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| --- |
| Jihad ReportOct 10, 2020 -Oct 16, 2020 |
| Attacks | **33** |
| Killed | **182** |
| Injured | **113** |
| Suicide Blasts | **0** |
| Countries | **11** |

**SpaceX Launches Starlink 60 and Nails the Landing**

 [SpaceX](https://www.space.com/18853-spacex.html) successfully launched a full stack of [Starlink internet satellites](https://www.space.com/spacex-starlink-satellites.html) into today (Oct. 18) and capped off the mission with a successful rocket landing at sea.

A two-stage [Falcon 9](https://www.space.com/18962-spacex-falcon-9.html) rocket blasted off from NASA's historic Pad 39A here at NASA's Kennedy Space Center at 8:25 a.m. EDT (1225 GMT) carrying 60 new Starlink satellites for SpaceX's growing constellation in orbit.

Approximately 9 minutes later, the booster's first stage returned to Earth, landing on one of SpaceX's drone ships in the Atlantic Ocean in a smooth touchdown. The massive ship, called Of Course I Still Love You, is one of two in the company’s fleet of recovery vessels that catch falling boosters and return them to port.

It was nothing but blue skies over the Space Coast today. Thanks to crystal clear skies, onlookers could follow the rocket from launch to stage separation.

"A great way to start off a Sunday," SpaceX production supervisor Andy Tran said during live launch commentary.

Known as B1051, the booster featured in today’s flight now has [six launches and landings](https://www.space.com/spacex-falcon-9-rocket-booster-six-time-flier-returns-home.html) under its belt — the second Falcon 9 to do so. This frequent flier has ferried four different Starlink payloads to space, as well as [a trio of Earth-observing satellites](https://www.space.com/spacex-radarsat-launch-success-foggy-landing.html) for Canada and an uncrewed Dragon spacecraft for NASA’s [Demo-1 mission](https://www.space.com/43231-spacex-demo-1-flight-iss-explainer.html) back in 2019. The landing today marked the 62st recovery of a Falcon first stage since SpaceX [recovered its first booster in 2015](https://www.space.com/31420-spacex-rocket-landing-success.html).

Today's flight marked the 18th launch of 2020 for SpaceX and the 95th Falcon 9 flight to date. SpaceX has had a busy summer and could have its busiest launch year yet. Currently that record belongs to 2018, when the company launched 21 times.

This achievement is facilitated by SpaceX’s fleet of flight-proven boosters. Currently in its rocket reserves, SpaceX has five veteran boosters, and three brand new ones that are reserved for upcoming missions. In 2018, SpaceX debuted [a souped up version of its workhorse](https://www.space.com/41636-spacex-first-block-5-falcon-rocket-launch-future.html), the Falcon 9 Block 5. This upgraded iteration received a host of new features which included a more robust thermal protection system, titanium grid fins, a more durable interstage (the hardware that connects the rocket’s two stages), and more powerful engines.

Now packing more than 1.7 million pounds of thrust, the upgraded Falcon 9 has performed reliably for the most part (the rocket has experienced two launchpad aborts in recent months)since launching its first payload in 2018 — a communications satellite for Bangladesh. With that launch, the company bid farewell to the moderately reusable Falcons of the past, ushering in a new era where the same rocket has the capability of flying many times.

Ever since, SpaceX has been working to hone its reusable rocket technology. Its track record with flight-proven rockets even earned the company the right to launch military and national security payloads as well as astronauts on [previously flown rockets](https://www.space.com/spacex-reusable-rockets-space-force-gps).

## A Starlink megaconstellation

SpaceX has grand ambitions to help make humanity a multiplanetary species. In order to help fund its Mars ambitions, the company developed a plan to blanket the Earth with internet coverage beamed down from a tight-knit menagerie of broadband satellites. This megaconstellation would consist of thousands of satellites, flying close to the planet in a region of space called low-Earth orbit.

The internet satellite network would be a way for SpaceX and its CEO, [Elon Musk](https://www.space.com/18849-elon-musk.html), to generate revenue for Mars exploration and the necessary hardware, like more advanced rockets and other spacecraft. Musk has estimated that the Starlink service could generate as much as $30 billion a year, although no actual pricing has been announced yet.

The burgeoning internet service is currently going through a [private beta-testing program](https://www.starlink.com/) where company employees have been putting the broadband service through its paces. According to reports from SpaceX team members current data indicates it can support multiple high-definition streams at the same time.

With this launch, the company will have sent more than 800 of the quarter-ton, flat-panel satellites into space — a milestone Musk has said  needed to be reached before SpaceX could begin to roll out its service. There are still regulatory hurdles to overcome and more satellites to launch before the service can be offered globally, but initial testing is promising. As a result, the company plans to open up the beta-testing to the public sometime in the near future.

SpaceX created its [Starlink megaconstellation](https://www.space.com/spacex-starlink-satellites.html) with one goal in mind: to provide more affordable high-speed internet access around the globe, especially for those in rural and remote areas. To that end, the company initially planned for a fleet of 1,440 satellites, but has since obtained approval for thousands more.

The Federal Communications Commission has granted SpaceX permission to launch as many as 12,000 of the flat-panel broadband satellites, but SpaceX may not stop there. The company has indicated it will see approval to launch as many as 30,000 of its internet-beaming satellites to beam down high-speed, low-latency Internet signals.

SpaceX builds its own Starlink satellites at a company facility in Redmond, Washington. (It also manufactures its own user terminals and ground stations at this location.) Despite still being in beta-testing, SpaceX has granted outside users access to its Starlink network. In August, the company partnered with Washington State to provide emergency responders with reliable internet access.

The state is one of several in the Western U.S. that has been devastated by wildfires this year. In August, emergency responders were given several user terminals to connect to the broadband network so that they could have access to reliable internet service to help a region in trouble.

Washington State's Emergency Management department thanked SpaceX for the access to the Starlink network on Twitter [earlier this month](https://twitter.com/waEMD/status/1310660332512190464?s=20). The tweet also included a look at the user terminals, which Musk has described as a "UFO on a stick" and boasted their simplicity, saying anyone could connect one with ease. [According to a report from CNBC](https://www.cnbc.com/2020/09/29/washington-emergency-responders-use-spacex-starlink-satellite-internet.html), officials in Washington confirmed that the user terminals are incredibly easy to use, with setup taking only a few minutes.

Also in August, SpaceX used Starlink to connect  the administration building and homes on the Hoh Native American reservation in western Washington to high-speed internet, Tran said.

"The Hoh are a Native American tribe living at the mouth of the Hoh river in western Washington state on the Pacific Coast," Tran said. "This remote location had previously hindered access to high-speed broadband, but after the Starlinks were installed the tribe went from practically no connectivity to high-speed internet overnight."

"What a difference high-speed internet can make!" Hoh tribe officials [wrote on Twitter this month](https://twitter.com/TribeHoh/status/1313901793261187073)." Our children can participate in remote learning, residents can access health care. We felt like we'd been paddling up-river with a spoon on this. SpaceX Starlink made it happen overnight." SpaceX hopes to roll out coverage to the U.S. and Canada by the end of the year, but that depends on how well the beta-testing phase goes.

**Guidebook for Destroying America**

In order to ensure a “fair election,” the far-left activist group ShutDownDC [has published](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2020/10/12/read-left-wing-radicals-post-online-guide-to-disrupting-the-country-if-election-is-close/) an online “disruption” guide with detailed instructions for comrades about how to respond to Donald Trump potentially winning a second term in the White House.

Available as a Google doc, this [*Stopping the Coup* guide](https://disrn.com/news/left-wing-group-pubishes-guide-to-disrupting-country-if-election-is-close) posits that the president is already planning a “coup” in order to win reelection, and that it is up to liberals to prevent him “from stealing the election and remaining in office.”

The only way to do this, the guide suggests, is to unleash “sustained disruptive movements all over the country.” Creating confusion and chaos, according to ShutDownDC, will ensure that the election results are “fair,” meaning not in favor of Trump.

“In the context of a coup or highly contested election we need to be clear that our actions must directly affect the structures and pillars of power,” the guide explains.

“Our largest asset in this regard utilizes the ideas of non-compliance through massive, broad based direct action. Where we can, we need to be in the streets, on the highways, or at the sites of power and power holders.”

Leftists who work are encouraged to boycott, strike, or otherwise slow down the gears of their companies in order to prevent “those taking control” from attaining “the legitimacy of the power they seek.” ShutDownDC also maintains that those in opposition to Trump need to publicly reject the election results, which the group is already expecting will create “an illegitimate ruling party.”

**American life must stop if election goes to Trump**

Under no circumstances should Trump be allowed to stay in office, ShutDownDC goes on to contend, warning that American life will need to stop in the event that Trump and his administration refuse to vacate the White House.

“In order to really win we will need to force some pillars of power (business, military, media, or other major institutions) to decide to side with the people, or at least get out of the way,” its guide goes on to explain.

“If everyday life goes on, a despot will not leave power, and so there will be no incentive for real systems change. You want to think about what it might take to stop business-as-usual.”

While claiming to not be supporters of Joe Biden, either, ShutDownDC does not present any type of scenario in which a Trump win might be legitimate. In other words, Trump winning will automatically mean that the election was stolen, necessitating further agitation.

ShutDownDC is of the persuasion that *Fox News*, and likely the president himself, “may try to declare” Trump “the victor before the votes are counted.” There is also worry that Attorney General William Barr might try to throw out mail-in ballots, a scenario that ShutDownDC says will require “direct action.”

“Those who can should be prepared to take action against those who are feeding into the stolen election narrative, including social media companies that are [letting falsehoods](https://www.naturalnews.com/2020-10-02-mark-zuckerberg-being-sued-for-meddling-in-2020-election.html) or incitements to violence spread,” the group urges.

“In the end, the actual electorate might be split, half truly believing that Trump was elected legally, and half knowing that he was not,” it adds, the insinuation again being that there is no possible scenario in which Trump can win reelection “legally.”

No matter the outcome, ShutDownDC is prepared to “take action” because it says it “cannot wait to see how the chips fall.” Doing this would “only ensure more power for the violent white supremacist machine that is the Trump administration and its supporters.”

The *Stopping the Coup* document appears to be the product of a group called Disruption Project that advocates for the United States to be taken over in a revolution “nonviolently.”

**To Save America**

It’s becoming increasingly clear to even mainstream media outlets that things are unlikely to return to “normal” after the 2020 election. The massive and unprecedented meddling by China will never be forgotten. It will never be forgiven. The locking down of the greatest economy and placing Americans in solitary confinement for 9 months has changed us, scarred us deeply. It may be generations before we emerge without our smiles intact.

And if about half the country regards the winning president as illegitimate, where does one go from there? The survey data isn’t exactly calming on this issue. As [reported by Politico last week](https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2020/10/01/political-violence-424157), the percentage of Americans who believe it is justified to use violence to “advance political goals” has quadrupled since 2017, for both Republicans and Democrats.

After all, Hillary Clinton declared that a sizable portion of the United States population constituted a “[basket of deplorables](https://time.com/4486502/hillary-clinton-basket-of-deplorables-transcript/).” Perhaps not since the 1870s and 1880s—when Catholics, Southerners, and Irish (all core constituents of the Democratic Party) were denounced by Republicans as spies, traitors, and drunks—has half the country so despised the other half. As early as 2017, when asked of the chances of another civil war in the United States, [about one-third of foreign policy scholars polled said it was likely.](https://foreignpolicy.com/2017/03/07/will-we-have-a-2nd-civil-war-you-tell-me/)

If you wear a mask, you’re hapless fool. If you don’t, then you don’t care about the weak and the vulnerable. Perhaps, then, it is not shocking that we are now seeing articles even in mainstream publications suggesting that maybe, just maybe, the United States can’t continue in its present form. Many feel we will never go back to the freedom we once had. People are afraid to kiss and hug. People don’t look at one another in the eyes anymore. The Marxists want an all-powerful central government. The Americans want decentralization and local control.

On September 18, for example, Steve Chapman in the Chicago Tribune asked: “Can the United States survive this election?” For the past century, the answer given by most any mainstream journalist would have been a decisive yes. The usual narrative has long been this: “Of course America will endure for centuries to come! We Americans are masters of compromise. We’ll all soon realize we are all in this together and come together in unity!”

The concept of dissent as American as the Fourth of July. New England states contemplated leaving over the War of 1812….The bonds that hold Americans together have again frayed, and what happens on Nov. 3 may do additional damage. No nation lasts forever, and ours won’t be the first. This election won’t be the end of the United States. But it could be the beginning of the end. It could mean the end of freedom and liberty for the world.

In 1970, the Russian dissident Andrei Amalrik wrote a book titled, “Will the Soviet Union Survive Until 1984?” At the time, the idea of a giant superpower disintegrating sounded like a fantasy. But it eventually came true. … Countries like Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia also have broken apart. Britain is leaving the European Union, and Scotland could push to leave Britain. It would be folly to think the United States is immune to these forces.

Last month in the Philadelphia Inquirer Chuck Bonfig suspected that maybe the end is near:

The country has gone through many periods of strife in my time here: assassinations, recessions, desegregation, inflation, gas crisis, Watergate, hanging chads, the AIDS crisis, 9/11. Maybe it’s the 24-hour news cycle or the immediacy of social media that makes the landscape seem so bleak, but I don’t recall us ever being so divided.

No one in our country seems happy today. The right is angry. The left is despondent. Our nation reminds me of those married couples who try to stay together for “the children” but end up making everyone around them miserable.

Maybe it’s time for a breakup….Just think about it, America. I know breaking up is hard to do. We used to be good together. But what is the point of having the “greatest country in the world” if none of us actually like it?

The debate over separation and secession has been additionally pushed into the national debate by Richard Kreitner and his book [*Break It Up: Secession, Division, and the Secret History of America’s Imperfect Union*](https://www.amazon.com/Break-Up-Secession-Division-Imperfect-ebook/dp/B07X9PWSVG/?tag=misesinsti-20). Kreitner, who writes for the leftist magazine The Nation, suggests that the United States has never been as unified as many suggest and also concludes that secession and division may be a necessary tactic in bringing about the left-wing reforms he’d like to see. [In an interview with The Nation](https://www.thenation.com/article/culture/qa-richard-kreitner-secession-break-it-up/), Kreitner discussed how he began to think about secession as a serious solution:

What if the United States broke apart? 330 million people can’t stay united, especially when leaderds have been pumping in soldiers from all over the world to rip neighborhoods apart and set fire to the middle class.

The secession of the American Revolution is the same force that is alive today. It wasn’t and isn’t about slavery or color. It is about the rule of law and whether or not it applies to everyone the same. The crime gangs like the Bidens get away with everything, while the people under their laws are jailed for smoking pot or choked to death for selling cigarettes without paying the State its tax. We want justice, and the State wants the middle class obliterated the same as the Civil War and the Depression, and the OFA’s troops attacking the patriots.

Secession has long been entertained by many Americans, and not just defenders of the old Confederacy. New Yorker George Templeton Strong, for instance, declared in 1861, Southern states “were diseased beyond immediate cure, and their virus will infect our system no longer.” That same year, other New Yorkers seriously discussed leaving the Union and becoming a city-state devoted to free trade. In 1876, the battle over who won the presidential election very nearly produced a national split, with the pro-Democrat governor of New York [“promising state resistance” to the Republican usurpers](https://mises.org/wire/if-election-produces-no-clear-winner-military-definitely-not-answer).

Nor were the nation’s founders necessarily opposed to division. Thomas Jefferson expressed prosecessionist views, even when he was a sitting president. In an 1803 letter to John Breckinridge, Jefferson explained that if the future states of the Louisiana Territory sought to secede that was fine with him:

[If] it should become the great interest of those nations to separate from this, if their happiness should depend on it so strongly as to induce them to go through that convulsion, why should the Atlantic states dread it? But especially why should we, their present inhabitants, take a side in such a question?

And in 1804, Jefferson wrote to Joseph Priestly stating:

Whether we remain in one confederacy, or form into Atlantic and Mississippi confederacies, I believe it not very important to the happiness of either part.

#### Only Decentralization Can Save the Union

At this point, there is only one strategy that can prevent a continued slide toward conflict, disunion, and (possibly) violence: decentralization of political power.

Thanks to decades of growing centralization of power in Washington, DC, American policy is increasingly made by agencies inside the national government and not by elected state and local authorities. This means American life is more and more governed by one-size-fits-all policies hatched by faraway bureaucrats in DC. Thus, with each passing decade, the stakes become higher as gun policy, healthcare, poverty relief, abortion, the drug war, education, and much more will be decided by the party that controls the committees in DC, and not in the state capitol or in the city council.

In other words, the laws that govern Arizona will be primarily made by politicians and judges from other places entirely. These faraway politicians will be more concerned with the needs and ideology of a national party, rather than with the specific needs of people who live in Arizona. It is only natural that as the national government becomes supercharged in this way many Americans might start considering ways to get beyond the central government’s reach.

It doesn’t have to be this way. The United States could follow another path in which domestic policy is created and enforced in a decentralized manner, in which laws for Texans are made in Texas and laws for Californians are made in California. This, of course, is what Thomas Jefferson imagined when he wrote that the states should be self-governing and unified only on matters of foreign policy:

The true theory of our constitution is surely the wisest and best, that the states are independent as to everything within themselves, and united as to everything respecting foreign nations. Let the general government be reduced to foreign concerns only.

In a decentralized political scheme such as this, the stakes in a national election are much lower. It doesn’t matter as much for Ohioans which party is in power in Washington when relatively few laws affecting Ohioans are made at the federal level. It would take a Convention of States to fix this.

To adopt this way of doing things, however, would require a sizable departure from the current ideology that reigns in Washington. On the left especially, it seems few can imagine a world where people in [Iowa](https://mises.org/wire/decentralization-iowa-law-offers-real-choice-abortion-laws) or [Indiana](https://mises.org/library/discrimination-isnt-about-religion-its-about-private-property) are allowed to run their own schools and healthcare systems without meddling from Washington. While conservatives’ [efforts to force marijuana prohibition on states like Colorado](https://mises.org/wire/red-state-fascism-strikes-again-time-nebraska-and-oklahoma) show that the Right is not immune from this impulse, it is abundantly clear that the Left is quite enthusiastic about the idea of sending federal enforcers to [ensure the states enact abortion on demand](https://mises.org/wire/roe-v-wade-abortion-had-always-been-state-and-local-matter), adopt Obamacare, and enforce drug prohibitions as dictated by Washington.

But unless Americans have a change of heart and begin to decentralize the political system, expect a growing unwillingness to accept the outcomes of national elections and growing resistance to the federal government in general. What follows is unlikely to be pleasant. <https://COSAction.org>

**The Vote, the Whole Vote, and Nothing But the Vote**

You know, evil leaves in its wake a stupor of thought. Whenever we fight against the resonant energy of the Golden Mean, we have to keep pouring energy into the equation to keep the momentum. Otherwise, the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics kicks in, and the system slows down and freezes up.

When Obama was president, he put so much energy into making money during his last term, that he let some things go. One of the things he let go was the Federal court. Oh, when they needed it, they would judge shop and get whatever they wanted. That’s how the DACA program was created. That’s how we got Obamacare. That’s how Iran and Hillary and ISIS and on and on got tons of taxpayer funds without anyone going to jail.

That being said, he forgot one thing. He forgot to keep up with the retiring federal judges. He got about 185 judges behind, by the time his 2nd term expired. Enter, Donald Trump. The federal court was low hanging fruit, so he nominated judges to replace the missing ones and replaced them as fast as they retired. It was easy for Mitch McConnell as well. The Democrats filibustered until they got tired, and then the judges began sailing through. 300 judges later, the court is decidedly more constitutional than it was before.

Well, it didn’t take long for the court to hit pay dirt. Democrats in 22 States they control are trying to shatter the election laws by masking the actual election day ambiguous. That is to say, the law used to say that votes had to be counted by election day. Early votes and absentee votes are only counted if they total more than the spread between the candidates on election day. In other words, if on election day the two candidates are 100 thousand votes apart, and the total of early votes and absentee votes is only 35 thousand votes, then the election is certified on election night. The votes will be counted over the next month or so, and the official total will be saved for the record, but the results won’t change. Of course, Ballots-R-us has changed all of that. They have brought in scuds of ballots a week after the election night and flipped many dozens of elections for themselves. Still, no more votes are allowed after election night, so they say. Tell that to the 9 Republicans who lost their elections in California in 2018 two weeks after they won on election night. Tell that to Arizona’s Martha McSally, who won by 25 thousand votes on election night, but mysteriously lost 95% of the absentee votes they counted two weeks after the election, which switched the election to her Democrat opponent. Democrats know how to play the game. They tried to play it again in Michigan for the 2020 election. This time, they ran up against the Federal court.

The Michigan Court of Appeals ruled Friday that absentee ballots must arrive by Election Day, November 3, to be counted — overturning a lower court decision that had extended the deadline by 14 days.

As Breitbart News reported in September, a lower state court had initially handed down a decision that favored Democrats’ effort to extend the deadline:

Michigan Court of Claims Judge Cynthia Stephens ruled that mail-in ballots postmarked by November 2 — the day before Election Day — will still be counted in Michigan in the 2020 election.

In addition, Judge Stephens said that strangers can return other people’s ballots — normally a felony — between 5:01 p.m. on Friday, October 30, and 8:00 p.m. on November 3, the moment that polling places are supposed to close on Election Day.

However, that decision was overturned in what was reportedly a straight 3-0 decision, with the panel of judges ruling that any changes to election rules must be approved by the state legislature.

Currently, the state legislature in Michigan has a Republican majority, though Gov. Gretchen Whitmer is a Democrat. President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden are fighting a pitched political battle in the state, which went Republican in 2016 for the first time in decades. The parties are facing off in court over election rules in several states — many of them considered crucial battleground states in the November presidential election.

**Censorship is the New Fascism**

Facebook censored two advertisements from the pro-life group Susan B. Anthony List’s, claiming the videos contained “partly false information” about Democratic Presidential Nominee Joe Biden and VP Nominee Kamala Harris’s views on late-term abortions.

The ads, which focus on the Democratic Party’s position in support of abortion on demand and up until the moment of birth, were labeled by “independent fact-checkers” who claim to “look carefully into claims from elected officials, reports from the media, and disinformation on social media to help you understand what’s true and what’s not.”

The “independent fact-checker,” was NeverTrump website, The Dispatch, which labeled the ads as “partly false” because Biden has not explicitly stated that he supports late-term abortions, even though he has repeatedly said he wants no restrictions on “a woman’s right” to choose.

“Biden has not expressed support for late-term abortions—which, while not being a medical term, generally refers to abortions performed at 21 weeks or later. And neither candidate has voiced support for abortion ‘up to the moment of birth,’” the fact-check reads.

Both Biden and Harris, however, have been very clear that they do not want restrictions on abortions, implying that late-term abortions would be approved.

Despite his flip-flopping on the issue, Biden now supports the revoking Hyde Amendment which would allow taxpayer-funding of abortion and advocates for federal funding of Planned Parenthood. He even claimed that he would make Roe v. Wade the “law of the land” if he is elected in November.

“The only responsible response to that would be to pass legislation making Roe the law of the land,” said Biden. “That’s what I would do.”

The Dispatch’s explanation of SBA List’s claims even quotes Biden saying that he votes for “no restrictions on a woman’s right to be able to have an abortion under Roe v. Wade.”

As National Review’s [Ramesh Ponnuru notes](https://www.nationalreview.com/2020/09/biden-harris-abortions-late-in-pregnancy/), both Biden and Harris have “sponsored bills that appear to keep abortion late in pregnancy legal even if the Supreme Court were to change its mind.”

Harris supported the Women’s Health Protection Act, “which would codify Roe v. Wade and remove state restrictions on abortions” and remove “a prohibition on abortion after fetal viability.” As a senator, Biden sponsored legislation to make abortion legal after viability in cases needed to protect “health,” but without ever defining what “health” protections that entailed.

The censorship comes just two days after Facebook [announced](https://thefederalist.com/2020/10/14/facebook-is-now-officially-censoring-the-new-york-posts-hunter-biden-bombshell/) it would be “limiting distribution” of the New York Post’s bombshell story detailing former vice president Joe Biden’s knowledge of his son Hunter Biden’s foreign business dealings.

“Big Tech and the media are teaming up to run interference for the Biden-Harris campaign on what is a losing issue for Democrats – their shameful support for abortion on demand through birth,” said SBA List President Marjorie Dannenfelser. “This is the latest example of Facebook censoring political speech and is perfectly timed to shut down SBA List’s vital digital communications as we work to reach eight million voters in key battlegrounds in the final days before Election Day.”

This is not the first time the pro-life advocates were censored by Facebook. In 2018, SBA List ran an ad [criticizing Democratic Senate candidate Phil Bredesen](https://www.facebook.com/SusanBAnthonyList/videos/1122451594588360) for his abortion position, urging voters to consider the Republican candidate and now-Senator Marsha Blackburn. The ad was originally “shut down” by Facebook, but eventually reinstated.

“When Facebook shut down similar ads of ours in 2018, they were forced to admit we were wrongly censored and apologized,” Dannenfelser said. “Now they have outsourced their censorship to the anti-Trump press, continually waging a suppression campaign specifically targeting pro-life conservative voices. We refuse to be silenced.”

The group also keeps a [running list](https://www.sba-list.org/censorship) on their website which shows almost 20 times pro-life information was censored by big tech.

Update: Shortly after this article was published, the Dispatch issued a statement claiming that the fact check was still in “draft form” and was accidentally published by the editorial staff.

“The fact-check was published in error and in draft form, before it had been through final edits and our own internal fact-checking process,” Editor and CEO of the Dispatch Stephen Hayes wrote. “As a result, the viral post was assigned a ‘partly false’ rating that we have determined is not justified after completing The Dispatch fact-checking process.”

The Dispatch says that they have “lifted the rating” from the ads and apologized to the Women Speak Out PAC.

Despite their claims that the publication of the fact check was an accident, the Dispatch received backlash for retweeting the fact check article, which was posted to social media by the reporter three days before it was taken down.

**Electric Space**

Since the actual breakthrough with electric thrusters in space, and the private sector opening provided by President Trump, my prediction of a free-market capitalist explosion of new technology has come true. Today we present ENPULSION, an Austrian company developing cutting edge thruster solutions for small and medium satellites. Founded in 2016, it has delivered more than 130 thrusters and 50 of them are already propelling satellites of various size in space. How did the company achieve that?

**Milestones:**

2017 – ENPULSION is founded. 17 000 hours performance test of the [ENPULSION NANO](https://www.enpulsion.com/order/enpulsion-nano/?utm_source=spacenews&utm_medium=sponsoredarticle&utm_campaign=microlaunch).

2018 – first demonstration in space of the ENPULSION NANO

2019 – expansion of production facilities and ISO 9001 certification. Launch of several ENPULSION NANO modifications:

* [ENPULSION NANO R3](https://www.enpulsion.com/order/nano-r3/?utm_source=spacenews&utm_medium=sponsoredarticle&utm_campaign=microlaunch)
* [ENPULSION NANO AR3](https://www.enpulsion.com/order/nano-ar3/?utm_source=spacenews&utm_medium=sponsoredarticle&utm_campaign=microlaunch)
* [ENPULSION NANO IR3](https://www.enpulsion.com/order/nano-ir3/?utm_source=spacenews&utm_medium=sponsoredarticle&utm_campaign=microlaunch)

2020 – launch of [ENPULSION MICRO R3](https://www.enpulsion.com/order/micro-r3/?utm_source=spacenews&utm_medium=sponsoredarticle&utm_campaign=microlaunch)

**Vision:**

The company’s goal is to provide reliable and accessible propulsion solutions to ensure in-space mobility for customers of all types.

**The technology:**

Together with [FOTEC](https://www.fotec.at/) the company develops propulsion solutions based on Field Emission Electric Propulsion, also known as FEEP. This is one of the most advanced ion propulsion technology and much preferred by satellite builders because of its many advantages: high performance that can be accurately controlled, high specific impulse, and compact and simpler system structure. Less complex propellant system means that no valves, piping and gas tanks are needed. ENPULSION’s thrusters use as propellant indium, which is safe, non-toxic, and cost-efficient. Thrusters are shipped full which allows for faster integration and reduced risk.

**Products:** ENPULSION currently offers two product families of thrusters – ENPULSION NANO and ENPULSION MICRO. The company classifies its products based on six key thruster characteristics marked with corresponding letters in the product name: resilience (R), smartness (S), agility (A), precision/certainty (C), power/intensity (I), and endurance/extensity (E).



ENPULSION NANO was the first product brought to the market by ENPULSION. Today the ENPULSION NANO family comprises of NANO, NANO R3, NANO AR3 and NANO IR3. These thruster solutions are aimed at nanosatellites of up to 150 kgs and offer different degrees of power, radiation resistance, and controllability.

ENPULSION MICRO was launched in 2020 as an evolution to the Nano and is aimed at small and medium size spacecraft up to 2000 kgs. The ENPULSION MICRO R3 produces up to 1.5 mN of thrust with an input power of 100 W and provides 50 kNs of total impulse. It is inherently redundant with more than a 100 parallel ion emission sites and 4 cold redundant neutralizers. Its high specific impulse and the unrivaled control precision are perfect for station keeping and collision avoidance. End-of-life operations can be performed at the most optimal operation point depending on remaining propellant quantities.

The ENPULSION MICRO R10 brings even more reliability as it uses an improved PPU unit.

All R3 versions in the ENPULSION MICRO and the ENPULSION NANO family use COTS+ elements for increased reliability and radiation tolerance. Thrusters based on COTS+ are procured in lot-controlled batches and feature specific designs to provide increased single-event tolerance. Selected sets of these batches are subjected to radiation testing, so that each thruster can be traced back to a fully representative qualification model using components from the same batch. The thruster is assembled into a protective casing that shields the electronics from the hazardous space radiation environment and facilitates handling during integration.

Modularity is a key feature of all ENPULSION products and allows easy upgrade and integration based on customer requirements.

**Production philosophy and capabilities:**ENPULSION’s commitment to quality is absolute and unconditional.  Every component goes through a rigorous incoming inspection when it arrives at the production facility in Wiener Neustadt, Austria, which currently has 6 vacuum chambers. Two more life-test chambers will be installed by end of 2020.  All products pass several steps during acceptance testing. These include thermal, vibration and final performance test, which verifies the thruster’s function and measures its key characteristics. In the case of the ion emitters, their performance is characterized before they are assigned to a thruster.

The ISO-class-6 clean room provides optimal conditions for the assembly and integration of the products. Each workstation is ergonomically optimized and can easily be configured for a new product to support flexibility and efficiency. The company can currently produce up to 12 ENPULSION NANO plus 2 ENPULSION MICRO per month.



**People:**ENPULSION’s team comprises of 40 people from different nationalities and backgrounds, united by their passion for space, natural curiosity, and strive for perfection. The team is young (31 years average age) but has accumulated significant experience. The company’s CEO and founder Dr. Alexander Reissner, CTO Dr. David Krejci and principal scientist Dr. Ivanhoe Vasiljevich have numerous scientific publications and have been leading speakers at many conferences in the area of electric propulsion. The company is constantly growing and aims to attract the best talent.

**Customers:**ENPULSION is supplying NewSpace companies like Blue Canyon Technologies, ICEYE, Nano Avionics, but also Heritage Space Companies like a French consortium involving Hemeria, Thales Alenia Space and CNES. Its commercial customers come from 12 countries on three continents. Many of the customers use ENPULSION as their preferred long-term supplier for propulsion solutions.

Also, Satellite electric propulsion startup Apollo Fusion is expanding its product line through an agreement with NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, giving it access to advanced Hall thruster technology.

The Silicon Valley-based company said May 7 that it signed a deal that gives it an exclusive worldwide commercial license for JPL’s Magnetically Shielded Miniature, or MaSMi, Hall thruster technology, as well as a contract to provide JPL with three thrusters that use that technology.

Apollo Fusion plans to use the MaSMi technology in an electric thruster called the Apollo Xenon Engine (AXE), which will provide higher performance than the existing electric thrusters that the company has been developing.

Mike Cassidy, chief executive of Apollo Fusion, said in an interview that a key benefit of MaSMi is its use of magnetic shielding to protect components from the plasma generated by the thruster. “It uses magnetic field lines to stop the plasma inside a Hall thruster from eroding the inside of the thruster,” he said.

That erosion limits the lifetime of a conventional Hall thruster to about 200,000 newton-seconds of impulse. Magnetic shielding allows the thruster to last far longer: Cassidy estimated its impulse will be up to 10 times higher.

Apollo Fusion plans to take that technology and commercialize it, including “design to manufacturability” changes that reduces the use of exotic materials and long-lead-time components. That reflects the difference in demand the company anticipates. “Many of the JPL missions might be building one or two probes, whereas for some of our customers it may be hundreds of satellites,” he said.

The company will deliver the three thrusters to JPL to summer, primarily for ground testing, although Cassidy said one of the thrusters could be used on a future spacecraft. He said the company will start commercial production of the AXE thrusters in early 2020.

AXE will offer higher thrust and performance over the company’s existing Apollo Constellation Engine (ACE), with 1000 watts of power and 55 millinewtons of thrust, versus 400 watts and 24 millinewtons of thrust for ACE. However, Cassidy said the two thrusters will be complementary.

“There’s strong interest in both the 400-watt and kilowatt-level thrusters,” he said. AXE, he said, will likely be of interest for those developing high-power satellites, including all-electric GEO satellites that want the higher performance to decrease the transit time to their final geostationary orbit. A single AXE thruster, he said, is lighter than two or three smaller ACE thrusters.

Apollo Fusion still sees interest for ACE from companies developing smaller low Earth orbit satellites. That thruster has yet to fly in space, but Cassidy said one will fly in the second half of the year on a cubesat mission designed specifically to test it.

Cassidy added that the JPL deal has an additional benefit for the company. “We’ve really gotten a great response from a lot of our commercial customers,” he said. “They’ve said, ‘Wow, JPL picked you guys to do this. That’s impressive.’”

Competing with Apollo is another startup, Orbion Space Technology. They have announced Aug. 28 that they raised a $9.2 million Series A round to develop and mass produce Hall-effect plasma thrusters for small satellites.

Material Impact, a venture capital firm focused on early-stage investments, led the round, with Invest Michigan, Invest Detroit, Wakestream Ventures, Ann Arbor Spark, and Boomerang Catapult also participating.

Orbion, a Houghton, Michigan-based company founded in 2016, joins a list of firms that have secured investor dollars for electric smallsat propulsion systems over the past two years, including [Accion Systems](https://spacenews.com/boeing-investing-in-satellite-propulsion-startup/) in Boston, Indian startup [Bellatrix Aerospace](https://spacenews.com/indian-startup-bellatrix-aerospace-raises-3-million/), and French startups [ExoTrail](https://spacenews.com/french-space-startup-raises-4-1-million-to-develop-smallsat-electric-thruster-technology-software/) and [ThrustMe](https://spacenews.com/electric-propulsion-startup-thrustme-gets-2-8-million-from-european-commission/).

Orbion’s distinction is in its approach to manufacturing, CEO Brad King said in an interview. The company is modelling its Aurora thruster production after the approach defense contractors use to build tactical missiles, he said.

“Tactical missiles are built a few hundred per year, they cost a few hundreds of thousands of dollars each, they have to operate in space, and they have to be incredibly reliable,” King said. “We modelled our manufacturing on the tactical missile strategy, and in so doing, the infrastructure and design that allows us to develop these products in days rather than many, many months.”

Orbion aims to eventually build and ship thrusters in six to eight days from receiving an order.

Orbion plans to use its new capital to fully test and qualify its Aurora thruster system ahead of a third-quarter 2020 customer delivery, King said. He declined to name the customer, but said Orbion’s Hall-effect plasma thrusters have commercial and government buyers.

The capital will also go toward completing its mass manufacturing infrastructure in the U.S., he said. Orbion plans to refit an existing factory in partnership with an unnamed aerospace and defense company to enable volume production in 18 to 24 months, he said.

And then there are Zenon and iodine thrusters like ThrustMe is commercializing technology from France’s Ecole Polytechnique plasma physics laboratory and CNRS, the French National Center for Scientific Research. The 18-month-old company has raised 4.6 million euros to date, and in April moved into a newly built 300-square-meter headquarters in Paris. The company has 15 people on its payroll, according to Aanesland.

ThrustMe’s 1-kilogram propulsion system has produced up to 0.9 millinewtons of thrust in ground demonstrations with the French aerospace research lab ONERA.

Aanesland said the first satellite with a ThrustMe propulsion unit is scheduled to launch next year. She declined to name the satellite or its launch vehicle.

ThrustMe’s first product is a 30- to 70-watt thruster capable of propelling small satellites between 10 and 50 kilograms in size, Aanesland said. She said the company is developing a 300- watt thruster for satellites between 200 and 300 kilograms. Customers can use multiple thrusters to match different satellite masses, she said.

ThrustMe’s thrusters run on xenon, an inert gas commonly used for electric propulsion, but future systems will support iodine. Since iodine doesn’t need to be pressurized, it requires a fraction of xenon’s storage volume, Aanesland said.

“It is extremely efficient in volume, and also efficient in the way we have integrated the iodine propellant and feed system into the propulsion system,” she said.

Iodine is more corrosive than xenon, making it more difficult to use, she said, but ThrustMe still sees potential for it. By using iodine and breakthroughs in propulsion technology, ThrustMe claims its thrusters can generate twice as much thrust with 40 percent the mass of traditional gridded and hall-effect xenon thrusters.

Aanesland said ThrustMe is taking orders for iodine thrusters now for a beta version that will be ready in mid-2019. The initial iodine thruster will produce less thrust than it’s xenon counterpart; Aanesland said ThrustMe is working on an upgraded version with thrust equal to xenon for delivery in the early 2020s.

Aanesland said ThrustMe anticipates shipping five thrusters for two customers next year, and scaling up by 2020 to be able to ship 50 to 70 thrusters a year.

**The Overton Window**

The Cis-Mars program and the Cis-Lunar programs sound like endless prosperity and a future of exploration and expansion of the human race in space. I get that. I actually love that. The issue that we are facing now in stark reality is the Overton Window.

The Overton Window is an approach to identifying the ideas that define the spectrum of acceptability of governmental policies. Politicians can only act within the acceptable range. Shifting the Overton Window involves proponents of policies outside the window persuading the public to expand the window. Proponents of current policies, or similar ones within the window, seek to convince people that policies outside it should be deemed unacceptable. According to Lehman, who coined the term, "The most common misconception is that lawmakers themselves are in the business of shifting the Overton window. That is absolutely false. Lawmakers are actually in the business of detecting where the window is, and then moving to be in accordance with it."

According to Lehman, the concept is just a description of how ideas work, not advocacy of extreme policy proposals. In an interview with the *New York Times*, he said, "It just explains how ideas come in and out of fashion, the same way that gravity explains why something falls to the earth. I can use gravity to drop an anvil on your head, but that would be wrong. I could also use gravity to throw you a life preserver; that would be good."[]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Overton_window#cite_note-8) But since its incorporation in political discourse, others have used the concept of shifting the window to promote ideas outside it, with the intention of making fringe ideas more acceptable. The ["door-in-the-face" technique](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Door-in-the-face_technique) of persuasion is similar.

It has been said, and we are seeing this concrete setting firmly now:

The smart way to keep people passive and obedient is to strictly limit the spectrum of acceptable opinion, but allow very lively debate within that spectrum—even encourage the more critical and dissident views. That gives people the sense that there's free thinking going on, while all the time the presuppositions of the system are being reinforced by the limits put on the range of the debate.

Contemporary commentators have spun off the concept of "walking through the Overton door", to convey the easier and more timely task of advocating ideas that are becoming popular but not yet codified into law or policy. It means that we think we have free speech and we have the freedom to explore and express. The reason we think that, is because we are doing this well within the limits of the Overton Window.

When we get close the walls or the edges of the window, we are warned. When we cross outside those limits, the powers that established those limits take action. That is what happened on Thursday of this week.

20 of the top podcasters on YouTube were terminated. Their families were plunged into poverty after millions of subscribers were sent scrambling and those brilliant podcasters, who in some cases had spent a decade building their audiences and their revenue structures, were executed. They had already been demonetized, but their audiences were top-chat donating, and their sponsors were paying for access to their loyal listeners. That was not enough.

Youtube saw that they had adapted. In their brilliance and their perseverance, they had delivered value to their listeners. So, YouTube deleted them. I mean their accounts, their content, and their subscriptions were deleted in one sudden act of Overton Censorship.

This is fascism at its finest. Like Roosevelt and Mussolini, the government used its power to crush competition with its ideas. The Global Syndicate wants Trump and the patriots out of power. The patriots who successfully operate podcasts were terminated 19 days before the 2020 election with the express purpose of preventing President Trump and his patriots from communication through YouTube.



We are already moving to other platforms, but the listeners are not moving with us; yet. It may take months or even years before the listeners find us, and that may be too late for the 2020 election. The Global Syndicate purged the major podcasters on Thursday. They will be coming for the rest of us soon. I know that. I just want you to make the switch to Dlive and Twitch before YouTube leaves you starving for truth, and you don’t know where to go for America Free Radio.

Go there, and look for Brooks Agnew

**The Section 230 Shield**

The Global Syndicate stepped up its war on President Trump and the Republican Party by censoring the New York Post's reporting about Hunter Biden's overseas business dealings while his father, Joe Biden, was serving as former President Obama's vice president.  We have heard the rumors for years.

We were waiting for hard evidence. Well, it showed up in the most unlikely place. Hunter left his beer-damaged laptop at a local repair shop. In his post crack stupor, he forgot where he left it. According the New York law, that laptop becomes the property of the shop owner if the bill has not been paid for 90 days. The owner went to wipe the hard drive and sell the laptop to recover his fee, and guess what he found? The evidence we had been looking for.

He immediately panicked. He knew he was going to commit suicide, whether he wanted to or not, once the Biden gang remembered he had the laptop. Under a friend’s council, he turned it over to the FBI. They did nothing. Nothing. Zippo. He panicked again. Maybe the FBI were the bad guys.

So, he leaked the content to the New York Post. Within minutes, the anons and the YouTube podcasters ran with it. Thursday, morning of this week, YouTube terminated the top 20, covering some 10 million subscribers. Deleted. All content, channel, money, branding, everything was gone. Once of my friends caught in that group admitted he considered killing himself. I’m sure that would have been fine with the Syndicate.

They locked down the account of one of the most widely circulated oldest and most venerable newspapers in America. They locked down the account of the press secretary to the president of the United States. They locked down the account of the president's campaign, refusing to allow people to post any URL to that story. They deleted the top podcasters in the country, plunging more than 20 families into poverty.

They locked down anything that looked bad for the Bidens, and they hyper-promoted anything that looked bad for the Trumps. That is election tampering. That is a direct act of sedition. That is war.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Lindsey Graham and Sen. Ted Cruz, a member of the committee, said Thursday that Facebook and Twitter's leaders should testify before Congress about the censorship of the Hunter Biden story. So the hell what? They will come and smile at all their pawns who would all lose their elections as soon as their accounts are put into Facebook jail for 30 days, right before the election.

They are all protected under Section 230 of Communications Decency Act. They are platforms, not publishers. They cannot be sued by any of my friends who are now wondering how they are going to pay their mortgage payments in a few days. They cannot be sued by any of the subscribers who love to listen to them, and now are forbidden because YouTube deleted them.

Well, that is going to change soon because the millions of Americans who believe in God and believe in national sovereignty and believe in the Constitution will not tolerate the Global Syndicate continuing to dictate the flow of information in this country," he said.

This election is between the Global Media Empire in Silicon Valley, who can censor our voices as much as they want, and the American people. I have this to say. Our voices will be louder on November 3. You will lose.

Now we know that Hunter Biden was a crook. We know that his father, China-Joe Biden was the crime boss. We know that his reign of blood and horror spans nearly 5 decades. And we know that Obama joined his gang in 2008 and that they were able to rob Americans of billions in cash, while selling the country to the Chinese Communist Party. It is all the Global Syndicate.

Joe Biden openly lied about his participation in corrupt overseas business dealings with his son. Hunter violated the first rule of being a crime gang boss. Never do the drugs you’re selling. Banks cited a specific line from an email in the reports that mentions the "big guy" getting an equity share in a Chinese business deal. Banks said that "big guy" is Joe Biden.

What is very chilling, is that perhaps Joe was a bigger criminal than Obama, but Obama was smarter and knew he would outlive the old don of taxpayer money laundering. He made his millions too, and got his ISIS financed and the uranium distributed to Iran and North Korea. Obama had a darker and more permanent objective. China-Joe was just old Joe making money and getting rich. Obama dreamed of destroying America. And he damned near did it.

Now, the question on everyone’s minds tonight is where do Twitter and Google and Microsoft stand? Censorship is a small piece of the puzzle. But it leads to getting the Syndicate into the White House again. Once they are in, America ends. There will be no more States. There will be no more governors. There will be no more private property or billionaires. How do they expect to survive in their luxury?

Have they even thought that through? Yes, they have. They have been taught that everything in the universe came from darkness, and to darkness it shall return. They believe that reward in this life is temporary, and the gift of a world to rule over is only given by Lucifer himself, because he is the god of this world. He may be the god of many worlds.

Maybe we are only fooling ourselves, if we think we can podcast from our hearts to you and wake you up to the light. Yes, this divides the world into light and darkness. No, it is not unity and togetherness. It is time for you to decide in which place you will exist. I could go on all night about the benefits of both, but I think the reason you are here, is because you are children of the light. You are welcome and loved no matter what.

In 16 days, we will participate in an act that can save or condemn the world. Vote for America and stand with the patriots, or vote for the Global Syndicate to return to power and end America forever. This may be the last time you actually have that choice. Make it count.

**Twitter Censors WH Scientist**

How can you follow the science if Twitter blocks the way? Social media company Twitter finished its week of apparently politically motivated censorship on its platform by banning tweets regarding the efficacy of masks from Scott Atlas, a member of the White House scientific team battling the coronavirus.

Atlas, a senior fellow at Stanford’s Hoover Institute, not only had his tweets removed, he was banned from tweeting until he deleted the tweets that Twitter for unclear reasons objects to. Here are the tweets in question:



In an email to The Federalist, Atlas outlined the evidence behind his tweet.

*In the deleted tweet, I cited the following evidence against general population masks:*

1. *Cases exploded even with mandates: Los Angeles County, Miami-Dade County, Hawaii, Alabama, the Philippines, Japan, the United Kingdom, Spain, France, Israel.*

*2)  Dr. Carl Heneghan, University of Oxford, director of the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine and editor in chief of British Medical Journal Evidence-Based Medicine: ‘It would appear that despite two decades of pandemic preparedness, there is considerable uncertainty as to the value of wearing masks.’*

*(*[*https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/masking-lack-of-evidence-with-politics/)*](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.cebm.net/covid-19/masking-lack-of-evidence-with-politics/)&source=gmail-imap&ust=1603622022000000&usg=AOvVaw2gUQy1KYyLkN4B4tMjKHt2)

1. *The WHO:  ‘The widespread use of masks by healthy people in the community setting is not yet supported by high quality or direct scientific evidence and there are potential benefits and harms to consider’  (*[*http://bitly.ws/afUm*](https://www.google.com/url?q=http://bitly.ws/afUm&source=gmail-imap&ust=1603622022000000&usg=AOvVaw3Wi_kUJUJSkScjSwJ8wBm8)*)*
2. *The CDC: ‘Our systematic review found no significant effect of face masks on transmission of laboratory-confirmed influenza.’ (*[*https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-0994\_article).*](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-0994_article).&source=gmail-imap&ust=1603622022000000&usg=AOvVaw0jOYzSp-SghgHQ6mDHbLBL)

*I also cited an article giving detailed explanation of the reasons why masks might not prevent spread:*[*https://t.co/1hRFHsxe59*](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://t.co/1hRFHsxe59&source=gmail-imap&ust=1603622022000000&usg=AOvVaw1flASLYrET3dotAOVPiShb)

Notwithstanding this evidence regarding arguably the most important and contentious debate raging in American society — the constant mandate of masks — it appears some 20-something with his pronouns in his Twitter bio just pushed a button and erased scientifically accurate information. For some reason, which hopefully Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey can explain when he is dragged before the Senate, Atlas was silenced by the tech giant.

This comes the same week that Twitter blocked New York Post articles alleging improprieties involving presidential candidate Joe Biden, his son Hunter, and the Ukrainian energy company Burisma revealed by a laptop [now held by the FBI](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/hunter-biden-emails-computer-repair-store-owner-john-paul-mac-isaac). For good measure, Twitter also banned the New York Post’s official Twitter account from the platform.

Universal masking is a subject of scientific dispute, and just happens to be a contentious political argument in the midst of the 2020 presidential election. Under the dubious policy of stopping the spread of disinformation, Twitter has silenced an expert on the matter for what seems to be politically motivated purposes.

Twitter, which claims to be a neutral platform and enjoys legal protection as such, has once again proven that not only does it have an editorial agenda, it has a political one. You see, the information overlords at Twitter dot com will decide what information and what facts the masses like you and me are allowed to consume on their platform.

That would be fine if they were a publisher and treated as such legally, but for now they are not. Section 230 of the 1996 Communications Decency Act gives Twitter special protection to engage in censorship, but after this week of obviously politically motivated silencing, many in Congress are looking to stripping the company of that protection.

Twitter’s reasoning behind banning information that questions the efficacy of masks is as opaque as a smile behind one. Like much of the traditional media, it seems to believe that the American people are too stupid to confront and analyze actual information, and instead must be spoon-fed instructions like toddlers. You don’t have to know why you must cover your face everywhere you go, you just have to do it!

This is enough; it was well past enough already, frankly. Twitter is now censoring important and much-needed scientific information that the American people need to make informed decisions about their health. If Dorsey wants to be a mask busybody [while he parties maskless](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-8666807/Beyonce-Jay-Z-head-set-sail-Twitter-CEO-Jack-Dorsey.html) with Beyonce and Jay Z on a yacht, so be it. The mask rules don’t apply to him. But the laws of the United States should and must.

Twitter is no neutral platform. This fact is as obvious as a punch in the mouth, which is exactly what Congress needs to give it. Free speech is as central to the American experiment as any concept is, and as foreign to Twitter as could be.

**Ballots R Us**

I am just going to use Swing state Pennsylvania, which President Donald Trump narrowly won in the 2016 election, as an example of what I predicted would happen when Ballots R Us began meddling in the 2020 election. Already, the election commission has thrown out 372,000 requests for mail-in ballots, a new report says.

About 336,000, or 90 percent, of those were duplicate requests for ballots that the state denied "primarily because people who had requested mail-in ballots for the state’s June 2 primary did not realize that they had checked a box to be sent ballots for the general election, too," according to the article published by The Philadelphia Inquirer and the website ProPublica. The rejected requests came from 208,000 voters, according to the report, including one voter who appeared to submit 11 duplicate requests.

The outlets said they were able to identify hundreds of voters who submitted three or more duplicate applications. Some cite voter unfamiliarity as the culprit, because Pennsylvania voters had the option of becoming what the state calls permanent mail-in voters, but may not have remembered doing so. Really? Have you ever known government instructions to be unclear or misleading?

The truth is that is required a decade of training and public service announcements before States could switch from in-person voting to mail-in voters. Absentee or solicited mail-in ballots are common and smoothly managed in States like Washington, but it took many years to get the system right. States like Pennsylvania are trying to do this in a matter of months. Hence, the train wreck.

When you suddenly switch to a 100% mail-in system, more than one-quarter of applications for mail-in ballots show up as duplicates. They don’t get s tracking number. They don’t know if someone already voted their ballot for them. They don’t know if they are going to miss their chance to vote. They’re unsure, so they’re going online and requesting another ballot. The report also cited the impact of groups handing out mail-in ballot applications which individuals file regardless of whether they have already filed one.

These groups have created “confusion for voters and the likelihood that voters will not realize their application has been processed and they don’t need to submit another one,” the Pennsylvania Department of State said.

Some voters may have forgotten that they opted to be put on the annual mail ballot list when they applied for a ballot for the June primary. The deluge of duplicates has left local elections officials frazzled, as you might imagine. People are yelling, “Where is my ballot?”

“The volume of calls we have been getting has been overwhelming,” Marybeth Kuznik, elections director in Armstrong County, told the outlets. “It has been almost like a denial of service attack at times because it seemed that sometimes all I could get done was answer the phone!”

Democrat Craig Sewall, 33, a graduate student at the University of Pittsburgh, said the state emailed him this summer and urged him to apply for a mail-in ballot, and after he did, rejected it as a duplicate. This will turn into millions of votes that will be uncounted, double-counted, or miscounted.

**When Another Road Leads You There Anyway**

We have all been taken on quite a ride the past three years. It started with Obama, spying on Donald Trump. Then, we took a turn. And then, we took another. Before long, we were out of the city and through the woods, and then out into the open, where there was nowhere to hide. And then, we stopped to wonder how we had arrived here, confused, divided, scared, and about vote as though our lives depended upon it.

When former president Barack Obama [told supporters](https://news.yahoo.com/obama-irule-of-law-michael-flynn-case-014121045.html) last week that the Justice Department’s decision to drop the case against former White House National Security Adviser Mike Flynn is a “threat to the rule of law,” he was relying wholly on the fiction, willingly propagated for years by a pliant media, that the Russia-Trump collusion probe launched by his administration was lawful and legitimate.

But of course it wasn’t. A string of [recently released documents](https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2018-02-08%20CEG%20LG%20to%20Rice%20%28Russia%20Investigation%20Email%29.pdf) have confirmed that the entire Russia-Trump investigation, which eventually entrapped Flynn and forced then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions to recuse himself, was an unprecedented abuse of power that amounted to an organized effort by the Obama administration to nullify the results of the 2016 presidential election. It was in effect an attempted coup.

If you haven’t picked that up from the news media, it’s not your fault. Instead of grappling with the implications of [newly released details](https://thefederalist.com/2020/05/11/why-did-obama-tell-the-fbi-to-hide-its-activities-from-the-trump-administration/) about what Obama officials were doing to undermine the incoming Trump administration during the transition, the mainstream media have [fixated](https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/trump-s-obamagate-comments-barr-s-flynn-meddling-suggest-troubling-ncna1204856) on Trump’s use of the term “Obamagate,” dismissing it as [a conspiracy theory](https://www.vox.com/2020/5/11/21255214/trump-obamagate-philip-rucker-coronavirus-press-conference).

## A Brief History of the Flynn Case

This is to be expected. For years now the media have done everything they can to push the Trump-Russia collusion hoax—even after a years-long special counsel investigation by Robert Mueller turned up nothing—using the complexity of the scheme to hide the greatest political scandal of our time in plain sight.

A key aspect of that scheme was—and is—to make the case against Flynn appear legitimate. Flynn faced trumped-up charges that he misled FBI agents about conversations he had with then-Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak in the weeks before Trump’s inauguration. (As the incoming national security adviser, Flynn was doubtless having conversations with numerous heads of state and ambassadors during this time, so there was nothing unusual about him talking to the Russian ambassador.)

The Obama administration already knew about the conversations with Kislyak because it had recordings of them thanks to a series of investigations it spun out of the Crossfire Hurricane counterintelligence probe of the Trump campaign. Crossfire Hurricane, launched in the summer of 2016, was itself a bogus investigation based on the Steele dossier—an entirely fraudulent document riddled with Russian disinformation and paid for by the Democratic Party.

So why did the FBI want to interview Flynn ahead of Trump’s inauguration in January 2017? Top brass at the FBI weren’t exactly sure about their approach, but they knew they needed to get Flynn out of the way. As the bureau’s former head of counterintelligence, Bill Priestap, [recorded in his notes](https://www.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.dcd.191592/gov.uscourts.dcd.191592.198.0_6.pdf), “What is our goal? Truth/Admission, or to get him to lie, so we can prosecute him or get him fired?”

Apparently the Obama administration settled on trying to entrap him in a lie. The [recent disclosure](https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2018-02-08%20CEG%20LG%20to%20Rice%20%28Russia%20Investigation%20Email%29.pdf) of an early January 2017 Oval Office meeting attended by Obama, vice president Joe Biden, National Security Adviser Susan Rice, Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates, and FBI Director James Comey, confirms the administration’s plan to hide the Russia probe from the incoming Trump team—including Flynn.

The idea was to use the Kislyak calls as a pretext to keep the Flynn investigation open, even though there was no reason to do so. After months of spying on him, the FBI had found nothing to indicate Flynn was conspiring with the Russians.

As Rice wrote in an email to herself after the meeting, “President Obama said he wants to be sure that, as we engage with the incoming team, we are mindful to ascertain if there is any reason that we cannot share information fully as it relates to Russia.”

The point was to keep the Flynn investigation open as a way for Obama holdovers like Comey, Yates, and former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe to continue the Russia-Trump collusion probe even after Trump took office—and keep Flynn, Trump’s national security adviser, out of the loop. Since there was no reason to keep investigating Flynn, the Obama administration invented one: the preposterous notion that he intentionally misled Vice President Mike Pence about his conversations with Kislyak and then lied about it to the FBI.

There’s no evidence this happened, but even if there were it wouldn’t matter. As the Justice Department explained in its decision to drop the Flynn case, the investigation of Flynn was “untethered to, and unjustified by, the FBI’s counterintelligence investigation.”

Later, top FBI and Justice Department officials gave the House Intelligence Committee different answers about why they were pursuing Flynn. Comey, McCabe, Yates, and Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Mary McCord all gave conflicting testimony about the “primary purpose” of the FBI’s interview with Flynn, ranging from the outlandish notion that he violated the Logan Act—a constitutionally dubious 1799 law forbidding unauthorized citizens from negotiating with foreign governments—to the concocted charge that he lied to the FBI, which even the agents that conducted the interview with him [didn’t believe](https://thehill.com/policy/national-security/386323-house-intel-report-comey-mccabe-testified-that-the-two-agents-who).

## Here’s Why Americans Need to Understand the Flynn Case

The Flynn case is just one piece of a much larger story about how the Obama administration—with the [full knowledge](https://twitter.com/seanmdav/status/1260241970917761024?s=20) and support of both Obama and Biden—targeted incoming Trump officials in a failed attempt to cripple the new administration with allegations it had colluded with Moscow.

The complexity of their scheme, and the efforts to hide it and mislead the American people, are frustrating. The cast of characters—from high-ranking Obama administration officials to relative nobodies loosely associated with Trump’s 2016 presidential campaign—is long, as is [the timeline of events](https://thefederalist.com/2020/05/08/obama-biden-oval-office-meeting-on-january-5-was-key-to-entire-anti-trump-operation/). Details have come out slowly, in fits and starts, over the course of years. Following all the leaks and declassified transcripts and congressional hearings requires constant vigilance, and if you don’t keep up with it you can easily lose the thread.

That all works to the advantage of those who perpetrated this hoax, because it’s easy to get overwhelmed and tune it all out, or simply accept the corporate media’s deceptive reporting. But the ongoing revelations about the FBI’s targeting of Flynn can’t be ignored. They demand a full accounting. If ever there was a threat to the rule of law, it was the Obama administration’s abuse of power and its weaponization of intelligence agencies in an attempt to take down Trump.

However convoluted it might seem, pay attention to it. It’s the biggest political scandal of our time. And it took crackhead Hunter Biden’s abandoned laptop to get us here.

**Global Warming NOT Caused by CO2**

While the ongoing Corona pandemic continues to threaten millions of lives around the world, the first half of 2020 saw an unprecedented decline in CO2 emissions - larger than during the financial crisis of 2008, the oil crisis of the 1979, or even World War II. An international team of researchers has found that in the first six months of this year, 8.8 percent less carbon dioxide was emitted than in the same period in 2019 - a total decrease of 1551 million tonnes. The groundbreaking study not only offers a much more precise look at COVID-19's impact on global energy consumption than previous analyses. It also suggests what fundamental steps could be taken to stabilize the global climate in the aftermath of the pandemic.

"What makes our study unique is the analysis of meticulously collected near-real-time data" explains lead author Zhu Liu from the Department of Earth System Science at Tsinghua University in Beijing. "By looking at the daily figures compiled by the Carbon Monitor research initiative we were able to get a much faster and more accurate overview, including timelines that show how emissions decreases have corresponded to lockdown measures in each country. In April, at the height of the first wave of Corona infections, when most major countries shut down their public life and parts of their economy, emissions even declined by 16.9 %. Overall, the various outbreaks resulted in emission drops that we normally see only on a short-term basis on holidays such as Christmas or the Chinese Spring Festival."

The study, published in the latest issue of *Nature Communications*, shows which parts of the global economy were most impacted. "The greatest reduction of emissions was observed in the ground transportation sector," explains Daniel Kammen, professor and Chair of the Energy and Resources Group and also professor in the Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley. "Largely because of working from home restrictions, transport CO2 emissions decreased by 40 % worldwide. In contrast, the power and industry sectors contributed less to the decline, with -22 % and -17 %, respectively, as did the aviation and shipping sectors. Surprisingly, even the residential sector saw a small emissions drop of 3 %: largely because of an abnormally warm winter in the northern hemisphere, heating energy consumption decreased with most people staying at home all day during lockdown periods."

To paint this comprehensive and multidimensional picture, the researchers based their estimates on a wide array of data: precise, hourly datasets of electricity power production in 31 countries, daily vehicle traffic in more than 400 cities worldwide, daily global passenger flights, monthly production data for industry in 62 countries as well as fuel consumption data for building emissions in more than 200 countries.

The researchers also found strong rebound effects. With the exception of a continuing decrease of emissions stemming from the transportation sector, by July 2020, as soon as lockdown measures were lifted, most economies resumed their usual levels of emitting CO2. But even if they remained at their historically low levels, this would have a rather minuscule effect on the long-term CO2 concentration in the atmosphere.

Thus, the authors stress that the only valid strategy to stabilize the climate is a complete overhaul of the industry and commerce sector. "While the CO2 drop is unprecedented, decreases of human activities cannot be the answer," says Co-Author Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, founding director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. "Instead we need structural and transformational changes in our energy production and consumption systems. Individual behavior is certainly important, but what we really need **to focus on is reducing the carbon intensity of our global economy."**

**The Ice Age Cometh**

**When permafrost thaws due to global warming, not only the greenhouse gases known to all, but also organic compounds are released from the soil. They may have a significant impact on climate change.**

Arctic peatlands are very rich in carbon. The effects of the Arctic permafrost thawing on carbon dioxide and methane emissions have been investigated and assessed extensively globally. It is known that when the permafrost thaws, carbon dioxide and methane, which accelerate climate change, are released from the soil. Less attention has been paid to the fact that thawing permafrost may also release volatile organic compounds into the air.

Researchers at the University of Helsinki observed in a study for the first time that large quantities of volatile organic compounds, including monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes and diterpenes, are released from permafrost peatland soil thawed in laboratory incubations. The peatland soil samples were collected from Finnish Lapland. The study demonstrated that global warming accelerates the release of these compounds, particularly those with lower volatility, from the Arctic permafrost.

In the Arctic region, the anthropogenic influences are weak and aboveground vegetation is scarce. The released organic compounds from thawing permafrost can be highly reactive and contribute to the formation of small particles that suspend in the air. These processes can significantly impact the complex causalities associated with climate change and, consequently, the Arctic climate as well as global warming as a whole.

Compounds released from the soil and formed in the air can, for example, increase cloud formation, making increased cloudiness reflect solar radiation away from the Earth, which curbs global warming.

“For now, it’s impossible to say with certainty whether the release of organic compounds accelerates or decelerates climate change. They introduce in any case additional uncertainties to climate change modelling” says Associate Professor [**Federico Bianchi**](https://www.helsinki.fi/en/people/people-finder/federico-bianchi-9366815) from the University of Helsinki’s Institute for [Atmospheric and Earth System Research (INAR)](https://www.helsinki.fi/en/inar-institute-for-atmospheric-and-earth-system-research).

According to Bianchi, much more research is needed to determine the significance of the findings now made. One of the biggest uncertainties in modelling climate change is precisely the effect aerosols have on global warming. Finnish researchers are at the global top in aerosol research.