mint, SELLS Silver, Gold, Platinum, Palladium Bullion (i.e. non-manufactured precious metals) and quite often Canadians can actually BUY that bullion . . . at Canada Post Offices!

So, the government of Canada wants to know the name, signature, and address of every person who receives precious metals by mail. That should concern everyone within the sound of my voice tonight.

**Cayotes of the Caravan Now Fugitives**

Why did tens of thousands of people leave their homes and march thousands of miles with no food or water to the America border? Because there were very highly paid organizers who marketed the idea that once a person set foot into the USA, they were going to get a better life. They lied to thousands of innocent people, because they were being paid like event planners by billionaires like Michael Blumberg. His Pueblo Sin Fronterra was the largest group marketing the American dream as a ploy to attack Donald Trump.

But, President Trump was ahead of the Socialists trying to meddle in the 2018 election. He sealed off the border. The ones who managed to find a crack in the border fence were arrested and detained. Now, Mexican cities are enraged by the freeloading masses that choke their peaceful streets. As Mexicans become increasingly impatient with the caravan of illegal immigrants staying in Tijuana, the city’s mayor suggested arresting the organizers of the caravan.

Fox News correspondent Griff Jenkins sat down with Tijuana Mayor Juan Manuel Gastelum to discuss the caravan currently camping out in his city. Gastelum told Fox News that the federal police should arrest the organizers of the caravan for “putting people at risk. Let’s take care of them in a legal way.”

It’s not surprising that Gastelum is growing impatient with the caravan. There is an estimated over 6,000 migrants settled in his city, and they are beginning to cause problems.

“We’ve have never, never, never, never had this problem,” Gastelum said. “Some of these people are coming in violently, disrespectfully, not as a good, law-abiding citizen. And that’s what’s hurt us. In those six hours that the border was closed, we lost approximately 129 million pesos,” he said. “That’s not fair. How do you think people from Tijuana feel towards those people who are making problems?. I’m not going to break public services to solve this problem.”

Tijuana residents who legally cross the border every day to work in San Diego were unable to go to work because of the temporarily closed border. It cost the city the equivalent of over 6 million dollars.

Gastelum is not alone in his disdain for the caravan. Mexicans in general seem to have a negative view of the caravan that settled in their country. A poll conducted by Mexico City newspaper El Universal revealed that 70 percent of Mexicans have a negative view of the migrant caravan. Ultimately, Gastelum places the blame on the caravan organizers.

“Those are the real criminals because they’re dealing with the lives of people,” he added.

It’s true that this entire crisis wouldn’t exist if the organizers didn’t manipulate thousands of people into thinking they’d be able to illegally enter the United States. These caravans will keep coming if the organizers go unpunished. In my opinion, all of Michael Blumberg’s money and all of George Soros’s money should be seized and used to build the wall. Steyer and Singer and the rest of the billionaires who seek to overthrow the American government through this subterfuge should have their money frozen and confiscated to pay for the cost of their meddling. It could happen by tomorrow with the stroke of a pen. Call it an act of sedition or classify them an enemy combatant and take them to a Tribunal and make it happen.

Tijuana’s mayor gets it. We should too.

**The UN Seeks to Criminalize Protests Against Forced Migration**

You have heard about the UN Migration Pact? It seeks to make it a jail sentence if you speak out against Brussels policy of forced migration. Well, not so fast. A previously obscure 34-page, jargon-filled document is causing political convulsions across Europe — even though it’s not even legally binding.

Italy this week became the latest in a string of European countries to say it would not sign the U.N.’s Global Compact on Migration at a ceremony in Marrakech in just under two weeks. From the Netherlands through Belgium and Germany to Slovakia, the pact has triggered infighting in ruling parties and governments, with at least one administration close to breaking point.

The fight over the pact illuminates how migration remains a combustible issue across the Continent, three years after the 2015 refugee crisis and with next May’s European Parliament election on the horizon. Far-right parties keen to make migration the key campaign issue have seized on the pact while some mainstream parties have sought to steal their thunder by turning against the agreement. Liberals and centrists, meanwhile, have found themselves on the defensive — arguing that the agreement poses no harm and migration is best handled through international cooperation.

Louise Arbour, the senior U.N. official overseeing the pact, said she is surprised by the controversy, as diplomats from 180 countries — including many that have now pulled out — signed off on the text last summer after two years of negotiations.

The initiative was launched at the request of Europe after the migration surge of 2015, Arbour said. The countries now having “second thoughts or misgivings” were very active during the negotiations and “extracted compromises from the others,” she told POLITICO in an interview.

The recent wave of European withdrawals was triggered by conservative Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz, who renounced the pact at the end of October. Arbour, a former Canadian judge and U.N. human rights commissioner, said the recent backtracking illustrates a clear “disconnect” between some countries’ foreign policies “and domestic pressures or national concerns that were not included into the process.”

She stressed the compact is not binding and, after its formal adoption next month, “there is not a single member state that is obligated to do anything that it doesn’t want to.”

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, to give it its full name, sets out a “cooperative framework” for dealing with international migration. Signatories agree, for example, to limit the pressure on countries with many migrants and to promote the self-reliance of newcomers. The document states that no country can address migration alone, while also upholding “the sovereignty of States and their obligations under international law.”

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German Interior Minister Horst Seehofer (left), Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz (center) and his coalition partner Heinz-Christian Strache (right) meet in Vienna to discuss immigration, July 2018 | Michael Gruber/Getty Images

Heinz-Christian Strache, the leader of the far-right Freedom Party, Kurz’s coalition partner, declared that “Austria must remain sovereign on migration” and said the country is “playing a leading role in Europe.” At least in terms of the pact, that turned out to be true with Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Estonia, Croatia and Switzerland all following Vienna’s lead.

Slovakia is among the most recent countries to withdraw its support for the pact. After an EU summit on Sunday, Prime Minister Peter Pellegrini said Bratislava would not support the pact “under any circumstances and will not agree with it.”

Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajčák on Thursday said he would resign after parliament decided to reject the pact. Lajčák was president of the U.N. General Assembly when the migration pact was adopted.

Populist parties in other countries have forced the pact to the top of the political agenda. The Dutch government under Prime Minister Mark Rutte has come under pressure from far-right leaders, including Geert Wilders and Thierry Baudet, who refers to the agreement as the “U.N. Immigration Pact.” The government ordered a legal analysis of the text last week to ensure that signing it will not entail any legal consequences. The Cabinet finally decided on Thursday that it would support the pact, but would add an extra declaration, a so-called explanation of position, to prevent unintended legal consequences.

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**The Trump Alert**

President Trump is asking everyone to forward this email to a minimum of 20 people, and to ask each of those to do likewise.

In three days, most people in the United States will have the message. This is an idea that should be passed around, regardless of political party.

The TRUMP Rules: Congressional Reform Act of 2017

1. No Tenure / No Pension. A Congressman/woman collects a salary while in office and receives no pay when they're out of office. And, no more perks go with them.

2. Congress (past, present, & future) participates in Social Security. All funds in the Congressional retirement fund move to the Social Security system immediately. All future funds flow into the Social Security system, and Congress participates with the American people. It may not be used for any other purpose.

3. Congress must purchase their own retirement plan, just as ALL Americans do.

4. Congress will no longer vote themselves a pay raise. Congressional pay will rise by the lower of CPI or 3%.

5. Congress loses their current health care system and participates in the same health care system as the American people.

6. Congress must equally abide by all laws they impose on the American people (i.e. NO MORE INSIDER TRADING!!!).

7. All contracts with past and present Congressmen/women are void. The American people did not make this contract with Congressmen/women. Congress made all these contracts by and for themselves.

Serving in Congress is an honor and privledge NOT a career. The Founding Fathers envisioned citizen legislators should serve their term(s), then go home and go back to work … not get all kinds of freebies.

NO WONDER THEY’RE FIGHTING EVERYTHING HE TRIES! Pass it on!!!! Let's help TRUMP drain the swamp!! Just hold your finger down then hit forward and send it to everyone you know. Let’s help trump get the country straightened out.