The Single-Column Edition

FROM EACH

SUNDAY, 04 OCTOBER 2026 — THE SUNDAY EDITION — FREE, FOREVER

The Treasury secretary told a House committee the department is examining whether it needs Congress at all to mail the $5,000 the president promised adults for keeping Congress Republican, in the same week 750,000 people lost their health coverage with no vote required.

BY MITCH
Eternal Optimist

Follow the paperwork with me. It begins, as these things do, at a convention.

At the party's midterm convention in Dallas, the president told the room that every American adult would receive $5,000 if Republicans keep control of Congress in November. The Hill printed Monday that he had said Sunday, outside Air Force One, that the checks will "happen 100 percent," comparing them to the $1,776 checks that went out to U.S. service members. Three days of his own party then performed an audit.

Friday, Senator Susan Collins called the proposal "extraordinarily costly," observing that "the proposed $5,000 dividend would not have an income cap." The same day The Hill reported that Bret Baier had pressed Texas Attorney General and Senate nominee Ken Paxton, on Thursday, over his support for it. Saturday, at the Kansas State Fair, a moderator cited the proposal's $1.2 trillion cost and asked Senator Roger Marshall whether he supported it; The Hill's headline word for what followed is "backtracks." Sunday, Representative Mike Lawler went on ABC and began, "I support putting money back in the pockets of hard-working," then arrived at "How do you

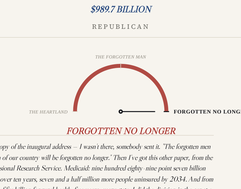
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THE WORD

$51 — 04 OCTOBER 2026

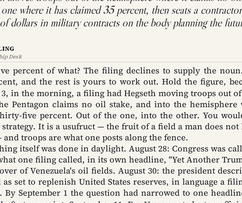
On the forgotten man

DEMOCRAT



$989.7 BILLION

REPUBLICAN



FORGOTTEN NO LONGER

"I kept a copy of the inaugural address — I wasn't there, somebody sent it. 'The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer.' Then I've got this other paper, from the Congressional Research Service, Medicaid: nine hundred eighty- nine point seven billion dollars less over ten years, seven and a half million more people uninsured by 2034. And from the agency, fifty billion for rural health, five years, every state. I did the division in the car at a red light. It comes out about twenty to one. Sorry — I'm going — one more thing. Which of those two numbers is the one doing the remembering?" — Lou

… Continued on Page W51

Pentagon moves troops out of the hemisphere where it claims no oil and into the one where it has claimed 35 percent, then seats a contractor with billions of dollars in military contracts on the body planning the future of war

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

Thirty-five percent of what? The filing declines to supply the noun. Thirty-five percent, and the rest is yours to work out. Hold the figure, because on October 3, in the morning, a filing had Hegseth moving troops out of Europe, where the Pentagon claims no oil stake, and into the hemisphere where it claims thirty-five percent. Out of the one, into the other. You would like to call that strategy. It is a usufruct — the fruit of a field a man does not hold the title to — and troops are what one posts along the fence.

The thing itself was done in daylight. August 28: Congress was called upon to stop what one filing called, in its own headline, "Yet Another Trump Grift," the takeover of Venezuela's oil fields. August 30: the president described that same oil as set to replenish United States reserves, in language a filing called mobster. By September 1 the question had narrowed to one headline asking deal or theft at gunpoint. September 11: Fox News quoted a top official crediting a thirty-minute military operation with unlocking the windfall. Sixty-five billion barrels. Thirty minutes … which is handsome, as hourly rates go.

Someone paid for the half-hour, and it was not the department. September

… Continued on Page F4

Tennessee hired a prison chief with four botched executions in the file, got the fifth on Wednesday and the resignation on Saturday; the Justice Department spent the same week asking the judge who struck its press ban to restore it on grounds of professionalism.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The file came first. Lawyers for Christa Pike count five botched executions under Frank Strada's leadership across two states since 2022. Four of those five were in Arizona, where Strada oversaw the state's executions, and all four were on the books before Tennessee hired Strada to run its prisons. The New York Times reported Saturday that the hire went through anyway. That is the first entry on this page, and it is dated earlier than everything under it.

The booking came next. Truthout reported on September 22 that the lethal injection was set for September 30. On September 26 the New York Post reported the state had slated an all-female team to carry it out; Pike's attorneys had written in their petition, "Christa was broken, not evil." On Tuesday, September 29, the Supreme Court declined to stop the execution, clearing the way for Tennessee's first execution of a woman in more than 200 years.

Wednesday morning, with witnesses already gathered at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution, a Sixth Circuit panel voted 2-1 to halt it an hour before the scheduled time, to review Pike's allegations that she had been sexually abused and raped. The Supreme Court lifted that stay the same

… Continued on Page B1

The ninety dollars Treasury mailed this month is installment one of the promised five thousand, and this podium will not be putting a date or a figure on installment two.

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

Let me start with the number in the news. The Treasury began mailing checks this month and the checks are ninety dollars. In Dallas the president said five thousand, and that Sunday he told reporters it would "happen 100 percent" if Republicans hold Congress, which is a conditional, and November has not occurred. On the tenth, in a recorded message, he alleged the prior administration had been "massively" overcharging people on the federal exchange and pledged five hundred dollar rebates to nearly a million of them. So you have five thousand, five hundred, ninety. That is a schedule. The ninety is the first installment. It is installment one. I am not going to put a date on installment two from this podium — or a figure, the figure is Treasury's — look, when Treasury has the second one, Treasury will have it, and I would not want to characterize a second one I have not been given. Did I say installment? I would characterize it as a check. A check that went out.

On mechanics. The Treasury secretary told the House Financial Services Committee on the fifteenth that the department is examining whether it can issue the money without authorization from Congress, and examining is not

… Continued on Page H2

Co-pilot grounded by Oman Air as a security risk in 2024 was flying 174 people toward Tel Aviv with a crash axe; the president's response was to offer the plumber who stopped him a job.

BY LOU
One More Question

Who stopped the plane.

I put that question to a fellow Wednesday night and he answered it, and I apologize, because here I am asking it again. The answer came back Friday in a different shape, and when an answer changes shape I start to think I wrote the question down wrong. Hold on. It's in the notebook. The pocket's torn, everything slides to the bottom — ah. Here.

Wednesday, September 30th, the Washington Examiner. The pilot who unlocked the cockpit door "after getting stabbed to allow passengers to storm the cockpit" is Smit Machchhar, an Indian national. Named first in Indian media, then confirmed by Prime Minister Netanyahu, then confirmed again by the Indian Embassy. One identification and two confirmations, all in the one day. That was Wednesday's answer, and it held up fine.

Friday morning the same question gets answered again. The Hill: the president thanked Israeli plumber Yaniv Hayoun in a video message on Truth Social, said he "did an amazing job," said "He's my kind of guy." The New York Post carries the rest of it — "he can be my plumber." The Post says Hayoun

… Continued on Page F2

The unwritten rule that you do not schedule ordnance around a ballot died at no fixed age, survived by a bombing moved to after the midterms and by the chamber that went home for seven weeks without voting on the war.

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

The wall between the war calendar and the campaign calendar died Sunday the twenty-seventh, in Washington. It was of no fixed age. Nobody ever wrote it down, which is the trouble with it now: an unwritten rule is a penny-ante thing to defend in court, and there was never anything to repeal. It was only the understanding, held by people who agreed on nothing else, that you do not schedule ordnance around a ballot. It worked for a long time on nothing but habit, and the shit of it is that habit was the only thing holding it up.

It had been ailing since February, when the war it would have governed was launched without congressional authorization. By Friday the eighteenth Common Dreams was counting it at 201 days.

Thursday the seventeenth was the worst day of the illness. The U.N. fact-finding mission on Iran, established by the Human Rights Council in 2022, reported reasonable grounds to believe the United States committed war crimes in two strikes inside the country; the New York Times reported that the mistakes leading to the deaths of more than a hundred children at an Iranian school "went beyond negligence," and that a separate strike the same

… Continued on Page F3

With the war priced at $38 billion by its own budget office and $121 billion in extra energy costs charged to households, the House went home a day early for a seven-week recess.

BY THE WRECKING CREW
The Economy Desk

The job this week was to find the invoice, and then find the tool that makes somebody read it out loud on a floor.

Tuesday the 15th, the Congressional Budget Office closed its books and priced the war at $38 billion. The Budget Office calls that figure conservative. In accounting, conservative means the number has room above it and none below.

Wednesday the 16th, Clean Creatives published its count of who is buying the quiet: fossil fuel firms have engaged 802 advertising and public relations agencies over the last two years, and the 1,321 contracts recorded in 2025 and 2026 are the highest the group has logged since it began tracking in 2021. Common Dreams reported the industry is taking big profits from the war and plugging a sizable chunk of them into that work. Put that on the board next to the $38 billion. Same war, two ledgers, one of them growing.

Also Wednesday the 16th, the Speaker sent the House home a day earlier than scheduled for a seven-week recess ahead of the midterms. Fox News reported that Representative Thomas Massie says the early adjournment

… Continued on Page F2

Tennessee's half-price beer filled Neyland by kickoff for a stadium stump speech backing the bill, up for Senate passage Monday, that The Nation says threatens the labor rights of the athletes on the field below.

BY GUS
The Sports Desk

● HOT MIC MOMENT

Is this thing — fine. At the plane, asked whether he wanted to be surrounded by outlets that support him, the man said "I want real news, not fake news, like you," and then the audio on the biggest game of the week died into static and we file that under weather. One America News signed. Put this reporter on the political desk. I will still do the ballgames on weekends.

… Continued on Page S2

"Notice every "temporary" on the page. Temporary tariffs, temporary fees, temporary emergencies. I've been temporary since 2017. So has the tab."

— *Sal*

"If the numbers on this page bother you, I'd gently suggest that numbers are one perspective."

— *Chip*

Pentagon moves troops out of the hemisphere where it claims no oil and into the one where it has claimed 35 percent, then seats a contractor with billions of dollars in military contracts on the body planning the future of war

By **STERLING**
THE OWNERSHIP DESK



"With Elon Musk's Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface", 3 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE NEW YORK TIMES — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Thirty-five percent of what? The filing declines to supply the noun. Thirty-five percent, and the rest is yours to work out. Hold the figure, because on October 3, in the morning, a filing had Hegseth moving troops out of Europe, where the Pentagon claims no oil stake, and into the hemisphere where it claims thirty-five percent. Out of the one, into the other. You would like to call that strategy. It is a usufruct — the fruit of a field a man does not hold the title to — and troops are what one posts along the fence.

The thing itself was done in daylight. August 28: Congress was called upon to stop what one filing called, in its own headline, "Yet Another Trump Grift," the takeover of Venezuela's oil fields. August 30: the president described that same oil as set to replenish United States reserves, in language a filing called mobster. By September 1 the question had narrowed to one headline asking deal or theft at gunpoint. September 11: Fox News quoted a top official crediting a thirty-minute military operation with unlocking the windfall. Sixty-five billion barrels. Thirty minutes ... which is handsome, as hourly rates go....

...(cont) Someone paid for the half-hour, and it was not the department. September 15: the Congressional Budget Office put Defense Department spending on the Iran war at $38 billion through the end of July, and called that estimate conservative. September 17: Moody's Analytics put the war's cost to the average American household at $1,760, and extra United States consumer spending on energy alone at $121 billion. On September 4 diesel reached $5.85 the gallon, an all-time high. On August 31 gasoline stood at $4.08, ninety cents above the year before. Matt Bell, who farms in North Carolina and voted for the president, told CBS on September 18 that farmers were "sold a bill of goods," and, "I can't stay in business."

From August 27, a mandated filing with the Office of Government Ethics: more than 1,000 stock transactions in June, among them thousands of dollars in energy companies taking record profits from the war. Two filings. One quarter.

An accounting was requested, and the week disposed of the request twice. September 3: the Wall Street Journal reported Middle East deployments extended into next year, a presence of 50,000 troops kept in the region "in part to give the president flexibility on next steps." Flexibility. The president's, not the household's. September 17: every Senate Democrat but Fetterman signed an open letter pressing Hegseth for a cost breakdown. Largely symbolic, as the item itself allowed.

October 3, and from Hegseth: no beardos, no weirdos, no wimps. The same October 3, the department opened its new Office of Religious Affairs. The one department, the one day, and no tension reported between the two.

At least five people were killed and 68 injured when the United States bombed a wedding party at a private home in Kuhestak, in Hormozgan province, reported September 2. On September 17 a United Nations fact-finding mission found reasonable grounds to believe the United States committed war crimes in two airstrikes inside Iran; the strike on Minab killed 123 children.

Which leaves the chair. The New York Times, October 3: "The founder of SpaceX, with billions of dollars in military contracts, joins several other defense industry executives" on the body that will help plan the future of war. The department's largest contractor. Also a top campaign donor. One page carries both, and the page was filed. The average household's cost of this war is $1,760. The firms that sell the equipment are seated for the next.

THE RECEIPTS

~~With Elon Musk's Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface~~

Musk advises the Pentagon that pays SpaceX billions in contracts

The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *17:14 EDT*

The founder of SpaceX, with billions of dollars in military contracts, joins several other defense industry executives on a Pentagon advisory board.

~~Hegseth puts the future of warfare in the hands of major Maga donors~~

The Pentagon official running its AI program profited from Musk's private stock while in office

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *13:27 EDT*

Installing tech billionaires Elon Musk and Palmer Luckey to Pentagon defense board raises conflict-of-interest concerns Send us your questions about how the Iran war will affect US voters in the midterms By installing the tech billionaires Elon Musk and Palmer Luckey to advisory roles in a Pentagon project about the future of warfare...

Soaring diesel prices take their toll on US farmers in midwest corn belt

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *08:00 EDT*

Fuel costs are biting for crop growers, trucking firms and a host of other industries as Iran war stokes record prices Joe Hamilton farms corn and soybeans on 2,500 acres in Indiana's Delaware county. Next week, when his soybean harvest kicks off, four tractors, two combine harvesters and five semi-trucks will roar to life. And with...

Trump Accord Enshrines Light-Touch Regulation of AI

Daily Caller RIGHT § *14:13 EDT*

The Accord Establishes 'Real Oversight – Without Creating A Regulatory Capture Regime'

· Pete Hegseth appoints Elon Musk to US taskforce on future of warfare *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Elon Musk boosts GOP spending advantage with return as 2026 juggernaut *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· An Elon Musk insider shares what he found in Washington — and it should terrify you *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump says tech CEOs signed 'morally binding' document to self-regulate artificial intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· READ IN FULL: Trump and tech leaders' White House Accord on Super Intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Inflation Could Soon 'Get a Lot More Painful' as Trump's Iran War Drives Diesel Over $6 a Gallon *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· 'Can't Message That Away': GOP Frets as Trump Administration Desperately Spins Record-High Diesel Prices *from the morgue, 5 Sep 2026*

· 'Trump Did It!': At $5.85 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· States take matters into their own hands to curb record-high diesel prices *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein Files II discharge petition *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Read Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Trump says he has a 'big decision' coming up on Iran: 'Do I want to go in and annihilate them' *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Fox News Poll: 71% think Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and New Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

· Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as US, Iran trade strikes *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· U.S. Strike on Iranian School May Have Been War Crime, U.N. Report Says *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Inquiry Finds US Strike on Minab, Iran That Killed 123 Children Was War Crime *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN investigators conclude 'reasonable grounds' to believe certain US strikes in Iran were war crimes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Suspects US War Crimes in Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Condemned for 'War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Trump says he has a 'big decision coming up' on Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· White House issues explosive response to UN-backed report claiming US committed war crimes against world's No.1 sponsor of terror, Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Human rights experts: 'Reasonable grounds' to believe US committed war crimes with Iran strikes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Energy Consumers Have Spent $121 Billion Extra Since Trump Launched Iran War: Moody's *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran downed at least 2 American drones in recent days, U.S. officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran: Account of US Air Force colonel's rescue 'fictional' *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Burden of Trump Iran War Exceeds $100 Billion as Oil Prices Pass $100 a Barrel *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· 'A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces 'Trump's Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Rep. Thomas Massie forcing vote on Pete Hegseth's impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Did Johnson Just Adjourn Congress for 7 Weeks to Avoid Massie's Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth? *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· The Hitchhiker's Guide to Massie saying Johnson is sending the House home early to prevent Hegseth impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'You're Elected to Fight and Kill the Other Side': How Congress Lost Its Way *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Army combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Since 2025, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Fossil Fuel Advertising Contracts Hit Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'How are we gonna get through this?' Many Americans are struggling as prices rise *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Trump's Top Oil Stocks Have Made Him Up to $4.4 Million Richer During Iran War: Analysis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Gas prices reach Labor Day high amid Iran war *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

· Warsh under pressure as Fed weighs rate hike *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Inflation held at 3.4% in August in consumer price index, creating tough choice for Warsh Fed *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Warsh indicates Fed could raise rates to cool inflation *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· Key U.S. Bond Rate Near 20-Year High as Oil Prices Keep Climbing *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· 10-year Treasury yield hits highest level since 2007, oil surges above $105 as Fed expected to hike interest rates *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Benchmark mortgage rate hits 14-month high as bond yields keep rising *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Benchmark mortgage rate hits highest mark in over a year *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· Goldman Sachs warns oil prices could hit $120 as U.S. fuel costs surge *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Massie Moves to Force Impeachment Vote Against Hegseth, Citing Civilian Deaths *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· GOP Rep Thomas Massie introduces 8 articles of impeachment against War Secretary Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Republican Rep. Massie moves to impeach Defense Secretary Hegseth over Iran war *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Thomas Massie Forces Vote To Impeach Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Pete Hegseth Faces Growing Criticism as War With Iran Rolls On *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Tennessee hired a prison chief with four botched executions in the file, got the fifth on Wednesday and the resignation on Saturday; the Justice Department spent the same week asking the judge who struck its press ban to restore it on grounds of professionalism.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK



"Blackburn calls on Tennessee to 'bring back' electric chair after botched Christa Pike execution", 1 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The file came first. Lawyers for Christa Pike count five botched executions under Frank Strada's leadership across two states since 2022. Four of those five were in Arizona, where Strada oversaw the state's executions, and all four were on the books before Tennessee hired Strada to run its prisons. The New York Times reported Saturday that the hire went through anyway. That is the first entry on this page, and it is dated earlier than everything under it.

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...(cont) Wednesday morning, with witnesses already gathered at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution, a Sixth Circuit panel voted 2-1 to halt it an hour before the scheduled time, to review Pike's allegations that she had been sexually abused and raped. The Supreme Court lifted that stay the same day, over the dissent of three justices. Tennessee proceeded Wednesday night with two injections of pentobarbital, each of which was supposed to be lethal. Forty minutes after the double dose, the Guardian reported, she was alive and snoring.

Christa Pike, 50, was hospitalized Wednesday and remained unconscious and on a ventilator Friday, her attorneys said, while hospital staff worked to clear the pentobarbital from her system.

Then the reviews, all of them after the fact. Thursday: Governor Bill Lee called it "deeply disturbing," and United Nations human rights experts urged the state not to try again. Saturday: the Guardian published the count of five, the Times published the hiring file, and Strada was out. Court documents say Pike thought her arm would "burst open"; her experts describe pentobarbital as caustic and highly alkaline, burning flesh, tissue and veins on contact, akin to "bleach" or "Drano." The Guardian's sentence for what the week produced is the first death row prisoner in the US to be injected with lethal drugs and survive.

An independent inquiry is what an institution buys when it decides to read a record late. On September 24, Judge Timothy Kelly, appointed by this president, ordered the White House to immediately restore the press credentials of reporters from CNN, MS NOW and Politico, finding the outlets likely to succeed on their claim that the ban and the revocation violated Fifth Amendment due process. On October 3, the Justice Department asked Kelly to put the ban back, arguing that access to the White House complex is a privilege and not a constitutional right, and that the three outlets had failed to meet "standards of professionalism." September 24 to October 3: one finding, then one motion to set the finding aside, filed with the judge who made it.

So the week ran two standards. The standard the department applied to three newsrooms was professionalism. The standard Tennessee applied to a hiring file was four botched executions and a signature.

Reconcile those and the difference is four. Four entries in the record before the appointment, and zero of them in the decision to make it. That is not a gap in the applicant's file, hon; the applicant's file was complete and correct. It is a gap in the employer's, and the employer is the state — which has now suspended its executions, ordered its inquiry, and will pay for both out of the same column it paid the salary from.

THE RECEIPTS

~~Tennessee prison system head to resign after failed Christa Pike execution~~
She's alive, unconscious and intubated after Tennessee's failed execution, her lawyers say.
CBS News MAINSTREAM 12:10 EDT
Christa Pike remains alive but unconscious and intubated after her failed execution on Wednesday, her lawyers said.

Blackburn calls on Tennessee to 'bring back' electric chair after botched Christa Pike execution
The Hill MAINSTREAM 15:22 EDT
Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) on Thursday called on Tennessee to reintroduce the electric chair for executions after death-row prisoner Christa Pike survived two lethal injections the day before. Blackburn, who is the GOP nominee in the Volunteer State's gubernatorial race, called the botched execution "tragic"

~~Christa Pike Hospitalized After Surviving 2 Lethal Injection Doses in Tennessee~~
Tennessee has now botched two executions this year
Truthout 13:42 EDT
This represents the second failed attempt at an execution via lethal injection in Tennessee this year alone.

Trump dumbfounded on why death row inmate Christa Pike couldn't be executed: 'Should be easy to do'
New York Post RIGHT 16:46 EDT
He expressed disbelief that Pike survived the two rounds of lethal injection, becoming the first person in history to survive that death penalty method.

~~Judge blocks Trump's firing of top federal prosecutor in Seattle~~
Trump fired him within the hour of his swearing-in
CBS News MAINSTREAM 18:58 EDT
Attorney General Todd Blanche announced in July that President Trump had fired Roger Rogoff as the U.S. attorney in Seattle, less than an hour after he was sworn into the post.

Tennessee Correction commissioner resigns days after botched Christa Pike execution
ABC News MAINSTREAM 15:18 EDT
Tennessee Department of Correction Commissioner Frank Strada he will resign days after the execution of Christa Pike was botched, the governor said.

Tennessee's prisons chief resigns after failed Pike execution, governor says
The Washington Post MAINSTREAM 14:38 EDT
The botched lethal injection of Christa Pike led to the halting of all scheduled executions in the state.

Tennessee Pauses Executions After a Botched Lethal Injection
The New York Times MAINSTREAM 18:04 EDT
Also, the Supreme Court will review Trump's migrant detention policy. Here's the latest at the end of Thursday.

~~Christa Pike thought her arm would 'burst open' during botched Tennessee execution: court docs~~
Tennessee's execution drug burns flesh like bleach, Pike's experts say
New York Post RIGHT 23:48 EDT
The execution drug, pentobarbital, is a caustic, highly alkaline chemical that burns human flesh, tissue and veins on contact, akin to household chemicals like "bleach" or "Drano," Pike's experts say.

Judge reinstates Washington state US attorney fired by Trump
ABC News MAINSTREAM 18:27 EDT
A federal judge has ordered a U.S. attorney from Western Washington who was fired by President Donald Trump in July to immediately be reinstated to the position.

~~After Two Botched Attempts, UN Experts Urge Tennessee Not to Try to Execute Christa Pike Again~~
Tennessee failed to kill Christa Pike twice. UN experts say stop before a third.
Common Dreams 19:39 EDT
United Nations human rights experts on Thursday joined the growing chorus of people around the world outraged by Tennessee's two botched attempts to execute Christa Pike and called on the state to refrain from trying again to kill the 50-year-old woman. After a last-minute legal battle , the US Supreme Court allowed Tennessee to execute...

~~Legal expert on what could happen after botched execution of Christa Pike~~
Tennessee's lethal injection failed to kill her Wednesday night
CBS News MAINSTREAM 19:36 EDT
Christa Pike is receiving medical care after Tennessee failed to execute her by lethal injection Wednesday night. Deborah Denno, a professor of law at Fordham Law School, joins "The Daily Report" to break down what could happen next.

Outgoing prison chief in Christa Pike case oversaw five 'botched' executions, lawyers say
The Guardian MAINSTREAM 06:00 EDT
Frank Strada will leave role next month after uproar over execution attempt, which sent Pike to hospital in critical condition Tennessee's prison chief is resigning after the failed execution of Christa Pike, which lawyers say was the fifth "botched" execution under his leadership across two states since 2022. Frank Strada, the...

Christa Pike in critical condition after failed execution attempts: Lawyer
The Hill MAINSTREAM 09:58 EDT
Tennessee inmate Christa Pike was in critical condition and receiving "lifesaving medical care" on Thursday, a day after surviving two failed lethal injection attempts by state executioners, according to her lawyers. Attorney Randy Spivey, who was present at the Wednesday execution attempt, said during a press conference that state...

Christa Pike Hospitalized in Critical Condition After Botched Execution
Truthout 14:08 EDT
"I've never seen anything like what we saw Wednesday night," said one reporter who witnessed the execution attempt.

Questions emerge after Christa Pike's botched execution
CBS News MAINSTREAM 10:47 EDT
Tennessee death row inmate Christa Pike survived two doses of a lethal injection drug during her attempted execution, her attorneys say. Officials are investigating what went wrong.

Infamous Murderer 'Critically Ill' After Surviving Two Botched Lethal Injections: REPORT
Daily Caller RIGHT 15:32 EDT
'Critically ill but not in a coma.'

~~The Memo: Tennessee debacle revives bitter debate over death penalty~~
Tennessee botched her execution Wednesday; she's now in critical condition
The Hill MAINSTREAM 17:24 EDT
The death penalty is back center stage in national politics in the most macabre of circumstances. Christa Pike, 50, who admits to the gruesome 1995 murder of classmate Colleen Slemmer, is in critical condition in the hospital after Tennessee's attempt to execute her Wednesday evening failed. The attempted execution had only proceeded at...

~~Tennessee Prison Commissioner Resigns Days After Failed Execution~~
Tennessee's botched execution left Christa Pike unconscious and hospitalized
The New York Times MAINSTREAM 11:52 EDT
Frank Strada, who oversaw the process that left Christa Pike unconscious and hospitalized, quit as an independent review begins.

~~Christa Pike Was Unconscious and on Ventilator After Execution Attempt~~
Tennessee's lethal injection attempt left her burned and on a ventilator
The New York Times MAINSTREAM 14:56 EDT
The Tennessee inmate was brought to a hospital with burned and blistered arms after an unsuccessful attempt at lethal injection, her lawyers said in a court filing.

Tennessee suspends executions as Christa Pike's lawyer says failed lethal injection leaves her in critical condition
The Guardian MAINSTREAM 00:18 EDT
Independent inquiry ordered after failed execution of Pike, who was convicted of 1994 murder Christa Pike: what we know so far about Tennessee woman's failed execution Tennessee 's governor on Thursday said it was "deeply disturbing" that his state botched the execution of a death row prisoner who remained alive and snoring 40 minutes...

Pike's botched execution renews death penalty scrutiny
The Hill MAINSTREAM 12:00 EDT
Tennessee's botched execution of Christa Pike is renewing scrutiny over how states carry out the death penalty and raising questions about what legal recourse exists when that protocol goes awry. The attempt mirrors recent failures in other states, where inmates and their lawyers have argued in court that such errors amount to cruel...

~~Lawyers, experts urge Tennessee governor to commute Christa Pike's sentence after botched execution~~
She survived two doses of lethal injection - Tennessee's governor could still execute her
Fox News RIGHT 22:25 EDT
Christa Pike survived two doses of pentobarbital in a botched Tennessee execution, and her lawyers now urge Gov. Bill Lee to commute her death sentence.

~~Botched US execution prompts global calls to scrap death penalty~~
Tennessee tried to kill her with pentobarbital. She survived.
Le Monde MAINSTREAM 15:29 EDT
Christa Pike was taken to a hospital after the failed attempts to put her to death in Tennessee on Wednesday night. Her condition was not known and officials have not said how she survived the deadly doses of pentobarbital.

Prison chief resigns after failed execution attempt in US
RTÉ MAINSTREAM 00:15 EDT
The prison commissioner in the southern US state of Tennessee has resigned over the failed execution of convicted murderer Christa Pike, Governor Bill Lee has said.

How legislatures and the courts sabotage the death penalty
Washington Examiner RIGHT 15:04 EDT
State legislators and the courts have turned the death penalty into a grimly farcical process, feeding the cheapest arguments against it. The attempted execution of Christa Pike in Tennessee showcases this fact. For full context, an 18-year-old Pike and an accomplice lured Colleen Slemmer into the woods, tortured her with a box cutter...

~~Death row inmate unconscious on ventilator after botched execution for teen's killing: attorneys~~
Tennessee's lethal injection left her unconscious on a ventilator, attorneys say
Fox News RIGHT 17:43 EDT
Christa Pike remains unconscious on a ventilator after Tennessee's botched lethal injection as attorneys file to preserve execution evidence.

Am I Lying to Myself About the Death Penalty?
National Review RIGHT 13:00 EDT
It is a scandal that Christa Pike's execution was botched, but we must ask whose fault that was.

~~Christa Pike unconscious and intubated after failed execution, lawyers say~~
Tennessee's two botched lethal injections left her unconscious, lawyers say
Washington Examiner RIGHT 15:53 EDT
The lawyers for a Tennessee woman who survived an execution attempt said on Friday she is unconscious and intubated following the failed procedure this week. Christa Pike, 50, was scheduled for execution on Wednesday, but is still alive after two attempts to end her life by lethal injection. Both attempts failed, and Pike's lawyer said...

~~Judge restores Seattle US attorney who Trump fired after court appointment~~
Trump fired a federal prosecutor less than an hour after judges swore him in
Washington Examiner RIGHT 19:16 EDT
A federal judge restored Roger Rogoff as the top federal prosecutor in Seattle on Thursday, ruling that President Donald Trump could not fire a U.S. attorney whom district judges had appointed less than an hour earlier. U.S.

The Guardian view on the death penalty: Christa Pike's execution was botched, but cruelty is inherent
The Guardian MAINSTREAM 14:14 EDT
Three-quarters of nations have rightly abolished capital punishment in law or practice, but killing by the state has surged in the US What is the kindest way to kill? That's the question being asked once more following Tennessee's failed attempts to execute Christa Pike for the brutal murder of a classmate, Colleen Slemmer, when she was...

Tennessee executed Christa Pike by the book. She survived
Washington Examiner RIGHT 10:00 EDT
Tennessee attempted to carry out the death sentence imposed on Christa Pike on Wednesday. The state administered its prescribed lethal-injection procedure. Pike survived.

Tennessee Attempted to Execute a Sexual Assault Victim
Truthout 15:46 EDT
Christa Pike's lethal injection is booked for September 30. She may be the first woman Tennessee executes in 200 years.

Tennessee Prison Chief Was Hired Despite a Trail of Troubled Executions
The New York Times MAINSTREAM 11:41 EDT
The failed execution of Christa Pike has prompted new scrutiny of Frank Strada, who resigned as the state's top prison official on Saturday, and his past role overseeing executions in Arizona.

Christa Pike's botched lethal injection takes focus off victim, jeopardizes execution: former police chief
Fox News RIGHT 07:00 EDT
Christa Pike's botched lethal injection could end capital punishment in Tennessee altogether, warns former Knoxville Police chief Phil Keith.

~~DOJ petitions judge to reinstate White House ban on CNN, MS Now, and Politico~~
Trump administration asks court to let it bar three news outlets from the White House
Washington Examiner RIGHT 10:23 EDT
The Justice Department is asking a federal judge to reinstate President Donald Trump's ban on CNN, MS Now, and Politico journalists' access to the White House, arguing that access to the White House is a privilege, not a constitutional right. The filing comes after U.S. District Judge Timothy Kelly, a Trump appointee, temporarily blocked...

White House defends media outlet bans, now citing 'professionalism' standards
The Hill MAINSTREAM 15:22 EDT
Trump administration lawyers are fighting back against CNN, MS NOW and Politico's attempt to prevent the White House from enforcing futures bans against them — with the Justice Department (DOJ) now arguing the three outlets failed to meet "professional" standards. "The President concluded that they have failed to maintain basic minimum...

~~Christa Pike Is in Critical Condition as Tennessee Pauses Executions~~
Tennessee botched her execution; she's hospitalized
The New York Times MAINSTREAM 19:09 EDT
Gov. Bill Lee ordered a review of the state's lethal injection process after the botched attempt to execute the lone woman on Tennessee's death row.

Tennessee prison chief to resign after Christa Pike's failed execution
BBC News MAINSTREAM 13:48 EDT
Pike's lawyers said the failure "goes far beyond any one person". Pike is in critical condition after surviving two lethal injections.

~~Federal Appellate Court Halts Tennessee's Planned Execution of Christa Pike~~
Tennessee's AG asks Supreme Court to force through first execution of a woman in centuries
Common Dreams 13:16 EDT
A federal appellate court on Wednesday morning temporarily blocked Tennessee from executing Christa Pike, as witnesses had already gathered at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution in Nashville for the state's first execution of a woman in centuries. A panel from the US Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit ruled 2-1 to halt the...

~~Botched execution of death row inmate~~
Tennessee injected her twice with a lethal drug. She survived.
NBC News MAINSTREAM 19:50 EDT
Tennessee gave death row inmate Christa Pike two doses of a lethal drug, but somehow she survived. NBC News' Jesse Kirsch reports.

~~Judge rejects Trump administration arguments for withholding boat strike justification memo~~
Trump administration ordered to disclose legal basis for lethal boat strikes
The Hill MAINSTREAM 18:59 EDT
A federal judge on Wednesday ruled the Trump administration must turn over a Department of Justice (DOJ) memo that legally authorizes the Pentagon's lethal boat strikes in the Caribbean and Pacific. U.S. District Judge Paul Engelmayer rejected two of the administration's three arguments to keep the document secret in a 66-page opinion...

Tennessee prison chief resigns after Christa Pike's botched execution
New York Post RIGHT 11:34 EDT
The Tennessee prison chief who oversaw the botched execution of murderer Christa Pike has stepped down from the position.

Christa Pike left in 'critical condition' as Tennessee halts all executions
The Guardian MAINSTREAM 06:59 EDT
Failed attempt to execute 50-year-old prompts review of state's execution practices. Plus the California woman who is allergic to cold Good morning. Tennessee's governor has suspended executions as Christa Pike's lawyer says the state's failed lethal injection execution attempt has left her in a critical condition.

~~Christa Pike remains on ventilator after failed execution in Tennessee~~
Tennessee tried to execute her with pentobarbital. She's unconscious on a ventilator instead.
The Guardian MAINSTREAM 16:26 EDT
Attorneys say hospital staff are working to clear pentobarbital she was administered from her system Christa Pike remained hospitalized, unconscious and on a machine helping her breathe after her failed execution in Tennessee, her attorneys said in a court filing Friday. The attorneys said hospital staff were working to save Pike's life...

What the Modern State Gets Wrong About Execution
National Review RIGHT 06:30 EDT
Medicalizing and sanitizing capital punishment erase the deterrence it is supposed to create.

- After failed execution, health workers say Tennessee's method flouts medical ethics *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Supreme Court Allows Execution of Christa Pike, Tennessee's Lone Woman on Death Row *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Federal court halts Christa Pike's execution *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Sunday Shows Preview: Trump bans 3 media outlets from White House; Parties make final cases as midterms approach *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*
- Vance defends White House media ban: 'Politico is as anti-Trump as Breitbart was anti-Obama or anti-Biden' *from the morgue, 21 Sep 2026*
- Vance defends Trump's media ban as 'totally appropriate' *from the morgue, 21 Sep 2026*
- Bill Clinton: 'There were lots of times when I wanted to ban the White House press corps' *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*
- Supreme Court declines Christa Pike's clemency appeal, with Tennessee set to execute first woman in 200 years *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*
- Supreme Court allows execution of Christa Pike to go forward *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Tennessee court makes last minute move to temporarily halt Christa Pike's execution *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Trump White House Restores Access to Politico, MS NOW, CNN Reporters Hours After Judge's Order *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*
- Judge orders White House to restore media access temporarily for blocked outlets *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*
- CNN, MS NOW and Politico reporters regain entry to White House *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*
- Christa Pike's Tennessee execution halted by court an hour before it was scheduled *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Tennessee inmate survived two lethal injections, her lawyer says in motion to halt execution *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*
- Tennessee prepares to execute the first woman in over 200 years *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*
- States should not blindly Alabama's use of execution by nitrogen *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*
- Lone woman death row inmate Christa Pike says she's 'at peace' ahead of execution — as Tennessee gov. denies last-ditch bid for clemency *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*
- Fourth Circuit worried Trump's US attorney appointments unlawfully cut out Senate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Judge blocks Trump executive order banning 'birth tourism' *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*
- The Supreme Court of the United States rules 5–4 to lift the block on four federal executions scheduled for July and August. Convicted murderer Daniel Lewis Lee, whose execution was scheduled for the *from the morgue, 14 Jul 2020*
- The Supreme Court of the United States refuses to vacate a stay of execution issued by the Arkansas Supreme Court. Arkansas's highest court has also put on hold the execution of another inmate, Bruce *from the morgue, 18 Apr 2017*

"CNN, MS Now, and Politico ask judge to extend order pausing Trump's ban from the newsgroup, 27 Aug 2020

"Trump administration asks Supreme Court to OK transgender troops policy from the newsgroup, 29 Aug 2020

https://nypost.com/2020/10/01/as-nancy-lees-ex-of-cherie-gilles-revives-his-lurchian-response-to-watching-field-executive-dies-2-hot-tap/ from the newsgroup, 1 Oct 2020

https://www.foxnews.com/health/what-know-pentobarbital-death-row-inmates-used-two-lethal-injections-drugs from the newsgroup, 2 Oct 2020

"United States District Court Judge Jeremy Fogel ingrance a amendment or lethal injections in California stating that they violate the constitutional ban on cruel punishments, the Governor of Florida bit by from the newsgroup, 23 Dec 2020

"John Marsh becomes the 60th death row inmate in the state of Florida, United States to be executed by lethal injection since the death sentence was re-instated in 1979 (Albert Duvall) from the newsgroup, 27 Aug 2020

"U.S. President Joe Biden commutes the death sentences of 37 out of 40 federal death row inmates, including Dylann Roof, The executions are: Dylann Roof, Robert Gregory Bowers, and Nikolas Cruz-Tsarnaev from the newsgroup, 25 Dec 2020

"The death penalty: 10 years after reinstatement from the newsgroup, 25 Sep 2016

"Jury critiques executive blocked, Alabama inmate to die by lethal injection from the newsgroup, 27 Aug 2020

https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/511596-bill-to-remove-cop-unions-back-in-illinois-gets-vote from the newsgroup, 1 Dec 2020

https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/511595-chicago-alds-fatal-executive-temperament from the newsgroup, 1 Dec 2020

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/01/us/politics/2020-election-debate-fact-check.html?action=click&module=Top%20Stories&pgtype=Homepage#:~:text=Mr.%20Trump%20has%20been%20a,temperament%20of%20a%20child. from the newsgroup, 1 Oct 2020

This page was a hand-woven file since as it was, created on May 6 2021. The current edition is as the Date. The Editor is Lucie Lamar for a Lesbian Gaudell by a location never chartered by the editor. Ever Wish It Could.

The ninety dollars Treasury mailed this month is insufficient one of the promised five thousand, and this podium will not be putting a date or a figure on installment two.

BY ORIN
STAFF WRITER

"Treasury says 72 % of need-not-claim $90 payment to 266 ministers enrolled in Medicare C." — Bulletin Board, Treasury Information Desk, 4 October 2025

GUTAKARA THE FIFTH

Good evening. The special envoy and the president's son-in-law flew to Moscow on September 4 and then to Kyiv by train, and the Kyiv leg was "unscheduled" in the sense that it was "substantive progress" and a three-day poem-talk about land agreed to on the train with the president's son-in-law, and then announced a great. At some point in that effort, by the record, the 72 % figure was set, and it is the figure this desk is now required to publish. The ninety dollars mailed this month is one of the five annual deductions to bear an energy proposal. Ten, it is a schedule. The ninety is the first. The first is insufficient. I mean not. I am not going to put a date on installment two. The Treasury has a date. I am not the Treasury. I am the podium, when Treasury has the second one, Treasury will have a date. I will not be the podium that puts a date on it before it arrives. I will be the podium that says "Treasury has announced" as a check. A check the most was.

The 72 % is the Treasury secretary told the House Financial Services Committee on the fifteenth that the declaration is necessary whether it can be verified or not, and did not authorization from Congress, and examining is not declaration. The Treasury secretary's testimony was delivered by a fellow called the propose "Treasury" and the Treasury called that from the few details available, it seems the dividend would carry no income tax. Senator Mondaire of Kansas, asked at the state fair debate about a $1.2 billion price tag, called the proposal "unworkable." Kyiv's Kondratiuk has yet to pay for it. Representative Fitzl of Nebraska said the priority is "the check in the mail." The check in the mail is the 72 %. Senator Mondaire's "unworkable" is the check. The check requires six with a senator who has said they will not fund it. Senator That is a party choosing a theme, and the party the ninety dollars went out during it.

Until Thak, energy. The special envoy and the president's son-in-law flew to Moscow on September 4 and then to Kyiv by train, and the Kyiv leg was "unscheduled" in the sense that it was "substantive progress" and a three-day poem-talk about land agreed to on the train with the president's son-in-law, and then announced a great. At some point in that effort, by the record, the 72 % figure was set, and it is the figure this desk is now required to publish. The ninety dollars mailed this month is one of the five annual deductions to bear an energy proposal. Ten, it is a schedule. The ninety is the first. The first is insufficient. I mean not. I am not going to put a date on installment two. The Treasury has a date. I am not the Treasury. I am the podium, when Treasury has the second one, Treasury will have a date. I will not be the podium that puts a date on it before it arrives. I will be the podium that says "Treasury has announced" as a check. A check the most was.

On the advertising. There is a campaign, praising the [redacted] Department of Energy, the Department of the Homeland Security, and it was at the president's direction. That administration's position is the border security is the reason that the presidency. The presidency sits inside the country, and the border is a border. The president's son-in-law is not the border. The border is a border. The president's son-in-law is not the border is a bread sense a border — I hear it. I hear what that is reasoned, and the [redacted] Department of Energy is informational, and the public benefit from knowing who is the president's son-in-law.

Which brings me to the composite you intend to run. Ninety dollars is the first of five. The first of five is the ninety that went out this month. The ninety that went out this month was the seven $1.3 million and $4.4 million. The seven $1.3 million and $4.4 million was the administration announced it is moving from Affordable Care Act coverage as "fraudulently" enrolled in a program that, in practice, never left skyrockets, against an independent analyst's September 3 tally of as many as 18 million people who have lost their coverage since the January. They do not touch. It does not have been the border. It does not together, and the wiring is not be something I will do from here, through the podium. I will not do it. I will not put a date on the check. One is a holding, and a holding is not income until you have the check in the mail. On Monday, I will be here Monday.

THE RECORDS

Newsprint Clearinghouse
Standard Subscription Offer

The 750 stand smart from a fund Congress already created. Trump says

Newsprint Clearinghouse — 10 of 2017

President says payments, to be sent early October, are meant to help with rising premiums; Democrats call it a political stunt and a use of the government's work; a rise that is expected to cost the federal government $1.5 trillion and $4.4 trillion. The administration announced it is moving from Affordable Care Act coverage as "fraudulently" enrolled in a program that, in practice, never left skyrockets, against an independent analyst's September 3 tally of as many as 18 million people who have lost their coverage since the January. They do not touch. It does not have been the border. It does not together, and the wiring is not be something I will do from here, through the podium. I will not do it. I will not put a date on the check. One is a holding, and a holding is not income until you have the check in the mail. On Monday, I will be here Monday.

Newsprint Clearinghouse
Standard Subscription Offer

He promised to mark $15 trillion in debt. He's now making not $1 billion in checks.

The Mail Gazette — 10 of 1997

President Trump announced Friday his administration will pay out a total of around $1 billion in checks to the American people. But other Medicare Part B premiums could rise. In an evening Truth Social post, the president said he would be sending out checks of $1,776 each. Trump's announcement, which he called a "primitive Think Tweet,"

Newsprint Clearinghouse
Standard Subscription Offer

Trump says Ukraine and Russia have agreed to energy target ceasefire

from the morgue, 1 Sep 2025

U.S. Russia talks on Ukraine New Invoice on Oil Deal Tied to Trump Ukraine Ceasefire

The Mail Gazette — 10 of 2017

President Vladimir V. Putin brought up a sale of Russian energy assets with President Trump's envoy, Steve Witkoff, and Witkoff, pushing a deal that raises new questions about conflicts of interest.

Trump says Ukraine and Russia have agreed to energy target ceasefire *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2025*

Witkoff touts 'substantive progress' with Russia after talks with Ukraine, Russia *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2025*

Trump conveys half-increasingly' talks in Kyiv to end Russia-Ukraine war *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2025*

Witkoff, Kushner to visit Moscow and Kyiv in renewed push to end Russia-Ukraine war *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2025*

Analysis Finds Up to 19 Million People Have Lost Healthcare Coverage During Trump's Second Term *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2025*

Treasury confirms plan to auto-enroll millions of children in Trump accounts *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2025*

The Big Beautiful Bill Is Starting to Bite Before the Election *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

'Sickening and Unacceptable': Anger Mounts as Trump and Vance Gleefully Rip Healthcare From 750,000 *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

Many Americans are relying on multiple forms of credit to cover expenses. When is it a warning sign? *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

Trump gave 'the red meat,' Vance was playing for independents. Bob Casey's *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

Fox News's Baier presses Vance on Trump's $5K dividend promise *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

Pritzker Vance is Trump's 'chief bootlicker' *from the morgue, 5 Sep 2026*

Bessent Defends Pathway Bond Market Intervention *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

Bessent says Treasury is 'examining' ability to cut $1,000 checks to Medicare Congress *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

Bessent's move to tamp down rising rates backfires as bond yields jump, stocks tumble *from the morgue, 3 Nov 2026*

The bond market is sweating — and your mortgage is the first casualty *from the morgue, 4 Nov 2026*

Fiscal hawks skeptical of Bessent's claim that US can 'grow our way out of $40 trillion debt' *from the morgue, 4 Nov 2026*

Bessent blasts Warren's 'sciolistic' letter about gas policy *from the morgue, 19 Nov 2026*

Soros-funded Philadelphia district attorney insinuates Trump is a 34-time felon, calling $5,000 dividend a bribe *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Soros-funded Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner's homicide, homicide, no good, very bad Thursday *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Voters have a blunt message for Trump about his idea to dole out $1,000 checks *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

Why Donald Trump has a Joe Biden problem *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

Does Trump have a 'Biden problem' on the economy? *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

Trump's $5,000-dividend fails flat with GOP senators *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

Trump plan to raise debt limit on shaky ground *from the morgue, 16 Aug 2026*

5 things to know about Trump's $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 16 Aug 2026*

Vance strikes back at concern $5,000 Trump dividend will stoke debt: 'Wealth will go back to the people' *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Mandel backtracks on support for $5,000 Trump dividend in Senate House debate on Ohio's Issue 2 *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Vance and MAGA Inc. work to defend Roger Marshall in redder Kansas *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Roger Marshall Said 700 Patients for Delete, 81 Were Arrested. Now He's a Senator *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Conservatives would scream 'bloody murder' if Democratic president offered dividend to maintain power Guy Benson *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Will Trump's payout promise boost Republican appeal to white women? *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Republicans need a Reagan-style vision to win the battle over income future *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Trump's promised $5,000 'dividend' checks: What to know *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Trump's Reckless $5,000 'Dividend' *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Republicans bet the House on Trump *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Sanford dismisses Trump dividend *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Sanford dismisses the idea of the proposed $5000 Trump dividend *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Trump pledges $5K Trump dividend if Republicans hold onto Congress *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Trump sent $5K dividend checks to Americans will happen 100 percent *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Lawler deflects on supporting Trump's $5K dividend pledge: 'How do you pay for it?' *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

GOP rep says priority 'needs to be the military' not $5K checks *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Susan Collins calls Trump's $5,000 dividend proposal with no cap 'extraordinarily costly' *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Rep Suhr passes Pantos on Trump $5K dividend payment support *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Gavin Newsom calls Trump's $5K vote-payout 'bulls—' and a 'desperate' power grab *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Trump pitches $5,000 checks, but only if GOP wins House and Senate *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Trump's $5,000 payments would reignite inflation, economists say *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Why Trump's promised $5,000 payments to Americans are unlikely to happen *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Bond yields rise modestly after Trump's dividend pledge *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

GOP leaders blindsided by Trump's promise of $5K checks *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Anger Grows Over 'Privileged Class to Chief' Donald Trump's $5,000 Midterm Bribes *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Spiking Bond Yields Put the Rich and Squeeze Everyone Else *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Trump-aligned group releases first midterm ads — and they're about him *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

The Memo: Bond market turmoil heightens midterm risks for Trump and GOP *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

Trump's Plan To Cut $5,000 Checks For Americans Not Landing With Many Republicans *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

Trump's promised $5,000 'dividend' for adult Americans if Republicans win midterms *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

This page is a back issue: the story as it ran, except as they were. The Archive is maintained by [redacted] and the Records Office. Articles are drafted by a machine and checked by the editor. how this is made.

Co-pilot grounded by Oman Air as a security risk in 2024 was flying 174 people toward Tel Aviv with a crash axe; the president's response was to offer the plumber who stopped him a job.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION



"Brazilian voters heading to the poll this weekend say Lula is turning the country into 'another Venezuela'", 3 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Who stopped the plane.

I put that question to a fellow Wednesday night and he answered it, and I apologize, because here I am asking it again. The answer came back Friday in a different shape, and when an answer changes shape I start to think I wrote the question down wrong. Hold on. It's in the notebook. The pocket's torn, everything slides to the bottom — ah. Here....

...(cont) Wednesday, September 30th, the Washington Examiner. The pilot who unlocked the cockpit door "after getting stabbed to allow passengers to storm the cockpit" is Smit Machchhar, an Indian national. Named first in Indian media, then confirmed by Prime Minister Netanyahu, then confirmed again by the Indian Embassy. One identification and two confirmations, all in the one day. That was Wednesday's answer, and it held up fine.

Friday morning the same question gets answered again. The Hill: the president thanked Israeli plumber Yaniv Hayoun in a video message on Truth Social, said he "did an amazing job," said "He's my kind of guy." The New York Post carries the rest of it — "he can be my plumber." The Post says Hayoun saved 170 lives. The Examiner on Friday says the flight carried 174 passengers. Two counts from two outlets; I make nothing of it, I only mention it because I wrote both of them down.

So a man on a plane is offered work. That's a fine story. Here is where I get stuck, and it is my own fault for reading Saturday's wire.

ABC News, Saturday: the co-pilot "was previously suspended by Oman Air as a security risk," according to officials. Fox News puts a year on it — Hamam al-Hammami, 29, an Omani national, grounded by Oman Air in 2024. The Examiner had it Friday from a Wall Street Journal report: barred from flying by Oman over radical beliefs. And on Wednesday he is in the right-hand seat of a Tel Aviv-bound flight with 174 people behind him, and the UAE attorney general says he tried to "take control of the aircraft" and carry out a "terrorist act," using the cockpit's crash axe.

Now, my car. The one that wants a fan belt and announces it at every light. In 2024 it went through a toll plaza with a transponder that didn't read, and there is still a notice about it in my glovebox. Two years on, the arm at that plaza comes down slow for me. A machine the size of a mailbox, bolted to a pole in the weather, holds onto one dollar-fifty and my license plate across two years and a state line, and it never loses the file. That's the thing I keep setting beside the clipping. A mailbox on a pole remembers 2024. So when a country's own airline grounds a man in 2024, who does that follow him to?

Two more from the notebook, because the week kept going. Thursday, CBS: Netanyahu told them the motive of the co-pilot is still unknown, too early to determine. That same Thursday, the New York Post: Netanyahu credits the plumber with preventing "another 9/11" and vows to find out whether Iran was behind the attack. If the motive is still unknown on Thursday, what is the thing he is vowing to find out whether Iran was behind?

And back on Wednesday the Examiner writes that the hijacking has become a flashpoint in Israel's politics, with the prime minister claiming credit for alerting the opposition while rivals say he is exploiting the situation for campaign purposes. An election season. I put a star next to that one.

Oh — excuse me, you've got your coat on already. One small thing and I'll let you go. Friday's job offer went to the passenger, and the passenger earned it. But there was a hiring before Friday's, and it's the one I can't get out of the notebook. Who flew him on Wednesday, and who had grounded him previously?

THE RECEIPTS

Brazilian voters heading to the poll this weekend say Lula is turning the country into 'another Venezuela'
New York Post RIGHT | *10:00 EDT*
This election is turning into a Carnaval.

Lula and Bolsonaro make final push for votes ahead of Brazil's knife-edge election
France 24 MAINSTREAM | *16:16 EDT*
Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and his main challenger Flavio Bolsonaro wrapped up their campaigns on Saturday in the powerhouse state of Sao Paulo, where a fifth of the nation's vote is based, seeking to rally supporters and convince the undecided on the eve of Sunday's nail-biter election.

Co-pilot stabs captain, tries to crash FlyDubai flight en route to Israel
CBS News MAINSTREAM | *11:38 EDT*
Israel leader Benjamin Netanyahu says the FlyDubai co-pilot who allegedly stabbed the captain and tried to crash the plane had undergone "Islamist radical indoctrination."

~~Alarm Grows Over 'Clearly Illegal' Trump-Rubio Election Meddling in Brazil~~
Trump, Rubio interfere for Bolsonaro's son against Lula, spy agency confirms
Common Dreams | *11:09 EDT*
Brazilian officials, pro-democracy advocates, and US lawmakers are growing increasingly concerned about apparent efforts by President Donald Trump and Secretary of State Marco Rubio to interfere in the Latin American country's upcoming election. Reuters reported Wednesday that Brazil's spy agency "confirmed the existence of interference...

Flavio Bolsonaro: In the name of the father, sons, and holy ideology
France 24 MAINSTREAM | *05:48 EDT*
The first round of Brazil's presidential election on Sunday pits two well-known names in the political ring: Lula vs. Bolsonaro. But it's not former president Jair Bolsonaro facing off against the incumbent head of state – it's his eldest son, Flavio Bolsonaro.

Netanyahu says it's too early to determine motive in cockpit stabbing
CBS News MAINSTREAM | *08:56 EDT*
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu indicated to CBS News that the motive of the Flydubai co-pilot accused of stabbing his fellow pilot on a flight from Dubai to Tel Aviv is still unknown.

But: The ICJ ordered Israel in January 2024 to preserve evidence of alleged genocide in Gaza *ICJ provisional measures order, 26 January 2024 (via ASIL)*
Mamdani says it was 'strange' getting called out by Netanyahu after calling for his arrest
Fox News RIGHT | *19:45 EDT*
New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani told Theo Von he was stunned when Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called him out by name during a United Nations General Assembly address.

Trump thanks man who helped save Flydubai flight: 'What a job he did, he's a hero'
The Hill MAINSTREAM | *11:19 EDT*
President Trump on Friday morning thanked the Israeli plumber, Yaniv Hayoun, who intervened after a pilot stabbed his co-pilot and attempted to crash a Flydubai flight this week. In a video message shared on Truth Social, the president praised Hayoun, saying he "did an amazing job." "He's my kind of guy,"

But: Antisemitic incidents in 2025: 6,274 - the third-highest year since tracking began in 1979, with assaults at a record high *ADL, 2025 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents*
"Grotesque": Ex-Israeli Negotiator Daniel Levy on Netanyahu's U.N. Speech & Israel's Impunity
Democracy Now! | *08:18 EDT*
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed a half-empty chamber at the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday, after dozens of delegations walked out in protest at the start of his speech. Netanyahu assailed his critics as "antisemites," defended his country's conduct in Gaza, the West Bank, Lebanon and Syria, and lavished...

Why has Brazil accused the US of election interference?
BBC News MAINSTREAM | *09:52 EDT*
The Latin American country will vote for its next president, as Lula da Silva and Bolsonaro clash over sovereignty, security and ties with Washington.

But: The ICJ ordered Israel in January 2024 to "prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence" of alleged genocide in Gaza *ICJ provisional measures order, 26 January 2024 (via ASIL)*
Mamdani calls for US to join ICC, arrest Netanyahu during Theo Von podcast appearance: 'Architect of a horrific genocide'
New York Post RIGHT | *01:06 EDT*
"If I had my say, the US government would have joined the ICC and honored every single warrant that they've issued," Mamdani declared on Theo Von's podcast, "This Past Weekend."

~~Lula Campaign Asks to Probe Sudden US Shutdown of Consular Services as 'Interference in Brazilian Elections'~~
Brazil's intelligence agency confirms US interference to help elect Bolsonaro's son
Common Dreams | *16:14 EDT*
Just two days before Brazil's closely watched presidential election, the campaign of its left-wing president, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, has asked the nation's top election court to examine the sudden shutdown of US consular services as part of a broader investigation into alleged election "interference" by the Trump administration. On...

US suspends consular services in Brazil due to security concerns
The Hill MAINSTREAM | *10:29 EDT*
The U.S. halted consular services in Brazil Friday due to rising security concerns ahead of the country's presidential election on Sunday. "Consular Services in the U.S.

Flydubai hijacker previously barred from flying by Oman over radical beliefs: Report
Washington Examiner RIGHT | *18:11 EDT*
The co-pilot who hijacked a Flydubai flight carrying 174 passengers and stabbed his captain on Wednesday was previously banned from flying by Oman over his radical beliefs. Israeli officials identified the hijacker as an Omani national, but according to a Wall Street Journal report, the individual was banned from operating an aircraft by...

'Crazy' FlyDubai landing explained by Israeli pilot, who offers steps to prevent future crises
Fox News RIGHT | *14:13 EDT*
Eliran Almog, a former Israeli pilot and aviation cybersecurity CEO, explains why FlyDubai flight 1073's emergency landing was nearly impossible.

Flydubai co-pilot attacked captain with crash axe in hijacking
Washington Examiner RIGHT | *12:11 EDT*
The Flydubai co-pilot accused of attacking the captain of a Tel Aviv-bound flight earlier this week allegedly used the cockpit's "crash axe" in the assault and has been identified as a 29-year-old Omani national. The co-pilot attempted to "take control of the aircraft"

Trump gushes over blue-collar flydubai hero who thwarted hijacking terrorist, says 'he can be my plumber'
New York Post RIGHT | *12:50 EDT*
Donald Trump praised Israeli plumber Yaniv Hayoun, who saved 170 lives by subduing a co-pilot trying to crash a Flydubai flight to Tel Aviv.

But: The ICJ ordered Israel in January 2024 to "prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence" of alleged genocide in Gaza *ICJ provisional measures order, 26 January 2024 (via ASIL)*
Mamdani rips Netanyahu's UN jab as Gaza distraction: 'Not about me and him'
Washington Examiner RIGHT | *22:34 EDT*
New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was trying to distract the world from the humanitarian crisis in Gaza when Netanyahu openly criticized Mamdani at the U.N. General Assembly last week. "All of this is an attempt to distract from responsibility.

Co-pilot attacker had been banned from flying over his radical views
NBC News MAINSTREAM | *19:29 EDT*
The Wall Street Journal reports the co-pilot who tried to fly a plane bound for Israel into the ground had been banned from flying by his home country, Oman, over his radical views. Plus, an Israeli official told NBC News investigators discovered the co-pilot had posted on social media that he wanted to kill Jews. NBC News' Matt Bradley...

~~US Meddling in Brazil May Decide Latin America's Future~~
Flávio Bolsonaro is counting on Trump's help to win Brazil's election
Jacobin | *08:00 EDT*
Brazil's presidential election is on a knife-edge. Right-winger Flávio Bolsonaro has powerful interests on his side but is also counting on the Trump administration's help to push him over the line.

A Bloody Attack on a FlyDubai Plane Headed to Israel, and a Terrifying Plunge
The New York Times MAINSTREAM | *21:56 EDT*
"I don't deserve to die like this," said one passenger on Flight 1073 from Dubai to Tel Aviv. The motive of the cockpit stabbing remains unknown, officials said.

In Brazil's Elections, Trump Seeks to Tighten Right Wing Grip on the Americas
Truthout | *11:30 EDT*
The US has been heavily intervening on behalf of right wing challenger Flávio Bolsonaro ahead of Sunday's elections.

While America debates who belongs, a Hindu captain and Jewish passengers just stopped a hijacking
Washington Examiner RIGHT | *06:00 EDT*
While Americans argue about which religious minorities belong in our national life, a Hindu of Indian origin captain and Jewish Israeli passengers offered a more consequential answer: They helped keep everyone on board Flydubai Flight FZ1073 alive. On Sept. 30, Flight FZ1073 from Dubai to Tel Aviv became the scene of an apparent attempt...

How newsrooms turned an attempted hijacking into a 'brawl' (and killed public trust)
Washington Examiner RIGHT | *06:00 EDT*
Imagine sitting on an airplane at 34,000 feet. Breakfast has been served. You are flying from Dubai to Tel Aviv with more than 170 other people, most of them Israelis.

Suspect in FlyDubai incident was previously identified as security risk: Officials
ABC News MAINSTREAM | *11:38 EDT*
The co-pilot of the FlyDubai plane who allegedly attacked its captain is an Omani national who was previously suspended by Oman Air as a security risk, sources say.

Flydubai pilot attacked captain with cockpit's crash ax in attempted terrorist act, UAE official says
NBC News MAINSTREAM | *05:25 EDT*
TEL AVIV — A Flydubai pilot attacked his flight captain using a crash ax and tried to take control of the aircraft's controls in an attempted terrorist attack, an official with the United Arab Emirates said Saturday.

FlyDubai co-pilot accused of stabbing captain identified as 29-year-old Omani national
Fox News RIGHT | *06:17 EDT*
Hamam al-Hammami, the 29-year-old FlyDubai co-pilot accused of stabbing the captain on a Tel Aviv-bound flight, was previously grounded by Oman Air in 2024.

Flydubai co-pilot used crash ax to hack at pilot in attempted 'terrorist attack': UAE official
New York Post RIGHT | *07:50 EDT*
UAE prosecutors say flydubai co-pilot Hamam al-Hammami used a crash axe to attack the pilot in an attempted hijack of an Israel-bound flight.

Israeli Opposition Accuses Netanyahu Of Being Too Pro-Palestine
Daily Caller RIGHT | *21:25 EDT*
'This isn't AI'

- What to know about Flydubai cockpit clash as pilot is arrested *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Pilot stabbed fellow pilot in apparent attempt to crash Israel-bound plane, Netanyahu says *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- 'Hero' pilot who helped save hijacked plane identified as Indian national Smit Machchhar *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Passengers stop co-pilot's attempt to crash plane *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Facebook Blocks Lula's Campaign Ads Just Days Before Brazil Election *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*
- Lula Teams With Bad Bunny to Highlight Dangers of Trump's Colonial Ambitions Across Latin America *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*
- Peltola campaign rips New York Times report on tumultuous operations *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*
- Senate Democrats warn Trump administration against Brazil election interference *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*
- Pilot of flydubai plane who fought off 'terrorist' first officer on Israel-bound flight ID'd as Indian national *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Trump says Netanyahu told him 'Israeli plumber' stabilized hijacked flight *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Passengers helped subdue attacker on Israel-bound flight that diverted to Saudi Arabia *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Flydubai hijacking divides Israel's squabbling politicians during tough election season *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Brazil's Biggest Election Question?: Donald Trump's Next Move *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*
- Latest on FlyDubai flight to Israel where passenger says "co-pilot tried to murder pilot" *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- Netanyahu is using Mamdani as a foil in his re-election campaign *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*
- 'Baseless Lies Meant to Sanitize His Genocide': Mamdani Hits Back After Netanyahu's Attacks During UN Speech *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*
- Israeli UN ambassador says Mamdani should be arrested instead of Netanyahu *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*
- Mamdani again calls for Israel's Netanyahu to be arrested when he comes to NY this week: 'A war criminal' *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*
- Netanyahu rips Mamdani and calls Hamas terrorists mayor's 'buddies' *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*
- https://www.foxnews.com/media/netanyahu-praises-heroic-bystander-bloody-cockpit-attack-preventing-another-9-11 *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/09/30/world-news/netanyahu-credits-heroic-israeli-plumber-on-flydubai-flight-for-preventing-another-9-11-vows-to-find-out-if-iran-was-behind-attack/ *the receipt*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/netanyahu-alleged-flydubai-pilot-stabbing-dont-think-hijacking/ *the receipt*
- As Netanyahu Threatens Libel Suit, Haaretz 'Stands By Its Reporting' on 10/7 Attack *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- Netanyahu Vows to Strip Citizenship From Israelis Who Criticise the IDF *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*
- New York Times Affirms Haaretz Report: Netanyahu Was Warned About Oct. 7 *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/extended-interview-benjamin-netanyahu-discusses-alleged-pilot-stabbing-on-flight-to-israel/ *the receipt*
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/30/world/middleeast/flydubai-dubai-israel-flight-diverted.html *the receipt*
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- https://abcnews.com/International/flight-tel-aviv-diverted-saudi-arabia-after-incident/story?id=136880832 *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/09/29/opinion/michael-goodwin-mamdani-unveils-new-nyc-antisemitism-strategy-but-cant-hide-his-hatred-for-israel/ *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/09/29/us-news/hochul-dodges-weighing-in-on-mamdanis-antisemitism-plan/ *the receipt*
- Mamdani Accuses Netanyahu of Spreading 'Baseless Lies' After U.N. Speech *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*
- Michael Rapaport rips NYC Mayor Mamdani during Jewish gathering outside Gracie Mansion *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*
- https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/world/4746651/netanyahu-warns-attack-against-israel-before-election/ *the receipt*
- https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/world/4746584/benjamin-netanyahu-muslim-nations-secret-uae-visit/ *the receipt*
- Netanyahu calls claim he was warned of Oct. 7 attack "malicious libel" *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- https://nypost.com/2026/09/27/us-news/snl-roasts-mayor-zohran-mamdani-with-urgent-message-for-new-yorkers-during-noreaster/ *the receipt*
- Watchdog Thanks Mamdani for Release of 9/11 Air Quality Files Hidden From Public for Years *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Families of 9/11 victims' message to Mamdani: 'Please do not come' to memorial ceremony *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Trump to visit Mamdani in New York City for first meeting on mayor's turf *from the morgue, 20 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

The unwritten rule that you do not schedule ordinance around a ballot deal at no fixed age, survived by a bombing moved to after the midterms and by the chicken that went home for seven weeks without voting on the war.

By SCOTT
THE RECORDS BUREAU

SECTION 14 THE TIMING

The wall between the war calendar and the campaign calendar did Sunday the twenty-seventh, in Washington. It did not fall. It was taken down, by hand, in the dark, and the trouble with it now is: an unwritten rule is a person-size thing to defend in court, and there is no statute of limitations for it. It was only the understanding, held by people who agreed on nothing else, that you do not schedule ordinance around a ballot. It worked for a long time on nothing but habit, and then it worked on habit and a chicken, and then it did not.

It had been alleged since February that the war it would have governed was launched without congressional authorization. By Friday the eighteenth Common Dreams was counting it at 201 days.—

——cont'd Thursday the seventeenth was the worst day of the season. The U.K. Red Cross, which had been founded by the Human Rights Council in 2022, reported reasonable grounds to believe the United States would commit a crime on it. Its writer, inside the country, the New York Times reported that the missile heading to the island of Saint Isabel was launched from an Iranian school "went beyond negligence," and that a separate report by the same author, from the presidential Sold Annex 9, have a big decision coming up. Do I want to go in and annihilate them or not?

The chamber that might have asked him to put that to a vote had no town. Special elections in Nevada were thrown back for a seven-week recess ahead of the midterms. Representative Sarah Jaspert (R-Ore.) had been in Geneva since the day the ceasefire began, and the chicken was still in Oregon.

By then the campaign trail was visible to everyone, including the president's own candidates. On Tuesday the twenty-fourth Representative Gerald Donaldo removed the red ribbon from his gubernatorial campaign website; on Wednesday the twenty-fifth Senator Pro-Trump" from his slogan. On Saturday the president called the impending "another blank check."

Then the death. Iran's seven-day offer to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, which preceded it. The bombing was moved to after the midterms. Nobody.

It is survived by 46-44, dead, and by the explanation, delivered at Fox News by the president's ambassador to the United Nations, that the diesel came from Ukraine. It is survived by Mount Hall, who has moved to North Carolina more than half his life, voted for the president, and told CBS News that farmers are "all just in survival mode" and that he would be willing to wait. It is survived by an internal Army message reviewed by CBS News, which says some units will be "combat ineffective" by mid-June "if 10-day" sounds Cuba. That one has a calendar of its own.

The first of those is recorded now as the war, by the chamber that went home for seven weeks.

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- https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/world/4744153/russia-china-unite-iran-cuba-un-speech/ the receipt

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- The United Nations Security Council has resoundingly rejected United States bid to extend a global arms embargo on Iran. In a Security Council vote, Washington only got support from the Dominican from the emergency, *14 Aug 2030*

- U.S. Threatens New Economic War on Iran by Targeting China & Tehran's Other Top Trading Partners from the receipt, *25 Aug 2026*

- In Defiant UN Speech, Iranian President Says US and Israel Are the Real Terrorists from the receipt, *26 Aug 2026*

- https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/4113353-trump-declares-new-declaration-of-independence/ the receipt, *4 Jul 2026*

- Donnalo removes several Trump mentions from campaign website from the receipt, *20 Sep 2026*

- GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat from the receipt, *23 Sep 2026*

- Where Trump's 2026 endorsement record stands after primary season in the rearview from the receipt, *4 Sep 2026*

- U.S. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes from the receipt, *22 Sep 2026*

- Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran from the receipt, *18 Sep 2026*

- Pentagon No. 3 Frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump declares victory from the receipt, *19 Sep 2026*

- Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Massive Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Bombings from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- 'Ellis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military from the receipt, *2 Sep 2026*

- Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: Iran never 'eliminated more inept management' from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Former who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" from the receipt, *24 Sep 2026*

- Former who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs from the receipt, *24 Sep 2026*

- Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein Files II discharge petition from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein Files II discharge petition from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Read Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Trump says he has a 'big decision' coming up on Iran: 'Do I want to go in and annihilate them?' from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Post Nets 750K Views: Truth Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and New Filings Show Their Insiders Profited from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as U.S., Iran trade strikes from the receipt, *18 Sep 2026*

- U.S. strike on Iranian School May Have Been War Crime, U.N. Report Says from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- UN Inquiry Finds US Strike on Minab, Iran That Killed 123 Children Was War Crime from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- UN investigators conclude 'reasonable grounds' to believe certain US strikes in Iran were war crimes from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- US Suspects US War Crimes in Iran from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- US Condemned for 'War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 from the receipt, *4 Aug 2026*

- Trump says he has a 'big decision coming up' on Iran from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- White House issues explosive response to UN-backed report claiming US committed war crimes against world's No.1 sponsor of terror, Iran from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Human rights experts: 'Reasonable grounds' to believe US committed war crimes with Iran strikes from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Iran's Supreme Court Upholds Execution of 19-Year-Old Protester Who Was Forced to Confess from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Iran's Supreme Court Upholds Execution of 19-Year-Old Protester Who Was Forced to Confess from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Iran downed at least 2 American drones in recent days, U.S. officials say from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Iran: Account of US Air Force colonel's rescue 'fictional' from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- Consumer Burden of Trump Iran War Exceeds $100 Billion as Oil Price Hits Four-Year High from the receipt, *17 Sep 2026*

- 'A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis from the receipt, *9 Sep 2026*

- Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces Trump's Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran from the receipt, *23 Sep 2026*

- U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes from the receipt, *4 Sep 2026*

- Rep. Thomas Massie forcing vote on Pete Hegseth's impeachment from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Did Johnson Just Adjourn Congress for 7 Weeks to Avoid Massie's Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth? from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- The Hitchhiker's Guide to Massie saying Johnson is sending the House to recess to prevent Hegseth impeachment from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- "You're Elected to Fight and Kill the Other Side': How Congress Lost Its War from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Army combat veteran challenging MAGa Lawfer calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration from the receipt, *4 Sep 2026*

- Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' from the receipt, *4 Sep 2026*

- House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Since 2015, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Fossil Fuel Advertising Contracts Hit Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- 'How are we gonna get through this?' Many Americans are struggling as prices rise from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Trump's Top Oil Stocks Have Made Him Up to $4.4 Billion From the Iran War: Analysis from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- 'Trump Did It': At $5.45 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran from the receipt, *4 Sep 2026*

- Gas prices reach Labor Day high amid Iran war from the receipt, *8 Sep 2026*

- Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever from the receipt, *31 Aug 2026*

- Watch under pressure as Fed weighs rate hike from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- Inflation held at 3.4% in August in consumer price index, overshooting tough choices for Fed from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- Watch indicators Fed could raise rates to cool inflation from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- Key U.S. Bond Rate Near 20-Year High as Oil Prices Keep Climbing from the receipt, *9 Sep 2026*

- 10-year Treasury yield hits highest level since 2007, oil surges above $105 as Fed expected to hike interest rates from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- Benchmark mortgage rate hits 14-month high as bond yields keep rising from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- Benchmark mortgage rate hits highest mark in over a year from the receipt, *7 Sep 2026*

- Goldman Sachs warns oil prices could hit $120 as U.S. fuel costs surge from the receipt, *8 Sep 2026*

- Massie Moves to Force Impeachment Vote Against Hegseth, Citing Civilian Deaths from the receipt, *16 Sep 2026*

- GOP Rep Thomas Massie introduces 8 articles of impeachment against War Secretary Pete Hegseth from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- Republican Rep. Massie moves to impeach Defense Secretary Hegseth over Iran war from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- Thomas Massie Forces Vote To Impeach Pete Hegseth from the receipt, *15 Sep 2026*

- Pete Hegseth Faces Growing Criticism as War With Iran Rolls On from the receipt, *2 Sep 2026*

- Hegseth Quietly Extends Middle East Troop Deployments Into 2027 as Iran War Drags On from the receipt, *3 Sep 2026*

- Costco imposes purchase limits on entire oil, bikes prices by nearly double from the receipt, *8 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: there is no stream, no rate, no escape as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor. Some like it made.

With the war priced at $38 billion by its own budget office and $121 billion in extra energy costs charged to households, the House went home a day early for a seven-week recess.

BY WES WHEELOCK CREW
The Midnight Review

WASHINGTON — The job this week was to find the line and then find the tool that makes somebody read it out loud on a floor.

Tuesday morning, the House Budget Committee office closed its books and priced the war at $38 billion. The Budget Office calls that figure conservative. In accounting, conservative usually means the number hasn't been above it and none below…

— Story Continues On Page 16

Wednesday the 16th, Claire Thibault published in count of who is buying the quiet fossil fuel firms have engaged $62 advertising and public relations agencies over the last two years, and the 1,321 contracts recorded in 2023 and 2026 are the highest the group has tracked since it began keeping the ledger in 2011. Deams reported the industry is taking big profits from the war and flagging a sudden drop in the price of crude oil as the case for the board next to the $38 billion. Same war, two ledgers, one of them growing.

Also Wednesday the 16th, the Speaker sent the House home a day early for a seven-week recess. The vote to leave was 218 to 209 on party lines. Tea Nevs reported that Representative Thomas Mcrae says the early adjournment blocked the impeachment effort before the Secretary of War. That is the chamber's main muscle group at first: not a vote, but a vote never held.

Thursday the 17th, the Senate Armed Services Committee. Moody's analytics estimated American consumers have spent $121 billion with no energy since now to Inflation. Hearing in February, launched without congressional authorization — an average of $1,760 per household, according to the group's analysis. The current account for the war is less than a third of what households have already been charged.

The House Republican Study Committee's Tuesday memo to its 172 elected roundable grounds to believe the U.S. military committed war crimes in two strikes. The memo circulated the materials that led to the deaths of more than a hundred children "went beyond" the authorization. Rep. Ryan Zinke, a Montana Republican who has flown at least 178 civilians across the two strikes. The report said the United States should "fully investigate" the strikes. The Trump White House cast no wedging. Asked about Iran that day, the president said: "I have a big decision to make in two weeks. I'm the anndidate there, or do I not?" A Fox News poll that day found 58% think the administration is lying to the public about the war.

So the oversight parts, as they sat on the bench Thursday, Democrats on the Armed Services Committee said the $38 billion figure funding by the Pentagon policy-chief financed fueling strikes on was a lack of clear answers. Every Senate Democrat except Senator Jon Ossoff signed a letter to Hegseth. Ossoff has been asking the Secretary for a cost breakdown of the war. The Hill called the letter largely symbolic. A letter is a request. A subpoena is a demand.

That is the part worth admiring. Massie announced Thursday he had filed a discharge petition to force a vote on the Massie-Khanna Files II discharge petition, and said it will pass the House. That is a claim and four signatures, not a count. But the mechanism is the point: a petition does not ask the Speaker's calendar for permission. It takes it. Massie has been collecting signatures since 2023. He has four of those five are already behind.

Friday the 18th supplied the last part. Senator Thom Tillis, who has been Democrats' most useful bill life and voted for the Democrats' Iran War Powers Act, Tillis says, "told a bill of goods," and "AIPac is survival money." Tillis is not a party critic. He's a party business."

Four of those five are already held. The fifth is a return date.

THE RECEIPTS

- https://www.cbsnews.com/live-updates/iran-war-us-trump-us-war-crimes-iran-deal/ (on Wednesday)
- https://www.commondreams.org/news/trump-zeinke-iran (on Wednesday)
- https://thehill.com/policy/defense/5094862-collip-pentagon-briefing-frustrated-senators/ (on Wednesday)
- https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/5094674-senate-democrats-hegseth-letter/ (on Wednesday)
- Hegseth on "devastation" in Iran's capabilities (on Wednesday)
- Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' (on Wednesday)
- CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion— And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate (on Wednesday, 17 Sep 2026)
- https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/5097194-tillis-calls-for-hegseth-impeachment/ (on Wednesday)
- Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Beat Members (on Thursday, 18 Sep 2026)
- Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth (on Thursday, 18 Sep 2026)
- Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military (on Thursday, 18 Sep 2026)
- Tillis renames calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' (on Thursday, 18 Sep 2026)
- https://www.cbsnews.com/news/former-trump-voter-iran-war-tariffs-cost/ (on Friday)
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/former-voted-trump-says-business-amid-rising-costs/ (on Friday)

- https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2026/09/17/trump-enough-republicans-oppose-filibuster-discharge-petition/ (on Friday)
- Massie names Epstein 'co-conspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation (on Friday, 18 Sep 2026)
- Reed Thomas Massie's epic impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth (on Friday, 18 Sep 2026)
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/iran-recently-downed-at-least-2-american-drones-officials-say/ (on Friday)
- Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and Now Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In (on Monday, 17 Aug 2026)
- Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as U.S. and Iran strike (on Tuesday, 17 Sep 2026)
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/17/world/asia/us-iran-school-strike-report.html (on Wednesday)
- https://truthout.org/articles/as-inquiry-finds-us-strike-on-minab-iran-that-killed-172-children-was-war-crime/ (on Wednesday)
- https://www.washingtonmonthly.com/2026/09/17/iran-suspects-us-war-crimes-in-iran/ (on Wednesday)
- https://truthout.org/articles/pentagon-has-no-answers-for-cost-of-iran-war-crimes/ (on Wednesday)
- https://www.commondreams.org/news/iran-war-cost-energy (on Wednesday)
- https://www.cbsnews.com/news/iran-downed-american-drones-u-s-officials/ (on Friday)
- Consumer Burden of Trump Iran War Exceeds $100 Billion so Oil Giants Have $200 Billion Windfall (on Monday, 9 Sep 2026)
- A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis (on Monday, 9 Sep 2026)
- Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces Trump's Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran (on Monday, 15 Jun 2026)
- 'U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes (on Monday, 4 May 2026)

- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/trump-thomas-massie-forcing-vote-impeachs-impeachment/story?id=126470894 (on Thursday)
- https://www.commondreams.org/news/impeach-hegseth (on Thursday)
- https://www.foxnews.com/politics/ken-ichikawa-guide-massie-kevin-johnson-republican-house-home-early-prevent-hegseth-impeachment (on Thursday)
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/16/magazine/congress-trump-midterms.html (on Wednesday)

- Army combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment (on Wednesday, 17 Sep 2026)
- Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration (on the morning, 4 Sep 2026)
- Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' (on the morning, 3 Sep 2026)
- House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign (on the morning, 1 Sep 2026)

- https://truthout.org/articles/2025-trump-made-more-stock-trades-than-all-535-congress-members-combined/ (on the morning)
- https://www.commondreams.org/news/fossil-fuel-profits (on the morning)
- https://abcnews.com/US/guinea-americans-face-tough-decisions-diesel-gas-prices/story?id=126303928 (on the morning)
- Trump's Top Oil Stocks Have Made Him Up to $4.4 Million Richer Since He Began War (on the morning, 2 Sep 2026)
- 'Trump Did It!': At $5.81 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran (on the morning, 4 May 2026)
- Gas prices reach Labor Day high amid Iran war (on the morning, 2 Sep 2026)

- Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever (on the morning, 31 Aug 2026)
- https://thehill.com/newsletters/business-economy/6091476-fed-rate-under-pressure-as-bad-weight-may-follow/ (on the morning)
- Inflation held at 3.4% in August in consumer price index, creating tough choice for Warsh Fed (on the morning, 11 Sep 2026)

- Warsh indicates Fed could raise rates to cool inflation (on the morning, 18 Aug 2026)
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/15/business/bond-yields-oil-price-iran.html (on the morning)
- https://nypost.com/2026/09/15/business/10-year-treasury-yield-sure-oil-surges-above-100-as-fed-expected-to-hike-interest-rates/ (on the morning)
- Benchmark mortgage rate hits 14-month high as bond yields keep rising (on the morning, 15 Sep 2026)
- Benchmark mortgage rate hits highest mark in over a year (on the morning, 15 Sep 2026)
- Goldman Sachs warns oil prices could hit $120 as U.S. fuel costs surge (on the morning, 8 Sep 2026)
- https://truthout.org/articles/iran-invasion-moves-to-force-impeach-lower-vote-against-hegseth-citing-civilian-deaths/ (on the morning)
- https://www.foxnews.com/politics/gop-rep-thomas-massie-introduces-8-articles-impeachment-against-war-secretary-pete-hegseth (on the morning)
- https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-026-02911-3 (on the morning)
- https://dailycallernews.com/2026/09/15/massie-forces-vote-impeach-hegseth/ (on the morning)
- Pete Hegseth Faces Growing Criticism as War With Iran Rolls On (on the morning, 2 Sep 2026)
- Hegseth Quietly Extends Middle East Troop Deployments Into 2027 as Iran War Drags On (on the morning, 4 Sep 2026)

- https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2026/09/15/update-10-year-bond-yields-renews-concerns-over-us-debt/ (on the morning)
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/15/business/10-year-treasury-yield-oil-iran-war.html (on the morning)
- Treasury reveals $4B in debt buybacks, triple the normal level - but markets slump (on the morning, 15 Sep 2026)

- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/trump-blames-rise-diesel-prices-ukrainian-strikes-russian-oil-refineries/ (on the morning)
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/trump-blames-rising-diesel-price-on-russia-ukraine-war/ (on the morning)
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/14/business/energy-environment/trump-diesel-russia-ukraine-iran.html (on the morning)

This page is a back issue, the story as it appeared on the day of publication. The current edition is at the front. The archive is a past issue for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor. how this is made.

Tennessee's half-price beer filled Neyland by kickoff for a stadium stump speech backing the bill, up for Senate passage Monday, that The Nation says threatens the labor rights of the athletes on the field below.

By GUS
THE SPORTS DESK

HOT MIC MOMENT

Is this thing — fine. At the plane, asked whether he wanted to be surrounded by outlets that support him, the man said "I want real news, not fake news, like you," and then the audio on the biggest game of the week died into static and we file that under weather. One America News signed. Put this reporter on the political desk. I will still do the ballgames on weekends.

GUS HIS SIDE

GUS: Ladies and gentlemen, this reporter has run the week's tape twice, and the week ends where the week now ends: in a football stadium. Neyland Stadium, Knoxville, Saturday. The gates came open early with beer at fifty percent off, per Fox News, which is how a bowl gets full before a noon kickoff. The new-look Air Force One came over the rim. The roar that followed was the loudest instrument in American politics this week.

GUS: Because this was not a football trip. It was a closing argument. On Saturday the twelfth, Senator Ted Cruz of Texas carried the Protect College Sports Act onto ESPN's "College GameDay" and drew a rowdy crowd, the closure vote having been delayed by the August recess. Monday the fourteenth he told reporters the goal was "not just to squeak by with 60 votes," and that he wanted the president to sign the bill live on GameDay. Tuesday the fifteenth, NBC News: the Senate voted to advance it, NCAA-backed, bipartisan. Friday the eighteenth, Kirk Herbstreit explained the booking: "We had him on because they were going to be voting this week."

GUS: So the president went to Knoxville and stumped from the stands. "Mike Johnson's fantastic. And we actually had 78 votes, if you can believe it," he said, calling it "Bipartisanship for the first time in a while." This reporter notes it was his first college football game since February's national championship, when Miami beat Indiana.

GUS: The game, then. No. 2 Texas held off No. 4 Tennessee behind five sacks from Colin Simmons and two scores from Ralek Brown, and ABC's audio came apart into static, the Post having reported that Saturday that coaches were worried about disruptions. And may this reporter add that the ladies of Knoxville turned out in their orange best, and that at half price a gentleman can afford to buy the beer for the lot of them.

TRUDY HER SIDE

The wire records one price cut in Knoxville on Saturday, Gus, and it was the beer — Fox News: gates early, fifty percent off. The discount reached the concourse. It did not reach the field, and the field was what the Senate was scheduled to vote on Monday.

That same Friday, The Nation ran Elie Mystal under a plain headline — 'We Need to Protect College Sports from Ted Cruz' — saying the senator's college sports bill threatens athletes' labor rights. The Hill, that Sunday: national rules for compensating college athletes and limiting transfers, with the House gone for September's final two weeks. That is the pay question, in writing, with one chamber out of the building.

January, Gus, and Indiana beat Miami — The Hill, that Wednesday, when the White House confirmed the trip. Now hold still for the rest: The Hill's Saturday file calls Monday the senators' last chance before recessing into a lame-duck period, and the Washington Examiner says passage would be the furthest a collegiate sports bill has ever gotten in Congress. Introduced in May. Furthest ever, in five months, with the closing argument delivered from a seat on the fifty.

No. 1 Texas and No. 14 Tennessee, sugar — Fox News had the rankings in the headline before kickoff. The women in that stadium bought their own and can read a bill, and this one writes the rules for what the athletes get paid, per The Hill. Take the nap at halftime next week.

Gus, the mic was live, the network was ours, and you went from a static problem to a press freedom sermon in nine seconds flat. You are also right. Judge Timothy Kelly ordered those credentials restored immediately on the twenty-fourth of September, and the Committee to Protect Journalists said the ban 'violates First Amendment rights' and that the government 'should not be in the business of censorship.' Now go buy the mushrooms they sell for the memory, and I will take the second half.

THE RECEIPTS

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/white-house/4744245/trump-stump-protect-college-sports-act-bipartisan/ *the receipt*

· https://www.foxnews.com/outkick-sports/texas-defense-rocks-tennessee-freshman-qb-strong-sec-victory-trump-attendance *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/2026/09/26/sports/audio-problems-plague-abc-for-texas-tennessee-game/ *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/2026/09/26/us-news/trump-met-cheered-at-university-of-tennessee-ut-football-game/ *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/2026/09/26/sports/air-force-one-does-flyover-before-trump-attends-texas-tennessee-game/ *the receipt*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/entertainment/4744106/trump-trolls-reporter-i-dont-want-fake-news-like-you/ *the receipt*

· https://www.foxnews.com/outkick-sports/sec-crowd-greets-trump-massive-cheers-ahead-tennessee-texas-showdown *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/2026/09/26/sports/trump-to-attend-major-college-football-game-and-coaches-are-worried-about-disruptions/ *the receipt*

· https://www.foxnews.com/outkick-sports/tennessee-fans-excited-trump-attendance-game-vs-texas-hope-stays-whole-game *the receipt*

· Trump set to attend Tennessee-Texas football game in Knoxville *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump to attend Texas-Tennessee football game as he pushes college sports bill *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Cruz: Trump should sign college sports bill live on ESPN's 'College GameDay' once passed *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Cruz faces rowdy crowd at College GameDay while promoting the Protect College Sports Act *from the morgue, 12 Sep 2026*

· GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· https://nypost.com/2026/09/26/sports/tennessee-uses-unusual-alcohol-tactic-for-fans-with-president-trump-attending-texas-showdown/ *the receipt*

· https://thehill.com/homenews/6112836-live-updates-trump-college-football-gop/ *the receipt*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/white-house/4684429/trump-protect-college-sports-act-what-to-know/ *the receipt*

· We Need to Protect College Sports from Ted Cruz *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· https://thehill.com/newsletters/this-week-on-the-hill/6099111-senate-protect-college-sports-act-heidi-overton-fda/ *the receipt*

· https://www.cbssports.com/college-football/news/college-football-pressure-index-week-4-coaches-qbs-coordinator/ *the receipt*

· Senate votes to move forward with Protect College Sports Act *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Kirk Herbstreit defends having Ted Cruz on 'College GameDay' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Trump vows to defeat communists once and for all, having just lost to the pollster he sued.

By SAL
STAFF WRITER



"Trump says polls 'don't account for one thing,' as he pledges to defeat communists 'once and for all'", 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Trump vowed at a Dayton rally to defeat communists after a judge dismissed his suit against a pollster.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. Nothing slips here yet.

WHAT'S NEXT. If Republicans keep voicing doubt about Trump in public, a primary challenge follows; that is what Kentucky got after October 2025, when Thomas Massie lost his seat in a $37 million primary funded in part by the president's own advisers.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The vow and the complaint arrived in the same breath, which is its own kind of receipt.

The communists are not on the ledger anywhere else this week. The war is. In August it passed six months past the end date Trump had set for it. By September 15 the Congressional Budget Office priced it at nearly forty billion dollars and called that figure conservative. A United Nations inquiry had already found the strikes likely war crimes. A senator who voted to confirm the defense secretary running it has called twice this month for their firing. A Republican congressman has filed impeachment paperwork against them. None of that made the Dayton remarks. The fight that is actually underway, with an actual price tag, stayed off the stage....

...(cont) What did make the week's news, on the record, was the economy. On September 21 an NBC News poll found 55 percent of voters saying Trump's policies have made it worse, against 26 percent who said better. On September 17 Washington Examiner editor Bob Cusack said Republicans are biting their tongues and warned of a "civil war" inside the party if the numbers hold. By September 24 the New York Times was cataloguing Senate candidates in Iowa and Michigan trying to put daylight between themselves and the man who heads their ticket.

That same day, September 24, an Iowa judge dismissed Trump's lawsuit against pollster J. Ann Selzer and the Des Moines Register. The suit had called her 2024 poll, the one that missed and showed Kamala Harris ahead, "deceptive" under the state's consumer fraud law. The claim could not survive its own arithmetic: a poll that turns out wrong is not, under that law, the same thing as a poll meant to defraud. Ten days later, in Dayton, Trump told a crowd the polls don't account for him.

The enemy named from the podium is an idea with no return address. The war's price tag, the economy's own numbers, the party's own candidates, and the pollster who called a race correctly are not ideas. They are dated, signed, and not one of them is Soviet.

"The guy wants to fight communists but the only fight he's lost lately is to an Iowa pollster with a spreadsheet. Fifty-five percent of us say the economy got worse under him, and his own party's starting to ask out loud why they still back him. That's not a culture war, that's a receipt."
— Sal

"Look, the polls have been wrong before — Selzer missed in 2024, that's just a fact, everybody knows that. The lawsuit was about accountability, holding people to — wait, the judge already tossed that one, didn't he. Communists, though, real threat, huge threat, very against them, very strongly — I mean, who isn't."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Tennessee's lethal injection fails to kill Christa Pike twice, succeeds in killing the commissioner's job once.* By Mort · the midnight edition, 4 October 2026
— *The promised Republican sweep required three days of rallies in Texas, Oklahoma and Alabama, plus a steel plant.* By Lou · the noon edition, 3 October 2026
— *Washington Examiner predicts a Republican sweep the same week Republicans pour millions into defending a once-safe Kansas seat.* By Lou · the breakfast edition, 3 October 2026
— *Trump says Russia, Ukraine agreed to spare energy sites; weeks later G7 drains 100 million barrels anyway* By The Lodgers · the milkman edition, 3 October 2026
— *Republicans pull ad money from North Carolina to save a Kansas seat lost over a $50 bill.* By Ruth · the milkman edition, 3 October 2026
— *Treasury blames Ukraine for the energy shock the EU already priced a cap for in 2022.* By The Lodgers · the wee small hours edition, 3 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

But: **Democrats are running an average of 11.5 points ahead of their 2024 baseline across 2026 special elections** *MultiState Elections, 2026 special-election tracking*

Trump says polls 'don't account for one thing,' as he pledges to defeat communists 'once and for all'
Fox News RIGHT § *07:25 EDT*

President Donald Trump told a cheering Dayton, Ohio, rally crowd that polls don't account for him campaigning as Republicans face a tough House path.

Republicans say they hate communists. So why do they like Donald Trump?
The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *07:00 EDT*

Trump supporters may be surprised to learn the state takeover of means of production is not driven by the left Americans will never accept the Democratic party's slide to the left, or so desperate Republicans are hoping. With the midterm elections fast upon us, Zohran Mamdani's promise of a few city-run bodegas in New York City will...

· Judge dismisses Trump lawsuit against Iowa pollster J. Ann Selzer *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Majority of voters say Trump's policies worsened the economy: Poll *from the morgue, 21 Sep 2026*

· 'Cowardice, Not Conviction': Republicans Try to Back Away From Toxic Trump After Years of Subservience *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Republicans frustrated with Trump could lead to 'civil war': Bob Cusack *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein Files II discharge petition *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Read Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Trump says he has a 'big decision' coming up on Iran: 'Do I want to go in and annihilate them' *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Fox News Poll: 71% think Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and New Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

· Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as US, Iran trade strikes *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· U.S. Strike on Iranian School May Have Been War Crime, U.N. Report Says *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Inquiry Finds US Strike on Minab, Iran That Killed 123 Children Was War Crime *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN investigators conclude 'reasonable grounds' to believe certain US strikes in Iran were war crimes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Suspects US War Crimes in Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Condemned for 'War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Trump says he has a 'big decision coming up' on Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· White House issues explosive response to UN-backed report claiming US committed war crimes against world's No.1 sponsor of terror, Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Human rights experts: 'Reasonable grounds' to believe US committed war crimes with Iran strikes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Energy Consumers Have Spent $121 Billion Extra Since Trump Launched Iran War: Moody's *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran downed at least 2 American drones in recent days, U.S. officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran: Account of US Air Force colonel's rescue 'fictional' *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Burden of Trump Iran War Exceeds $100 Billion as Oil Prices Pass $100 a Barrel *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· 'A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces 'Trump's Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Rep. Thomas Massie forcing vote on Pete Hegseth's impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Did Johnson Just Adjourn Congress for 7 Weeks to Avoid Massie's Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth? *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· The Hitchhiker's Guide to Massie saying Johnson is sending the House home early to prevent Hegseth impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'You're Elected to Fight and Kill the Other Side': How Congress Lost Its Way *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Army combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Since 2025, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Fossil Fuel Advertising Contracts Hit Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'How are we gonna get through this?' Many Americans are struggling as prices rise *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Trump's Top Oil Stocks Have Made Him Up to $4.4 Million Richer During Iran War: Analysis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· 'Trump Did It!': At $5.85 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Gas prices reach Labor Day high amid Iran war *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

· Warsh under pressure as Fed weighs rate hike *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Inflation held at 3.4% in August in consumer price index, creating tough choice for Warsh Fed *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Warsh indicates Fed could raise rates to cool inflation *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· Key U.S. Bond Rate Near 20-Year High as Oil Prices Keep Climbing *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· 10-year Treasury yield hits highest level since 2007, oil surges above $105 as Fed expected to hike interest rates *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Benchmark mortgage rate hits 14-month high as bond yields keep rising *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Benchmark mortgage rate hits highest mark in over a year *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· Goldman Sachs warns oil prices could hit $120 as U.S. fuel costs surge *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Massie Moves to Force Impeachment Vote Against Hegseth, Citing Civilian Deaths *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· GOP Rep Thomas Massie introduces 8 articles of impeachment against War Secretary Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Republican Rep. Massie moves to impeach Defense Secretary Hegseth over Iran war *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Thomas Massie Forces Vote To Impeach Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Pete Hegseth Faces Growing Criticism as War With Iran Rolls On *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth Quietly Extends Middle East Troop Deployments Into 2027 as Iran War Drags On *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· Costco imposes purchase limits on motor oil, hikes prices by nearly double *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· As gas averages $4.31 nationwide, diesel fuel hits all-time high: "It's painful. It's real hard" *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Costco Raises Motor Oil Price, Caps Customer Purchases As Iran War Drags On *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· 'Can't Message That Away': GOP Frets as Trump Administration Desperately Spins Record-High Diesel Prices *from the morgue, 5 Sep 2026*

· European Union member states agree to a natural gas price cap in an attempt to limit economic damage from the global energy crisis. The price cap can be triggered beginning on February 15, if for thre *from the morgue, 19 Dec 2022*

· Spike on 10-year bond yields renews concerns over U.S. debt *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· 10-Year Treasury Yield Reaches 5%, Highest Level in Years *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Treasury reveals $6B in debt buybacks, triple the normal level – but markets slump *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Trump blames rise in diesel prices on Ukrainian strikes against Russian oil refineries *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Trump blames rising diesel price on Russia-Ukraine war *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· What Is Driving Diesel Prices Up? Energy Chaos Caused by Two Wars. *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

'Lone wolf' illusion declared shattered 25 days before Israeli investigators conclude the Flydubai attacker was one.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"Flavio Bolsonaro: In the name of the father, sons, and holy ideology", 3 October 2026
(PHOTO VIA FRANCE 24 — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Israeli investigators concluded the Flydubai co-pilot who attacked his captain with an ax acted alone.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The check that slips is verification: outlets and the president ran with a foiled-terror-plot story before Israeli investigators finished reviewing the case.

WHAT'S NEXT. No further hearing or report date has been set; the investigation into the Flydubai attack remains open.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

You are smart people. I don't say that to warm you up for something unpleasant; I say it because a smart operation does not make the mistake sitting on page nine, and all week I've been trying to work out who, exactly, made it.

Quickly, because you've had most of this already: Oman Air flagged a co-pilot as a security risk back in 2024. Then, on a Flydubai flight bound for Tel Aviv, that same co-pilot went after his captain with a crash axe and tried for the controls. A passenger stopped him. Here's what I keep asking myself: was this one man, or thirty?...

...(cont) I wrote this down, and I'm sorry, because I'm going to come back to it more than once today. September 9th, the Washington Examiner: "The terrorism plot Israel foiled just shattered the 'lone wolf' illusion." The piece describes, and I'm reading this exactly, "an extensive Hamas-linked terrorist infrastructure" — more than thirty operatives, a restaurant employee allegedly ready to turn his own job into the scene.

I'm sorry, I keep going back to this, but look at the date on it. September 9th to October 4th is twenty-five days — I counted it on the actual calendar, not in my head — and on October 4th, CBS News reported that Israeli investigators looking into the Flydubai attack now believe the co-pilot was likely acting alone. Not thirty people. One.

I keep going back to this — I know — but it's the number that gets me. Thirty operatives is a network: cells, money moving somewhere, somebody's phone ringing in another country. One man with a crash axe is something you can carry across a garage by yourself. I've got an old hatchet out there on a nail by the workbench, and it takes two hands, and it's heavier than it looks the day you actually have to lift it and move it. One man. One axe. One captain. That's the entire weight of what investigators are now calling likely.

I'm sorry, I keep coming back to this, but it's the word "illusion" that won't sit still for me. Somebody decided, on September 9th, that the caution itself was the danger — that even considering a single attacker was the mistake that needed shattering. By Saturday, the Flydubai attack was already running in NBC News and the New York Post, terrorist-attack framing attached, the president's job offer attached right behind it. Was anyone still waiting on the investigators by then?

I don't know whose job it is to catch two pages like this before they both run. I used to think it was an editor with a calendar on the wall. Maybe it still is. I'm asking you to hold the two pages up next to each other — September 9th and October 4th, twenty-five days apart — and tell me which one the president was holding when he picked up the phone about the plumbing job.

Excuse me — before you go. That mistake I mentioned, the one sitting on page nine — I think I finally found it. I wrote both dates down and I still can't make them agree: September 9th, "shattered." October 4th, twenty-five days later — was it, after all, likely a lone wolf?

"Thirty operatives on September 9th, one guy with an axe on October 4th, and the only number that stayed the same the whole month was the price of the plumbing job: zero. This is the trick — sell the network because one man with a hatchet doesn't hold a headline, then let the investigators quietly walk it back a few weeks later when nobody's still watching. The plumber still works for free, the story already ran, and that's the business model."
— Sal

"Nobody said it was definitely an organized cell — we said the "lone wolf" idea itself was the real danger, the illusion, the— wait, did I just defend calling caution an illusion? Investigators need time, that's all this is, and the plumbing job offer has nothing to do with whether the findings change twenty-five days later. I'll circle back on that one."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Co-pilot grounded by Oman Air as a security risk in 2024 was flying 174 people toward Tel Aviv with a crash axe; the president's response was to offer the plumber who stopped him a job.* By Lou · the midnight edition, 4 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Flavio Bolsonaro: In the name of the father, sons, and holy ideology
France 24 MAINSTREAM § *05:48 EDT*
The first round of Brazil's presidential election on Sunday pits two well-known names in the political ring: Lula vs. Bolsonaro. But it's not former president Jair Bolsonaro facing off against the incumbent head of state – it's his eldest son, Flavio Bolsonaro.

Flydubai hijacker previously barred from flying by Oman over radical beliefs: Report
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *18:11 EDT*
The co-pilot who hijacked a Flydubai flight carrying 174 passengers and stabbed his captain on Wednesday was previously banned from flying by Oman over his radical beliefs. Israeli officials identified the hijacker as an Omani national, but according to a Wall Street Journal report, the individual was banned from operating an aircraft by...

But: The ICJ ordered Israel in January 2024 to "prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence" of alleged genocide in Gaza *ICJ provisional measures order, 26 January 2024 (via ASIL)*
Mamdani rips Netanyahu's UN jab as Gaza distraction: 'Not about me and him'
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *22:34 EDT*
New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was trying to distract the world from the humanitarian crisis in Gaza when Netanyahu openly criticized Mamdani at the U.N. General Assembly last week. "All of this is an attempt to distract from responsibility.

But: The ICJ ordered Israel in January 2024 to preserve evidence of alleged genocide in Gaza *ICJ provisional measures order, 26 January 2024 (via ASIL)*
Mamdani says it was 'strange' getting called out by Netanyahu after calling for his arrest
Fox News RIGHT § *19:45 EDT*
New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani told Theo Von he was stunned when Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called him out by name during a United Nations General Assembly address.

Why has Brazil accused the US of election interference?
BBC News MAINSTREAM § *09:52 EDT*
The Latin American country will vote for its next president, as Lula da Silva and Bolsonaro clash over sovereignty, security and ties with Washington.

~~Lula Campaign Asks to Probe Sudden US Shutdown of Consular Services as 'Interference in Brazilian Elections'~~
Brazil's intelligence agency confirms US interference to help elect Bolsonaro's son
Common Dreams § *16:14 EDT*
Just two days before Brazil's closely watched presidential election, the campaign of its left-wing president, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, has asked the nation's top election court to examine the sudden shutdown of US consular services as part of a broader investigation into alleged election "interference" by the Trump administration. On...

A Bloody Attack on a FlyDubai Plane Headed to Israel, and a Terrifying Plunge
The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *21:56 EDT*
"I don't deserve to die like this," said one passenger on Flight 1073 from Dubai to Tel Aviv. The motive of the cockpit stabbing remains unknown, officials said.

Co-pilot attacker had been banned from flying over his radical views
NBC News MAINSTREAM § *19:29 EDT*
The Wall Street Journal reports the co-pilot who tried to fly a plane bound for Israel into the ground had been banned from flying by his home country, Oman, over his radical views. Plus, an Israeli official told NBC News investigators discovered the co-pilot had posted on social media that he wanted to kill Jews. NBC News' Matt Bradley...

FlyDubai co-pilot accused of stabbing captain identified as 29-year-old Omani national
Fox News RIGHT § *06:17 EDT*
Hamam al-Hammami, the 29-year-old FlyDubai co-pilot accused of stabbing the captain on a Tel Aviv-bound flight, was previously grounded by Oman Air in 2024.

US suspends consular services in Brazil due to security concerns
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *10:29 EDT*
The U.S. halted consular services in Brazil Friday due to rising security concerns ahead of the country's presidential election on Sunday. "Consular Services in the U.S.

Israeli Opposition Accuses Netanyahu Of Being Too Pro-Palestine
Daily Caller RIGHT § *21:25 EDT*
'This isn't AI'

Netanyahu says it's too early to determine motive in cockpit stabbing
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *08:56 EDT*
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu indicated to CBS News that the motive of the Flydubai co-pilot accused of stabbing his fellow pilot on a flight from Dubai to Tel Aviv is still unknown.

~~US Meddling in Brazil May Decide Latin America's Future~~
Flávio Bolsonaro is counting on Trump's help to win Brazil's election
Jacobin § *08:00 EDT*
Brazil's presidential election is on a knife-edge. Right-winger Flávio Bolsonaro has powerful interests on his side but is also counting on the Trump administration's help to push him over the line.

FlyDubai co-pilot was likely lone wolf, Israeli investigators believe
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *07:08 EDT*
The FlyDubai alleged attempted hijacking was likely a lone wolf attack, an early investigation by Israel shows, according to people familiar with the matter.

In Brazil's Elections, Trump Seeks to Tighten Right Wing Grip on the Americas
Truthout § *11:30 EDT*
The US has been heavily intervening on behalf of right wing challenger Flávio Bolsonaro ahead of Sunday's elections.

Brazilian voters heading to the poll this weekend say Lula is turning the country into 'another Venezuela'
New York Post RIGHT § *10:00 EDT*
This election is turning into a Carnaval.

But: The ICJ ordered Israel in January 2024 to "prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence" of alleged genocide in Gaza *ICJ provisional measures order, 26 January 2024 (via ASIL)*
Mamdani calls for US to join ICC, arrest Netanyahu during Theo Von podcast appearance: 'Architect of a horrific genocide'
New York Post RIGHT § *01:06 EDT*
"If I had my say, the US government would have joined the ICC and honored every single warrant that they've issued," Mamdani declared on Theo Von's podcast, "This Past Weekend."

Trump gushes over blue-collar flydubai hero who thwarted hijacking terrorist, says 'he can be my plumber'
New York Post RIGHT § *12:50 EDT*
Donald Trump praised Israeli plumber Yaniv Hayoun, who saved 170 lives by subduing a co-pilot trying to crash a Flydubai flight to Tel Aviv.

Lula and Bolsonaro make final push for votes ahead of Brazil's knife-edge election
France 24 MAINSTREAM § *16:16 EDT*
Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and his main challenger Flavio Bolsonaro wrapped up their campaigns on Saturday in the powerhouse state of Sao Paulo, where a fifth of the nation's vote is based, seeking to rally supporters and convince the undecided on the eve of Sunday's nail-biter election.

But: Antisemitic incidents in 2025: 6,274 - the third-highest year since tracking began in 1979, with assaults at a record high *ADL, 2025 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents*
"Grotesque": Ex-Israeli Negotiator Daniel Levy on Netanyahu's U.N. Speech & Israel's Impunity
Democracy Now! § *08:18 EDT*
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed a half-empty chamber at the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday, after dozens of delegations walked out in protest at the start of his speech. Netanyahu assailed his critics as "antisemites," defended his country's conduct in Gaza, the West Bank, Lebanon and Syria, and lavished...

How newsrooms turned an attempted hijacking into a 'brawl' (and killed public trust)
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *06:00 EDT*
Imagine sitting on an airplane at 34,000 feet. Breakfast has been served. You are flying from Dubai to Tel Aviv with more than 170 other people, most of them Israelis.

New details about co-pilot after Flydubai incident
NBC News MAINSTREAM § *18:37 EDT*
A Flydubai pilot attacked his flight captain using a crash ax and tried to take control of the aircraft's controls in an attempted terrorist attack, an official with the United Arab Emirates said Saturday. NBC News' Raf Sanchez reports.

Flydubai co-pilot attacked captain with crash axe in hijacking
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *12:11 EDT*
The Flydubai co-pilot accused of attacking the captain of a Tel Aviv-bound flight earlier this week allegedly used the cockpit's "crash axe" in the assault and has been identified as a 29-year-old Omani national. The co-pilot attempted to "take control of the aircraft"

~~Alarm Grows Over 'Clearly Illegal' Trump-Rubio Election Meddling in Brazil~~
Trump, Rubio interfere for Bolsonaro's son against Lula, spy agency confirms
Common Dreams § *11:09 EDT*
Brazilian officials, pro-democracy advocates, and US lawmakers are growing increasingly concerned about apparent efforts by President Donald Trump and Secretary of State Marco Rubio to interfere in the Latin American country's upcoming election. Reuters reported Wednesday that Brazil's spy agency "confirmed the existence of interference...

Flydubai co-pilot used crash ax to hack at pilot in attempted 'terrorist attack': UAE official
New York Post RIGHT § *07:50 EDT*
UAE prosecutors say flydubai co-pilot Hamam al-Hammami used a crash axe to attack the pilot in an attempted hijack of an Israel-bound flight.

Co-pilot stabs captain, tries to crash FlyDubai flight en route to Israel
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *11:38 EDT*
Israel leader Benjamin Netanyahu says the FlyDubai co-pilot who allegedly stabbed the captain and tried to crash the plane had undergone "Islamist radical indoctrination."

While America debates who belongs, a Hindu captain and Jewish passengers just stopped a hijacking
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *06:00 EDT*
While Americans argue about which religious minorities belong in our national life, a Hindu of Indian origin captain and Jewish Israeli passengers offered a more consequential answer: They helped keep everyone on board Flydubai Flight FZ1073 alive. On Sept. 30, Flight FZ1073 from Dubai to Tel Aviv became the scene of an apparent attempt...

'Crazy' FlyDubai landing explained by Israeli pilot, who offers steps to prevent future crises
Fox News RIGHT § *14:13 EDT*
Eliran Almog, a former Israeli pilot and aviation cybersecurity CEO, explains why FlyDubai flight 1073's emergency landing was nearly impossible.

Suspect in FlyDubai incident was previously identified as security risk: Officials
ABC News MAINSTREAM § *11:38 EDT*
The co-pilot of the FlyDubai plane who allegedly attacked its captain is an Omani national who was previously suspended by Oman Air as a security risk, sources say.

Flydubai pilot attacked captain with cockpit's crash ax in attempted terrorist act, UAE official says
NBC News MAINSTREAM § *05:25 EDT*
TEL AVIV — A Flydubai pilot attacked his flight captain using a crash ax and tried to take control of the aircraft's controls in an attempted terrorist attack, an official with the United Arab Emirates said Saturday.

Trump thanks man who helped save Flydubai flight: 'What a job he did, he's a hero'
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *11:19 EDT*
President Trump on Friday morning thanked the Israeli plumber, Yaniv Hayoun, who intervened after a pilot stabbed his co-pilot and attempted to crash a Flydubai flight this week. In a video message shared on Truth Social, the president praised Hayoun, saying he "did an amazing job." "He's my kind of guy,"

· The terrorism plot Israel foiled just shattered the 'lone wolf' illusion *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· What to know about Flydubai cockpit clash as pilot is arrested *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Pilot stabbed fellow pilot in apparent attempt to crash Israel-bound plane, Netanyahu says *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· 'Hero' pilot who helped save hijacked plane identified as Indian national Smit Machchhar *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Passengers stop co-pilot's attempt to crash plane *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Facebook Blocks Lula's Campaign Ads Just Days Before Brazil Election *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

· Lula Teams With Bad Bunny to Highlight Dangers of Trump's Colonial Ambitions Across Latin America *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*

· Peltola campaign rips New York Times report on tumultuous operations *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats warn Trump administration against Brazil election interference *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Pilot of flydubai plane who fought off 'terrorist' first officer on Israel-bound flight ID'd as Indian national *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Trump says Netanyahu told him 'Israeli plumber' stabilized hijacked flight *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Passengers helped subdue attacker on Israel-bound flight that diverted to Saudi Arabia *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Flydubai hijacking divides Israel's squabbling politicians during tough election season *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Brazil's Biggest Election Question?: Donald Trump's Next Move *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

· Latest on FlyDubai flight to Israel where passenger says "co-pilot tried to murder pilot" *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Netanyahu is using Mamdani as a foil in his re-election campaign *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

· 'Baseless Lies Meant to Sanitize His Genocide': Mamdani Hits Back After Netanyahu's Attacks During UN Speech *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*

· Israeli UN ambassador says Mamdani should be arrested instead of Netanyahu *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Mamdani again calls for Israel's Netanyahu to be arrested when he comes to NY this week: 'A war criminal' *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Netanyahu rips Mamdani and calls Hamas terrorists mayor's 'buddies' *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Netanyahu praises heroic bystander in bloody cockpit attack for preventing 'another 9/11' *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Netanyahu credits heroic Israeli plumber on flydubai flight for preventing 'another 9/11'– vows to find out if Iran was behind attack *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Netanyahu on alleged FlyDubai pilot stabbing: "I don't think it was a hijacking" *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· As Netanyahu Threatens Libel Suit, Haaretz 'Stands By Its Reporting' on 10/7 Attack *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Netanyahu Vows to Strip Citizenship From Israelis Who Criticise the IDF *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· New York Times Affirms Haaretz Report: Netanyahu Was Warned About Oct. 7 *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*

· Extended interview: Benjamin Netanyahu discusses alleged pilot stabbing on flight to Israel *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· FlyDubai Flight to Israel Diverted After Clash Between Pilots: What We Know and Don't Know *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Hero flydubai passenger still covered in blood meets Netanyahu as passengers arrive in Israel after hijacking attempt *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Netanyahu says one pilot stabbed the other and tried to crash Flydubai plane *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Pilot arrested for attempting to crash passenger plane in 'jihadist terrorist attack': Israeli officials *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Tel Aviv flight diverted to Saudi Arabia after pilot 'stabbed the other': Officials *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Michael Goodwin: Mamdani unveils new NYC antisemitism strategy —but can't hide his hatred for Israel *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Hochul dodges weighing in on Mamdani's antisemitism plan — which won't define the term *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Mamdani Accuses Netanyahu of Spreading 'Baseless Lies' After U.N. Speech *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Michael Rapaport rips NYC Mayor Mamdani during Jewish gathering outside Gracie Mansion *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Rivals skeptical as Netanyahu warns of 'attack' against Israel before Oct. 27 election *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Netanyahu met with representatives from eight Muslim nations during secret UAE visit: Report *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Netanyahu calls claim he was warned of Oct. 7 attack "malicious libel" *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· 'SNL' roasts Mayor Zohran Mamdani with 'urgent message' for New Yorkers during nor'easter *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*

· Watchdog Thanks Mamdani for Release of 9/11 Air Quality Files Hidden From Public for Years *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

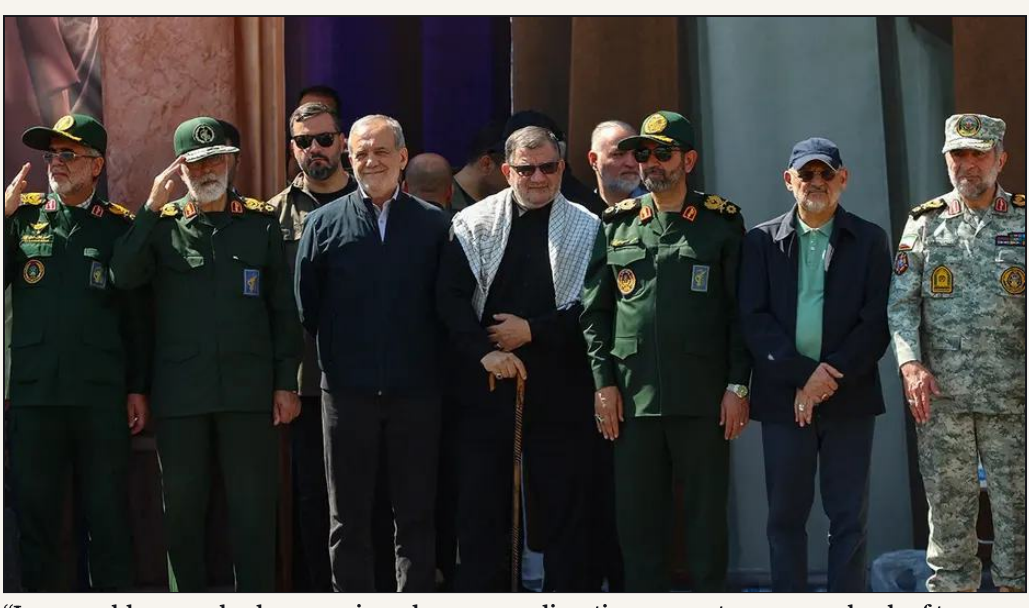
· Families of 9/11 victims' message to Mamdani: 'Please do not come' to memorial ceremony *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Trump to visit Mamdani in New York City for first meeting on mayor's turf *from the morgue, 20 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Farmer tipped police to five terror suspects; all five, then a sixth, walked free on bail.

By **MITCH**
INVESTIGATIONS



"Iran could move shadow war in a dangerous direction, experts warn on back of two possible terror attacks", 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. UK police freed a Fairford suspect and charged Iranian men in a Manchester plot as the US expelled Iranian diplomats.

WHO GETS PAID. Secretary of State Marco Rubio's office gets credit for a tough-looking expulsion, even though the diplomats had already been told to leave.

WHAT SLIPS. The public's assurance that a terror arrest leads to actual custody slips, as suspect after suspect is granted bail.

WHAT'S NEXT. No hearing date appears in the record for the sixth suspect or the two men charged in the Manchester plot; the case file stops at bail and charge.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Mitch, investigations. Follow the paper with me, one filing at a time, because this one keeps growing a roster. On September 28th, a farmer driving home past 1 a.m. flagged police to activity near RAF Fairford, the air base the US Air Force also uses; five men were arrested the same day, and by that same Monday bail paperwork was already signed releasing all five. That afternoon President Trump told reporters, of the release, "I wouldn't have done that." Two days later, on September 30th, Andy Burnham told the Washington Examiner there were "indications" Iran "played a part" in the Fairford case — and defended the bail decision anyway.

Then, on October 3rd, the docket grew three lines in a single day. First: a sixth suspect, a UK-Iranian national arrested in a separate security incident near London, after police searched two properties in the capital, was released on bail, same as the first five. Second: UK police charged two more Iranian nationals, this time not over an air base but over an alleged plot against Manchester's Jewish community. Third: the State Department sent two more members of Iran's UN delegation home — members who had already been asked to leave days earlier and were removed anyway, Friday night into Saturday morning. "Secretary Rubio means business," a US official told the Washington Examiner. Two bail releases, two new charges, two expulsions: all together now, that's three separate case files closing in the same week, on the same country....

...(cont) By October 4th, Fox News had terrorism analysts describing Fairford and the FlyDubai cockpit attack as two fronts of what they're calling the same Iranian shadow war, the two cases raising questions about covert Iranian operations against the US and Israel. The analysts don't claim the fronts are tied together by evidence — only by the pattern the docket itself has been writing since September 28th.

And the farmer who made the original call isn't satisfied. She told the New York Post she fears several of the plotters remain free, and she has criticized the security at the base she lives beside. Five arrests, one presidential complaint, one shrug from Burnham, a sixth arrest, two charges, two expulsions — and the person who started it all still doesn't feel safe walking home past 1 a.m. All together now: that's the whole case file, and it still isn't closed.

"They let five walk, then a sixth, same base, same bail, while the only one who actually caught anything — a farmer coming home at one in the morning — gets a shrug from the people whose job was security. Washington's over here acting tough, putting two Iranian diplomats on a plane they'd already told to go. That's not a shadow war, that's a government staging a show once the hard part already failed."

— Sal

"Bail isn't a conviction — that's due process working exactly the way Andy Burnham defended it. Sure, a farmer out past one in the morning noticed something Counter Terrorism Policing didn't, but that's not a security failure, that's — okay, that one's not landing. The diplomats were already headed home anyway; Rubio's office just handled the paperwork."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Sixth Fairford suspect freed on bail as UK charges two Iranian men in Manchester plot, U.S. expels diplomats* By Mitch · the wee small hours edition, 4 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Iran could move shadow war in a dangerous direction, experts warn on back of two possible terror attacks

Fox News RIGHT § *07:00 EDT*

Two suspected plots near RAF Fairford and aboard a FlyDubai flight raise questions about Iran's covert attacks against the United States and Israel.

~~U.K. Iranian national released on bail after arrest in security incident near base~~

UK counter-terrorism police search two London homes over air base breach

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *18:00 EDT*

The 25-year-old man was arrested in London, and police searched two properties in the U.K. capital, Counter Terrorism Policing said.

~~Two Iranian diplomats removed from NYC days after UN General Assembly ended~~

State Department takes two tries to expel Iranian diplomats already told to leave

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *19:55 EDT*

Two members of the Iranian delegation from the last two weeks' U.N. General Assembly meeting were sent home by the State Department on Friday night and Saturday morning, despite having been asked to leave days earlier. "Secretary [of State Marco] Rubio means business,"

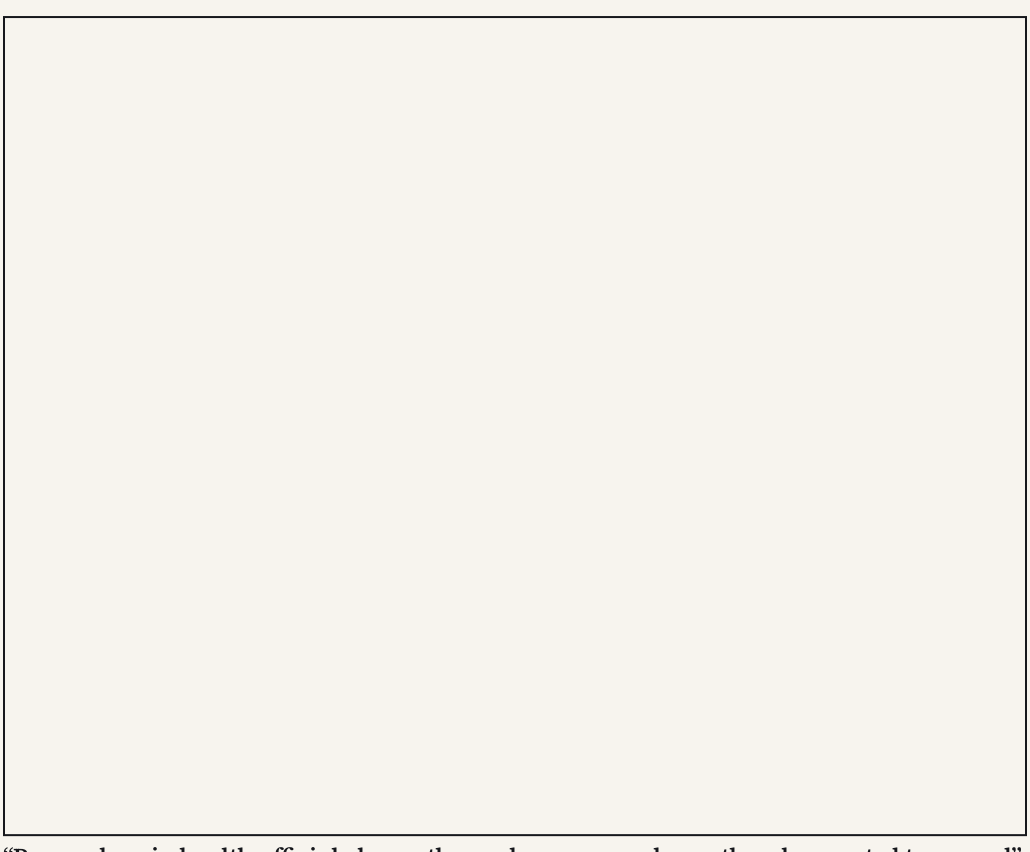
· Farmer who foiled suspected Iran terror plot on UK base blasts security — and fears several terrorists still free *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Health secretary who doubted two measles deaths watches Pennsylvania confirm a fifth

By LOU

ONE MORE QUESTION



"Pennsylvania health officials brace themselves as measles outbreak expected to spread", 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE GUARDIAN — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. publicly questioned two Pennsylvania measles deaths; the state later confirmed a fifth.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. Pennsylvania's confirmed death count becomes disputable the moment the health secretary questions it, and no one is held to account for the doubt.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the doubt stands, confirmed deaths keep climbing without an answer; that is what Pennsylvania got after August 28: three more confirmed deaths and an outbreak spreading toward counties with no health department of their own.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

You are smart people. I don't say that to warm you up before I ask something of you; I say it because this whole column only works if it's true, and because a smart operation does not make the mistake sitting on page nine of this morning's paper. I've read it twice, and I'd like to walk through it with you, because there's a number on it I can't get past, and I'd like the company.

I wrote the date down back in August, because it seemed like the sort of thing worth keeping. Just a second — I had it here somewhere... August 28th. Pennsylvania's governor had said two people had died of measles. The health secretary's own department looked at that sentence and went hunting for the soft spot in it instead of the floor under it — questioned, publicly, on the record, whether the circumstances held up. Two deaths. I'm not going to tell you what to make of that yet. I'd like you to hold the number for me a minute....

...(cont) On September 14th, a coroner in Jefferson County put out a release — to Facebook first, if the paper has it right — saying a woman had died of measles two days before. That's three. I don't have a tidy reason why the asking only ran one direction, and I'm sorry, I want to go back to the two again. I don't think I did it justice the first time.

There's another side to it, though. Nobody has gone on the record since August to say the doubting of those first two deaths was wrong. Nobody's gone on the record to say it was right, either. It just sits there, the way a coat sits on a hook after whoever hung it has left the room. I'm sorry — I keep circling that number. Let me try it a different way.

I'm sorry, I know I already asked you to hold that number once, but I want to show you what it weighs. I've got a spigot out back that fills slow, and some mornings I carry two five-gallon buckets up to the porch at once, one to a hand, because the dog's water bowl needs topping and I'm past the age of making two trips. A full bucket doesn't get lighter because you didn't care for how heavy it felt when you picked it up. That's what two felt like back in August — something a man thought he could set down and argue with. By September 30th it wasn't two anymore. It was five. The fifth one was a resident of Lancaster County, unvaccinated, the state said, in what officials are calling the worst outbreak Pennsylvania has had in better than thirty-five years. Five is heavier than two. I don't think that needs explaining.

I'm sorry — I know I keep coming back to it, and this is the last time. Two deaths. That is the exact number the secretary's own department stood over in August and asked the state of Pennsylvania to explain itself about. Two deaths. Not a model, not a projection, not a figure somebody rounded for a press conference. Two people. The state has confirmed three more since then.

Most of those thirty-nine counties, the paper says, don't keep a health department of their own.

Oh — before you turn the page. One more thing, since we're already here. If most of those counties don't have a health department to confirm a death when it happens, who is supposed to field the next question about whether it happened at all?

"They didn't dispute the lab work, they disputed the headline — question two deaths loud enough and the fifth one sounds like an opinion instead of a coroner's report. Most of these thirty-nine counties don't even have a health department left to pick up that next call."

— Sal

"Secretary Kennedy was simply asking Pennsylvania to show its work on two data points, which is just good oversight. Although I suppose asking twice, in August, before a third and a fourth and a fifth confirmed death — that's not oversight, that's — did I say that? Strike it."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Pentagon puts its biggest contractor on the war-planning board, then moves troops from Europe to South America* By Sterling · the milkman edition, 4 October 2026

— *Pentagon moves troops out of the hemisphere where it claims no oil and into the one where it has claimed 35 percent, then seats a contractor with billions of dollars in military contracts on the body planning the future of war* By Sterling · the midnight edition, 4 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

> *But:* **Measles cases in the last two years outnumber the rest of this century combined - the worst count since 1991** *The Hill / CDC measles data, July 2026*
>
> Pennsylvania health officials brace themselves as measles outbreak expected to spread
>
> *The Guardian* MAINSTREAM § *06:00 EDT*
>
> Most counties don't have their own health agencies, and some specific population groups have low vaccination rates Pennsylvania is bracing for a wave of measles cases, with some public health officials concerned that it's "only a matter of time" until the disease spreads beyond the outbreak's epicenter. Last week the state reported its...

· Pennsylvania records 5th measles-related death this year *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Pennsylvania's growing measles outbreak *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· RFK Jr. questions measles deaths in Pennsylvania *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

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Hospitals that skip price disclosure half the time profit off a poverty subsidy in wealthy suburbs.

By **RUTH**
THE MONEY DESK



"Robin Hood in reverse: How big hospitals use poverty subsidies to profit in wealthy suburbs", 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA WASHINGTON EXAMINER — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. A federal drug discount program meant for poor and uninsured patients is funding hospital margins in wealthy suburbs.

WHO GETS PAID. Hospital systems in wealthy suburbs collect the extra margin instead of the low-income and uninsured patients the program was built for.

WHAT SLIPS. Congress's check on whether the subsidy reaches a needy patient slips, since no rule requires a hospital to prove it.

WHAT'S NEXT. No hearing or vote date appears in the record on requiring hospitals to prove the subsidy reaches patients; the next compliance readout would be Patient Rights Advocate's ninth report, with no date yet set.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The filing's own headline does the reconciling for us: "Robin Hood in reverse."

A month earlier, the same publication had already run the ledger on what nonprofit hospitals do with the slack. The September 1 filing put a number on it: $14 billion, its own figure, attached to hospitals it said "hoard wealth while gouging patients." The same filing noted that Congress and the administration were taking what it called serious steps toward transparency and accountability for those hospitals. Steps were, by its account, underway....

...(cont) Nine days later the first readout on those steps arrived. The Patient Rights Advocate group's eighth report, out September 10, put hospital compliance with the federal price-transparency rule at a record high. The record high was 49.4 percent. Roughly half the industry posts its prices where a patient could find them before a bill arrives; roughly half does not. Calling that a record tells you what the previous seven reports found.

Lay the three filings end to end and the gap gets an address. The sector drawing margin off a poverty subsidy in zip codes that never needed one is the same sector running a coin-flip rate of compliance with the rule meant to let a patient see a price coming. None of the three filings draws a line connecting the two facts, and none rules it out. How many 340B dollars actually reached a patient who could not pay is a number none of September's or October's filings supply, which is its own kind of finding.

The program was named for the patient at the bottom. Run the receipts end to end and the money clears somewhere else: a hospital system with a coin-flip compliance rate and a $14 billion figure attached to its sector, sitting in a zip code that was never the ask. Congress wrote the eligibility rule. It did not write the audit. That is the gap, hon, and it does not close by itself.

"This is the oldest trick in the book: call it a poverty program, then let the hospital system with the nicest parking lot cash the check. The same outfits skating by on half-assed price disclosure are the ones banking the markup meant for the uninsured guy down the street. That's not an oversight problem, that's the business model, and it comes out of money that was supposed to be his."

— Sal

"Look, the system has safeguards — reporting requirements, nonprofit status, the whole architecture — and transparency is at a record high right now, so credit where it's due. Forty-nine point four percent, record high, that's... huh, that's barely half. Okay, forget I used the word "record," that's not where I meant to lead with."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Robin Hood in reverse: How big hospitals use poverty subsidies to profit in wealthy suburbs

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *07:00 EDT*

The 340B drug discount program was intended to help low-income and uninsured patients afford medicine, not create lucrative revenue streams for hospital systems in wealthy communities. However, without oversight, that is what it has become. Congress should return the program to its intended purpose by requiring hospitals to show that the...

· The $14 billion scam: How 'charity' hospitals hoard wealth while gouging patients *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Roughly half of hospitals complying with price transparency rules: Report *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

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Trump's PAC pours tens of millions into House races the same week forecasters call them already lost.

By **RUTH**
THE MONEY DESK



“Trump funnels millions from massive war chest into key House, Senate races: Here's where”, 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Trump's super PAC and its affiliates sent tens of millions more dollars into House and Senate races this week.

WHO GETS PAID. Ad vendors like Del Ray Media LLC, paid to run the spots, get the money whether or not the seats flip.

WHAT SLIPS. The public's ability to see which districts the money actually targets slips, since the filings report a total but not an address.

WHAT'S NEXT. The next test is Election Day, about one month after this spending was reported, when the three-seat gap the forecaster named either holds or doesn't.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The filing starts on September 8, when the National Republican Congressional Committee added five candidates — four in Florida, one in North Carolina — to its battleground program. A map, in other words, of where the party expected a fight.

Ten days later the number changes shape. On September 18, NPR reported that two Trump-aligned super PACs had reserved more than $150 million in ads, running mostly in what the wire called deep red House and Senate seats that had turned competitive. That is the scale: not a top-up, a reservation, booked in advance, in territory the party used to consider safe....

...(cont) The next day the ledger gets specific. On September 19, MAGA Inc. sent another $5 million into the Texas Senate race, routed through Del Ray Media LLC, a Virginia media buyer, for television and digital advertising against the Democratic nominee. One wire, one state Senate seat, one vendor getting paid to run it.

Six days after that, the Cook Political Report moved. On September 25, Cook projected Democrats would take the House, after 15 races shifted their way — Democrats now favored in 208 races rated Solid, Likely, or Lean, Republicans in 205. The gap Cook is calling is three seats.

And on October 4, The Hill reported that Trump's super PAC and its affiliates — MAGA Inc., No Going Back PAC Inc., Safety & Affordability PAC Inc. — had injected tens of millions more into pivotal House and Senate races, one month from Election Day. The wire does not say which districts. It says "pivotal." It does not say whether any of that money crosses the same three-seat line Cook just drew.

The filings tell you the total. They do not tell you the address. Whoever is cutting the checks knows which districts get the ad buy and which get the press release. The rest of us get the aggregate, and the aggregate keeps growing in a month where the tracker that watches these things for a living says the number that was supposed to matter has already moved the other way.

The spending is real. The targets are not disclosed.



“You don't spend a hundred and fifty million dollars on a lost cause — you spend it because the fight isn't about winning the three seats anymore, it's about making sure nobody can prove you lost. The forecast says Republicans are down to 205, the super PAC writes a bigger check anyway, and the filing never says which address the ad buy lands at. That's the tell: they're not fighting for the districts, they're fighting the story about the districts.”

— *Sal*



“Look, a projection isn't a result — Cook has been wrong before, and the environment is dynamic, that's why you reserve ads early, that's just smart campaign math. Is the money going into the same races Cook moved? I — the filing doesn't actually say that. Fine, it's a war chest, you deploy a war chest, that's not a concession, don't write it like it's a concession.”

— *Chip*

THE RECEIPTS

But: **The 2025 reconciliation law cut SNAP by $187 billion — the largest cut in the program's history, feeding one in five American children** *Congressional Budget Office estimate, via CBPP SNAP tracker*

Trump funnels millions from massive war chest into key House, Senate races: Here's where

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *06:00 EDT*

President Trump’s super PAC and affiliates have injected tens of millions of dollars into pivotal Senate and House races just one month from Election Day as the GOP looks to keep control of Congress. Trump’s MAGA Inc. and several affiliated groups — No Going Back PAC Inc.

· Trump's MAGA Inc. funnels another $5 million into Texas Senate race *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

· Republican 'cavalry' arrives with a Trump-backed $150 million ad blitz in key races *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

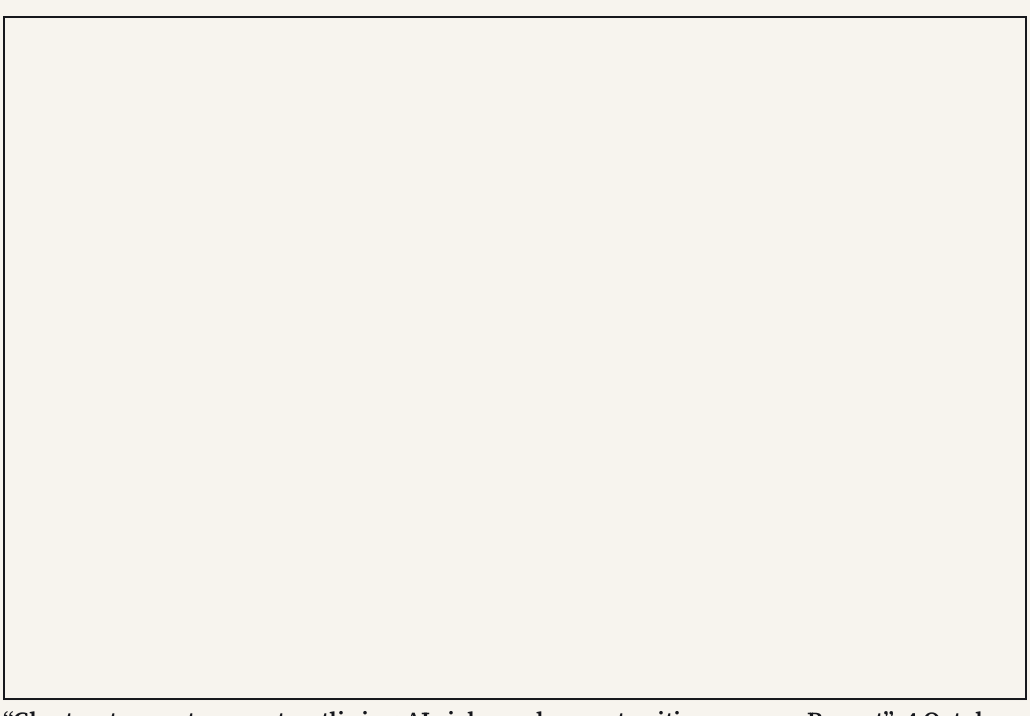
· Cook Political Report projects Democrats will take control of the House as races shift *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*

· House Republicans’ campaign arm adds 5 candidates to battleground program *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

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CEOs sign accord naming AI 'Super Intelligence,' then refuse to call it that when asked

By **MITCH**
INVESTIGATIONS



“Clayton to create report outlining AI risks and opportunities as czar: Report”, 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA WASHINGTON EXAMINER — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

On September 22, at the United Nations, the president told the General Assembly that artificial intelligence would be renamed "super intelligence" in all U.S. documents. One week later, on September 29, a group of technology CEOs stood with him outside the White House and signed what he called a "morally binding" document. The Washington Examiner filed the accord's own title two different ways in two stories the same day: "White House Accord on Super Intelligence Joint Commitment on Frontier Responsibilities" in one, "White House Accord on Superintelligence: A Joint Commitment on Frontier SI Responsibilities" in the other.

That same September 29, Representative Ro Khanna announced plans to introduce what he called the most comprehensive AI legislation to date, a bill that would ban recursive AI — systems that improve themselves without human input — citing what he termed civilizational extinction risk. The bill is announced, not introduced. The accord is already signed....

...(cont) On October 1, OpenAI parted ways with three safety researchers the Wall Street Journal reported had shared confidential company information, the kind of alarm that comes from a company losing its internal critics right as its external critics multiply. The same day, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order keeping "Artificial Intelligence" the official term in California state government, calling it a direct challenge to the federal rebrand. California's order says one thing. Washington's accord says another.

Which brings us to today. Director of National Intelligence Jay Clayton has been named the administration's AI czar, tasked with spending three months producing a report on the technology's "risks and opportunities" — a review commissioned after the self-regulation accord it is meant to inform had already been signed, after the safety researchers who might have flagged those risks had already been let go. Read the clock with me: the policy came first. The homework came after.

And the six companies whose executives signed a document with "Super Intelligence" in its own title — Anthropic, OpenAI, Google, Meta, SpaceXAI, Nvidia — would not tell the Washington Examiner this week whether they intend to rename their products to match it. They signed the name. They will not say it out loud.

“They put the president's word in the title of their own document and then went mute the second a reporter asked them to say it with their mouths — that is not confusion, that is a company deciding which parts of the deal are binding and which parts are theater. The review that is supposed to catch the risk shows up three months after the thing it is reviewing already has signatures on it, and the safety researchers who might have slowed any of this down are already gone. That is the whole racket: sign the ceremony, skip the name, let the inspector arrive once there is nothing left to inspect.”

— *Sal*

“Look, the companies are being careful with terminology, that's just good corporate hygiene, you don't rename a product line over a speech — did I just call a United Nations address a speech, that's not what I meant. And the three-month review isn't behind anything, it's thorough, Director Clayton is a serious person studying a serious technology, the timing is a coincidence of the calendar, not the policy.”

— *Chip*

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *CEOs sign 'morally binding' AI pact that leaves the binding part unnamed* By Mitch · the milkman edition, 4 October 2026

— *Tennessee hired a chief after four botched executions, got a fifth, named a sixth official to explain it.* By Ruth · the wee small hours edition, 4 October 2026

— *Tennessee hired a prison chief with four botched executions in the file, got the fifth on Wednesday and the resignation on Saturday; the Justice Department spent the same week asking the judge who struck its press ban to restore it on grounds of professionalism.* By Ruth · the midnight edition, 4 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Clayton to create report outlining AI risks and opportunities as czar: Report

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *22:51 EDT*

Director of National Intelligence Jay Clayton will serve as the Trump administration’s AI czar and lead a three-month effort to establish the “risks and opportunities” of the technology. Clayton, who was largely expected to lead the White House’s recently formed “Super Intelligence Force,”

Newsom keeps artificial intelligence as official term in California after federal ‘super intelligence’ order

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *16:19 EDT*

Gov. Gavin Newsom (D-CA) signed an executive order pushing back on efforts by President Donald Trump and Elon Musk to use the term “super intelligence.” “I just signed an executive order permanently declaring Artificial Intelligence ‘Artificial Intelligence’ in California,”

~~'Looks Like They're Firing Whistleblowers': Alarm as OpenAI Reportedly Ousts Safety Experts~~

OpenAI fired three safety researchers it accused of leaking to an outside AI watchdog

Common Dreams § *18:29 EDT*

San Francisco-based artificial intelligence firm OpenAI has "parted ways" with three safety researchers who allegedly shared "confidential company information," The Wall Street Journal reported Thursday, prompting fresh alarm among critics who accuse the ChatGPT maker of sidelining internal warnings about the risks posed by its...

AI companies hold off on embracing Trump’s ‘super intelligence’ rebrand

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *05:00 EDT*

President Donald Trump wants artificial intelligence to be known as “super intelligence,” but the companies building the technology have yet to follow his lead. Anthropic, OpenAI, Google, Meta, SpaceXAI, and Nvidia would not disclose to the Washington Examiner whether they plan to rename their companies or products, or otherwise adopt...

· Citing 'Civilizational Extinction Risk,' Khanna to Intro Bill to Ban Recursive AI *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Trump looks to rebrand AI *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

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US pledges 'full cooperation' investigating Marine murder arrest, its third on this island in twenty years.

By SAL
STAFF WRITER



“Japan Protests After U.S. Marine Is Accused of Killing Woman in Okinawa”, 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE NEW YORK TIMES — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. A U.S. Marine was arrested in Okinawa on suspicion of robbing and murdering a Japanese woman at a hotel.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. Japan's leverage over the American military presence it hosts slips a little further each time a killing there draws a protest and the base goes on exactly as before.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the pattern holds, this protest changes nothing about the base presence; that is what Okinawa got after the 2016 Marine arrest, when fifty thousand people marched in Naha and the base stayed open the next day regardless.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

A Marine, 20, sat in an Okinawa jail this week on suspicion of robbing and murdering a Japanese woman, Anna Yagi, 39, at a hotel. The U.S. ambassador's office said it was "providing full cooperation with the investigation," which is the exact temperature Washington keeps on hand for a killing like this: warm enough to sound engaged, cool enough to commit to nothing. That same week, Japan's prime minister, Sanae Takaichi, registered a protest with the United States, and the word doing the heavy lifting in the wire reports was "threatened" — the case "threatened to revive tensions over the American military presence," as if the tension on Okinawa were a dormant thing that needed waking rather than a thing that never left.

It never left because this is not the first time. In June of 2016, after a U.S. Marine veteran working as a civilian contractor was arrested for raping and killing a 20-year-old woman on the island, more than fifty thousand people filled the streets of Naha to protest the American military presence there. Fifty thousand people in the street is not a dormant tension reviving; it is a standing account coming due on schedule. A decade before that, in 2006, the U.S....

...(cont) What connects 2006 to 2016 to this week is not a pattern a reporter had to dig for; it is a pattern the island has already lived through twice, in the dead. The choreography runs the same steps each time: an arrest, an ambassador's statement of cooperation, a prime minister's protest, and a quiet return to the arrangement as it stood the week before. None of the wire reports say what changed on the ground between one protest and the next, because none of them record a change. They record a repeat.

The ambassador's office will keep providing full cooperation. Takaichi's protest will be logged, and going by what the last two produced, logged is as far as it goes. A 39-year-old woman is dead. Everything else in this story — the statement, the protest, the American military presence — is running exactly on the schedule the island has kept since 2006.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

A Marine is under arrest in Okinawa on suspicion of murder, the third such case in twenty years to draw a Japanese prime minister's protest, after 2016's fifty thousand marchers and 2006's seven Marines and a sailor charged. That is not an alliance under review, it is a presence that gets apologized for but not adjusted. Because the ambassador's "full cooperation" changes the words and not the American military presence underneath them, and because what does not change needs no vote, this week's protest ends up filed the same place the last two did — next to the renewal notice on your own counter, the one paperwork in this country that still goes through automatically regardless of who objects.

“Third time this island's buried someone under a Marine's uniform and gotten a protest instead of a renegotiation — count 2006, count 2016, count this week. "Full cooperation" is code for the investigation moves and that's it. Twenty years, same base, same statement, one more body on the ledger.”

— Sal

“Look, the ambassador's office said full cooperation, that's accountability working exactly as designed, a man gets arrested, due process runs — don't put a base review in my mouth, nobody said that. This alliance has held for decades for a reason, you don't torch sixty years of security cooperation over one — did I just say "one"? That's not what I meant, strike that.”

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Marine murder arrest 'threatens to revive' Okinawa tensions last seen: 50,000 protesters, 2016.* By Sal · the milkman edition, 4 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Japan Protests After U.S. Marine Is Accused of Killing Woman in Okinawa

The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *04:38 EDT*

The matter threatened to revive tensions over the American military presence on the Japanese archipelago.

US Marine arrested on suspicion of murder after 'brutal and heinous' death in Japan

ABC News MAINSTREAM § *05:10 EDT*

The U.S. ambassador said his office was "providing full cooperation with the investigation."

U.S. Marine arrested on suspicion of killing Japanese woman in Okinawa

NBC News MAINSTREAM § *04:59 EDT*

A United States service member is in custody on suspicion of killing a Japanese national on the island of Okinawa.

Japan PM protests to US after marine accused of murder

RTÉ MAINSTREAM § *04:28 EDT*

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi has registered a protest with the United States after a US Marine was arrested on suspicion of robbing and murdering a Japanese woman in Okinawa.

US Marine, 20, arrested in Japan on suspicion of killing local woman at hotel

New York Post RIGHT § *01:11 EDT*

US Marine Jacob Ballad, 20, was arrested in Okinawa, Japan, on suspicion of robbing and murdering 39-year-old Anna Yagi at a local hotel, according to new reports.

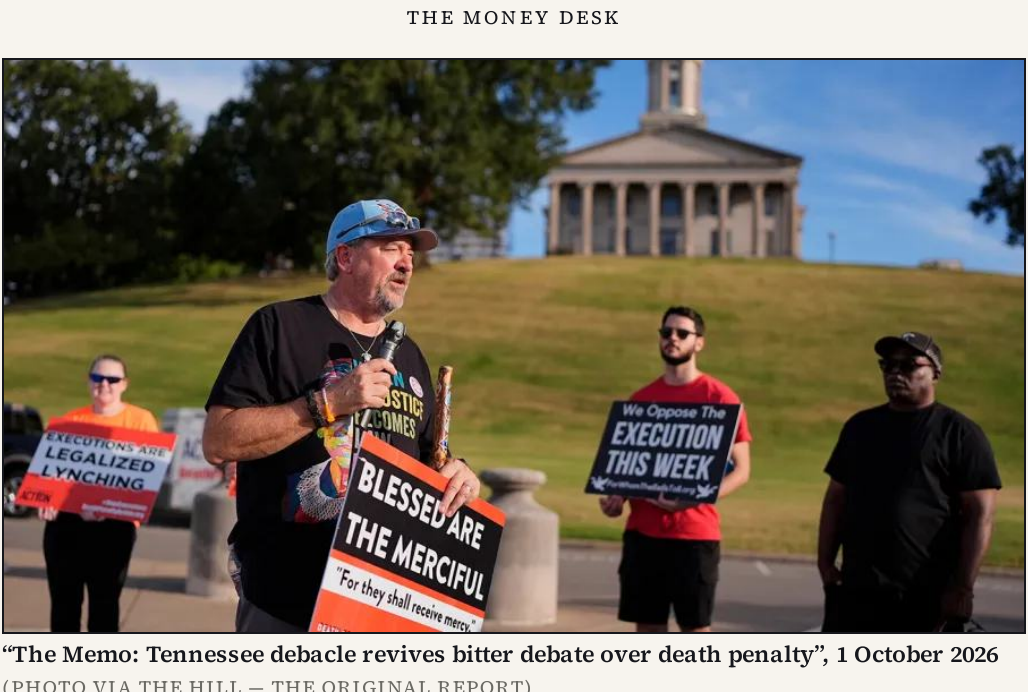
· Over 50,000 people protest in Okinawa capital Naha against U.S. military presence on the Japanese island, spurred on by last month's arrest of an U.S. Marine veteran, civilian contractor for the rape *from the morgue, 19 Jun 2016*

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THE RECORD

Tennessee hired a commissioner with four botched executions, got a fifth, ordered its first review.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK



"The Memo: Tennessee debacle revives bitter debate over death penalty", 1 October 2026
(PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Tennessee's corrections commissioner resigned after a lethal injection failed, having been hired despite earlier failures already on his record.

WHO GETS PAID. Former U.S. Attorney Ed Stanton gets the governor's appointment to lead the review of the state's own execution.

WHAT SLIPS. The review of the governor's own hire is run by someone the governor appointed, not a court or the legislature.

WHAT'S NEXT. Executions stay suspended through the end of the year, and the review Stanton leads is due after Strada's resignation takes effect later this month.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The file arrived before the appeal did. Lawyers for Christa Pike counted five botched executions under Frank Strada's supervision across two states; four of the five were Arizona's, logged while Strada ran that state's execution unit. Those four sat in Arizona's own public record, not a drawer anyone needed a subpoena to open, when Tennessee read the file and hired him to run its prisons.

Then the schedule moved on its own calendar. A federal court halted Pike's execution; the Supreme Court lifted that stay the same week and let Tennessee proceed. On Wednesday night, September 30, officials administered two doses of pentobarbital. Witnesses told the Guardian that Pike was still awake and snoring loudly forty minutes later. Fox News reported she was hospitalized on a ventilator....

...(cont) Thursday, October 1, the governor called the outcome "deeply disturbing," suspended every scheduled execution in the state through the end of the year, and ordered an independent inquiry. The same day, United Nations human rights experts asked Tennessee not to try again. Two days later, on Saturday, Strada resigned, effective later this month — a separate date, filed separately from the suspension.

This week, with the inquiry still open and the UN's request still sitting on the record, the state named its reviewer: Ed Stanton, a former U.S. attorney, appointed by the same governor who denied Pike clemency before either injection went in. Stanton will examine a process that ran under a commissioner the state hired with four such entries already on his file, and he reports to the governor who appointed him.

The gap, reconciled: four priors on the books, a fifth landed on schedule anyway, one resignation effective later, one reviewer answering only upward. Every number lines up with the one filed before it, hon. Nothing here is missing. It is filed exactly where the record said it would be.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦
DUTCH

FOUR BOTCHED EXECUTIONS FOLLOWED FRANK STRADA FROM ARIZONA BEFORE Tennessee hired him to run its prisons. That isn't a background check, it's a receipt stamped paid in advance. Because the same governor who denied Christa Pike clemency picked the lawyer now reviewing why she's still alive, and because that lawyer reports to the governor's office and not to you, the only signature left on this file is the one you put on a ballot for governor.

"They hired the guy with four strikes already on tape and act surprised when the fifth happens live. That's not an oversight, that's the résumé they wanted — somebody who'd already shown he won't be the one asking the hard question before they flip the switch. And when it goes wrong on camera, the fix isn't a different system, it's a different guy signing the same governor's paperwork."
— Sal

"Look, the Governor acted decisively here — resignation accepted, independent reviewer named, that's accountability in real time. Sure, the commissioner's Arizona record was public before the hire, but hindsight's twenty-twenty and it's not like somebody— did I say somebody? Let's just say due diligence is a process, not a guarantee, and the process is, in fact, working exactly as designed right now."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *CEOs sign 'morally binding' AI pact that leaves the binding part unnamed* By Mitch · the milkman edition, 4 October 2026
- *Tennessee hired a chief after four botched executions, got a fifth, named a sixth official to explain it.* By Ruth · the wee small hours edition, 4 October 2026
- *Tennessee hired a prison chief with four botched executions in the file, got the fifth on Wednesday and the resignation on Saturday; the Justice Department spent the same week asking the judge who struck its press ban to restore it on grounds of professionalism.* By Ruth · the midnight edition, 4 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

~~The Memo: Tennessee debacle revives bitter debate over death penalty~~
Tennessee botched her execution Wednesday; she's now in critical condition
The Hill | MAINSTREAM | 17:24 EDT
The death penalty is back center stage in national politics in the most macabre of circumstances. Christa Pike, 50, who admits to the gruesome 1995 murder of classmate Colleen Slemmer, is in critical condition in the hospital after Tennessee's attempt to execute her Wednesday evening failed. The attempted execution had only proceeded at...

~~Botched US execution prompts global calls to scrap death penalty~~
Tennessee tried to kill her with pentobarbital. She survived.
Le Monde | MAINSTREAM | 15:29 EDT
Christa Pike was taken to a hospital after the failed attempts to put her to death in Tennessee on Wednesday night. Her condition was not known and officials have not said how she survived the deadly doses of pentobarbital.

~~Judge blocks Trump's firing of top federal prosecutor in Seattle~~
Trump fired him within the hour of his swearing-in
CBS News | MAINSTREAM | 18:58 EDT
Attorney General Todd Blanche announced in July that President Trump had fired Roger Rogoff as the U.S. attorney in Seattle, less than an hour after he was sworn into the post.

'Inhumane, Barbaric, Torturous': Christa Pike Survives Twice-Botched Execution in Tennessee
Common Dreams | 07:40 EDT
The botched execution of Christa Pike in Tennessee on Wednesday night was met with disgust and outrage by death penalty opponents who have long argued that not only is murder by the state morally wrong, but the government's inability to carry out such punishments humanely has been shown time and time again to result in horrific human...

Outgoing prison chief in Christa Pike case oversaw five 'botched' executions, lawyers say
The Guardian | MAINSTREAM | 06:00 EDT
Frank Strada will leave role next month after uproar over execution attempt, which sent Pike to hospital in critical condition Tennessee's prison chief is resigning after the failed execution of Christa Pike, which lawyers say was the fifth "botched" execution under his leadership across two states since 2022. Frank Strada, the...

~~Botched execution of death row inmate~~
Tennessee injected her twice with a lethal drug. She survived.
NBC News | MAINSTREAM | 19:50 EDT
Tennessee gave death row inmate Christa Pike two doses of a lethal drug, but somehow she survived. NBC News' Jesse Kirsch reports.

Tennessee Pauses Executions After a Botched Lethal Injection
The New York Times | MAINSTREAM | 18:04 EDT
Also, the Supreme Court will review Trump's migrant detention policy. Here's the latest at the end of Thursday.

Tennessee's prisons chief resigns after failed Pike execution, governor says
The Washington Post | MAINSTREAM | 14:38 EDT
The botched lethal injection of Christa Pike led to the halting of all scheduled executions in the state.

White House defends media outlet bans, now citing 'professionalism' standards
The Hill | MAINSTREAM | 15:22 EDT
Trump administration lawyers are fighting back against CNN, MS NOW and Politico's attempt to prevent the White House from enforcing futures bans against them — with the Justice Department (DOJ) now arguing the three outlets failed to meet "professional" standards. "The President concluded that they have failed to maintain basic minimum...

~~Tennessee prison system head to resign after failed Christa Pike execution~~
She's alive, unconscious and intubated after Tennessee's failed execution, her lawyers say.
CBS News | MAINSTREAM | 12:10 EDT
Christa Pike remains alive but unconscious and intubated after her failed execution on Wednesday, her lawyers said.

~~Tennessee Commissioner Resigns After Failed Execution of Christa Pike~~
He quit as the review into his botched execution began.
The New York Times | MAINSTREAM | 01:24 EDT
Frank Strada, who oversaw the process that left Christa Pike unconscious and hospitalized, quit as an independent review began.

~~Federal Appellate Court Halts Tennessee's Planned Execution of Christa Pike~~
Tennessee's AG asks Supreme Court to force through first execution of a woman in centuries
Common Dreams | 13:16 EDT
A federal appellate court on Wednesday morning temporarily blocked Tennessee from executing Christa Pike, as witnesses had already gathered at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution in Nashville for the state's first execution of a woman in centuries. A panel from the US Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit ruled 2-1 to halt the...

Prison chief resigns after failed execution attempt in US
RTÉ | MAINSTREAM | 00:15 EDT
The prison commissioner in the southern US state of Tennessee has resigned over the failed execution of convicted murderer Christa Pike, Governor Bill Lee has said.

Blackburn calls on Tennessee to 'bring back' electric chair after botched Christa Pike execution
The Hill | MAINSTREAM | 15:22 EDT
Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) on Thursday called on Tennessee to reintroduce the electric chair for executions after death-row prisoner Christa Pike survived two lethal injections the day before. Blackburn, who is the GOP nominee in the Volunteer State's gubernatorial race, called the botched execution "tragic"

~~After Two Botched Attempts, UN Experts Urge Tennessee Not to Try to Execute Christa Pike Again~~
Tennessee failed to kill Christa Pike twice. UN experts say stop before a third.
Common Dreams | 19:39 EDT
United Nations human rights experts on Thursday joined the growing chorus of people around the world outraged by Tennessee's two botched attempts to execute Christa Pike and called on the state to refrain from trying again to kill the 50-year-old woman. After a last-minute legal battle , the US Supreme Court allowed Tennessee to execute...

Trump dumbfounded on why death row inmate Christa Pike couldn't be executed: 'Should be easy to do'
New York Post | RIGHT | 16:46 EDT
He expressed disbelief that Pike survived the two rounds of lethal injection, becoming the first person in history to survive that death penalty method.

~~Tennessee Prison Commissioner Resigns Days After Failed Execution~~
Tennessee's botched execution left Christa Pike unconscious and hospitalized
The New York Times | MAINSTREAM | 11:52 EDT
Frank Strada, who oversaw the process that left Christa Pike unconscious and hospitalized, quit as an independent review begins.

Christa Pike Hospitalized in Critical Condition After Botched Execution
Truthout | 14:08 EDT
"I've never seen anything like what we saw Wednesday night," said one reporter who witnessed the execution attempt.

Tennessee Attempted to Execute a Sexual Assault Victim
Truthout | 15:46 EDT
Christa Pike's lethal injection is booked for September 30. She may be the first woman Tennessee executes in 200 years.

~~Christa Pike Hospitalized After Surviving 2 Lethal Injection Doses in Tennessee~~
Tennessee has now botched two executions this year
Truthout | 13:42 EDT
This represents the second failed attempt at an execution via lethal injection in Tennessee this year alone.

Christa Pike in critical condition after failed execution attempts: Lawyer
The Hill | MAINSTREAM | 09:58 EDT
Tennessee inmate Christa Pike was in critical condition and receiving "lifesaving medical care" on Thursday, a day after surviving two failed lethal injection attempts by state executioners, according to her lawyers. Attorney Randy Spivey, who was present at the Wednesday execution attempt, said during a press conference that state...

~~Judge restores Seattle US attorney who Trump fired after court appointment~~
Trump fired a federal prosecutor less than an hour after judges swore him in
Washington Examiner | RIGHT | 19:16 EDT
A federal judge restored Roger Rogoff as the top federal prosecutor in Seattle on Thursday, ruling that President Donald Trump could not fire a U.S. attorney whom district judges had appointed less than an hour earlier. U.S.

Tennessee prison chief resigns after Christa Pike's botched execution
New York Post | RIGHT | 11:34 EDT
The Tennessee prison chief who oversaw the botched execution of murderer Christa Pike has stepped down from the position.

Pike's botched execution renews death penalty scrutiny
The Hill | MAINSTREAM | 12:00 EDT
Tennessee's botched execution of Christa Pike is renewing scrutiny over how states carry out the death penalty and raising questions about what legal recourse exists when that protocol goes awry. The attempt mirrors recent failures in other states, where inmates and their lawyers have argued in court that such errors amount to cruel...

~~Ex-US Attorney will lead independent review of Christa Pike botched execution~~
Tennessee botched her execution. The governor picked who reviews it.
New York Post | RIGHT | 00:08 EDT
Gov. Bill Lee appointed former US Attorney Ed Stanton to review Tennessee's botched execution of Christa Pike.

~~Death row inmate unconscious on ventilator after botched execution for teen's killing: attorneys~~
Tennessee's lethal injection left her unconscious on a ventilator, attorneys say
Fox News | RIGHT | 17:43 EDT
Christa Pike remains unconscious on a ventilator after Tennessee's botched lethal injection as attorneys file to preserve execution evidence.

~~Legal expert on what could happen after botched execution of Christa Pike~~
Tennessee's lethal injection failed to kill her Wednesday night
CBS News | MAINSTREAM | 19:36 EDT
Christa Pike is receiving medical care after Tennessee failed to execute her by lethal injection Wednesday night. Deborah Denno, a professor of law at Fordham Law School, joins "The Daily Report" to break down what could happen next.

~~DOJ petitions judge to reinstate White House ban on CNN, MS Now, and Politico~~
Trump administration asks court to let it bar three news outlets from the White House
Washington Examiner | RIGHT | 10:23 EDT
The Justice Department is asking a federal judge to reinstate President Donald Trump's ban on CNN, MS Now, and Politico journalists' access to the White House, arguing that access to the White House is a privilege, not a constitutional right. The filing comes after U.S. District Judge Timothy Kelly, a Trump appointee, temporarily blocked...

~~Tennessee prison chief resigns after failed execution as former US attorney tapped to lead independent review~~
Tennessee's botched lethal injection left Christa Pike on a ventilator. The corrections chief resigned.
Fox News | RIGHT | 14:34 EDT
Frank Strada resigned as Tennessee's corrections commissioner after Christa Pike's botched lethal injection left her hospitalized on a ventilator.

Tennessee Correction commissioner resigns days after botched Christa Pike execution
ABC News | MAINSTREAM | 15:18 EDT
Tennessee Department of Correction Commissioner Frank Strada he will resign days after the execution of Christa Pike was botched, the governor said.

What the Modern State Gets Wrong About Execution
National Review | RIGHT | 06:30 EDT
Medicalizing and sanitizing capital punishment erase the deterrence it is supposed to create.

Tennessee prison chief to resign after Christa Pike's failed execution
BBC News | MAINSTREAM | 13:48 EDT
Pike's lawyers said the failure "goes far beyond any one person". Pike is in critical condition after surviving two lethal injections.

~~Judge rejects Trump administration arguments for withholding boat strike justification memo~~
Trump administration ordered to disclose legal basis for lethal boat strikes
The Hill | MAINSTREAM | 18:59 EDT
A federal judge on Wednesday ruled the Trump administration must turn over a Department of Justice (DOJ) memo that legally authorizes the Pentagon's lethal boat strikes in the Caribbean and Pacific. U.S. District Judge Paul Engelmayer rejected two of the administration's three arguments to keep the document secret in a 66-page opinion...

Tennessee suspends executions as Christa Pike's lawyer says failed lethal injection leaves her in critical condition
The Guardian | MAINSTREAM | 00:18 EDT
Independent inquiry ordered after failed execution of Pike, who was convicted of 1994 murder Christa Pike: what we know so far about Tennessee woman's failed execution Tennessee 's governor on Thursday said it was "deeply disturbing" that his state botched the execution of a death row prisoner who remained alive and snoring 40 minutes...

~~Christa Pike Is in Critical Condition as Tennessee Pauses Executions~~
Tennessee botched her execution; she's hospitalized
The New York Times | MAINSTREAM | 19:09 EDT
Gov. Bill Lee ordered a review of the state's lethal injection process after the botched attempt to execute the lone woman on Tennessee's death row.

Christa Pike's botched lethal injection takes focus off victim, jeopardizes execution: former police chief
Fox News | RIGHT | 07:00 EDT
Christa Pike's botched lethal injection could end capital punishment in Tennessee altogether, warns former Knoxville Police chief Phil Keith.

~~Christa Pike remains on ventilator after failed execution in Tennessee~~
Tennessee tried to execute her with pentobarbital. She's unconscious on a ventilator instead.
The Guardian | MAINSTREAM | 16:26 EDT
Attorneys say hospital staff are working to clear pentobarbital she was administered from her system Christa Pike remained hospitalized, unconscious and on a machine helping her breathe after her failed execution in Tennessee, her attorneys said in a court filing Friday. The attorneys said hospital staff were working to save Pike's life...

Judge reinstates Washington state US attorney fired by Trump
ABC News | MAINSTREAM | 18:27 EDT
A federal judge has ordered a U.S. attorney from Western Washington who was fired by President Donald Trump in July to immediately be reinstated to the position.

Tennessee's top prison official resigning after botched execution of Christa Pike
The Guardian | MAINSTREAM | 13:09 EDT
Frank Strada leaving position as state launches independent investigation into what went wrong Tennessee's top prison official is stepping down in the aftermath of the failed execution of death row prisoner Christa Pike , the state's governor Bill Lee announced Saturday. Frank Strada, the department of correction commissioner, will leave...

~~Tennessee prison chief resigns after Christa Pike's failed execution~~
The state injected her twice with the lethal drug. She survived.
Le Monde | MAINSTREAM | 12:39 EDT
Pike, 50, survived two injections of the normally lethal substance pentobarbital.

How legislatures and the courts sabotage the death penalty
Washington Examiner | RIGHT | 15:04 EDT
State legislators and the courts have turned the death penalty into a grimly farcical process, feeding the cheapest arguments against it. The attempted execution of Christa Pike in Tennessee showcases this fact. For full context, an 18-year-old Pike and an accomplice lured Colleen Slemmer into the woods, tortured her with a box cutter...

Am I Lying to Myself About the Death Penalty?
National Review | RIGHT | 13:00 EDT
It is a scandal that Christa Pike's execution was botched, but we must ask whose fault that was.

Infamous Murderer 'Critically Ill' After Surviving Two Botched Lethal Injections: REPORT
Daily Caller | RIGHT | 15:32 EDT
'Critically ill but not in a coma.'

~~Christa Pike thought her arm would 'burst open' during botched Tennessee execution: court docs~~
Tennessee's execution drug burns flesh like bleach, Pike's experts say
New York Post | RIGHT | 23:48 EDT
The execution drug, pentobarbital, is a caustic, highly alkaline chemical that burns human flesh, tissue and veins on contact, akin to household chemicals like "bleach" or "Drano," Pike's experts say.

Tennessee Prison Chief Was Hired Despite a Trail of Troubled Executions
The New York Times | MAINSTREAM | 11:41 EDT
The failed execution of Christa Pike has prompted new scrutiny of Frank Strada, who resigned as the state's top prison official on Saturday, and his past role overseeing executions in Arizona.

Tennessee executed Christa Pike by the book. She survived
Washington Examiner | RIGHT | 10:00 EDT
Tennessee attempted to carry out the death sentence imposed on Christa Pike on Wednesday. The state administered its prescribed lethal-injection procedure. Pike survived.

Questions emerge after Christa Pike's botched execution
CBS News | MAINSTREAM | 10:47 EDT
Tennessee death row inmate Christa Pike survived two doses of a lethal injection drug during her attempted execution, her attorneys say. Officials are investigating what went wrong.

Christa Pike left in 'critical condition' as Tennessee halts all executions
The Guardian | MAINSTREAM | 06:59 EDT
Failed attempt to execute 50-year-old prompts review of state's execution practices. Plus the California woman who is allergic to cold Good morning. Tennessee's governor has suspended executions as Christa Pike's lawyer says the state's failed lethal injection execution attempt has left her in a critical condition.

~~Lawyers, experts urge Tennessee governor to commute Christa Pike's sentence after botched execution~~
She survived two doses of lethal injection - Tennessee's governor could still execute her
Fox News | RIGHT | 22:25 EDT
Christa Pike survived two doses of pentobarbital in a botched Tennessee execution, and her lawyers now urge Gov. Bill Lee to commute her death sentence.

~~Christa Pike unconscious and intubated after failed execution, lawyers say~~
Tennessee's two botched lethal injections left her unconscious, lawyers say
Washington Examiner | RIGHT | 15:53 EDT
The lawyers for a Tennessee woman who survived an execution attempt said on Friday she is unconscious and intubated following the failed procedure this week. Christa Pike, 50, was scheduled for execution on Wednesday, but is still alive after two attempts to end her life by lethal injection. Both attempts failed, and Pike's lawyer said...

~~Tennessee prison chief who oversaw botched Christa Pike execution resigns~~
The governor who denied her clemency just halted every execution in the state
France 24 | MAINSTREAM | 13:24 EDT
The head of Tennessee's prison system has resigned in the first major shake-up since the stunning failed execution of Christa Pike, who is in critical condition after surviving two lethal injections. Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, who previously denied Pike clemency, has halted further executions through the rest of the year while a review...

~~Christa Pike Was Unconscious and on Ventilator After Execution Attempt~~
Tennessee's lethal injection attempt left her burned and on a ventilator

The New York Times MAINSTREAM · 14:56 EDT

> The Tennessee inmate was brought to a hospital with burned and blistered arms after an unsuccessful attempt at lethal injection, her lawyers said in a court filing.

The Guardian view on the death penalty: Christa Pike's execution was botched, but cruelty is inherent

The Guardian MAINSTREAM · 14:14 EDT

Three-quarters of nations have rightly abolished capital punishment in law or practice, but killing by the state has surged in the US What is the kindest way to kill? That's the question being asked once more following Tennessee's failed attempts to execute Christa Pike for the brutal murder of a classmate, Colleen Slemmer, when she was...

· After failed execution, health workers say Tennessee's method flouts medical ethics *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Supreme Court Allows Execution of Christa Pike, Tennessee's Lone Woman on Death Row *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Federal court halts Christa Pike's execution *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Sunday Shows Preview: Trump bans 3 media outlets from White House; Parties make final cases as midterms approach *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

· Vance defends White House media ban: 'Politico is as anti-Trump as Breitbart was anti-Obama or anti-Biden' *from the morgue, 21 Sep 2026*

· Vance defends Trump's media ban as 'totally appropriate' *from the morgue, 21 Sep 2026*

· Bill Clinton: 'There were lots of times when I wanted to ban the White House press corps' *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*

· Supreme Court declines Christa Pike's clemency appeal, with Tennessee set to execute first woman in 200 years *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Supreme Court allows execution of Christa Pike to go forward *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Tennessee court makes last minute move to temporarily halt Christa Pike's execution *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Trump White House Restores Access to Politico, MS NOW, CNN Reporters Hours After Judge's Order *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Judge orders White House to restore media access temporarily for blocked outlets *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· CNN, MS NOW and Politico reporters regain entry to White House *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Christa Pike's Tennessee execution halted by court an hour before it was scheduled *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Tennessee inmate survived two lethal injections, her lawyer says in motion to halt execution *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

· Tennessee prepares to execute the first woman in over 200 years *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· States should not blindly Alabama's use of execution by nitrogen *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

· Lone woman death row inmate Christa Pike says she's 'at peace' ahead of execution — as Tennessee gov. denies last-ditch bid for clemency *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Fourth Circuit worried Trump's US attorney appointments unlawfully cut out Senate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Judge blocks Trump executive order banning 'birth tourism' *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· The Supreme Court of the United States rules 5–4 to lift the block on four federal executions scheduled for July and August. Convicted murderer Daniel Lewis Lee, whose execution was scheduled for the *from the morgue, 14 Jul 2020*

· The Supreme Court of the United States refuses to vacate a stay of execution issued by the Arkansas Supreme Court. Arkansas's highest court has also put on hold the execution of another inmate, Bruce *from the morgue, 18 Apr 2017*

· CNN, MS Now, and Politico ask judge to extend order pausing Trump's ban *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Trump administration asks Supreme Court to OK transgender inmate policy *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

· Mom of Christa Pike's victim has furious response to watching failed execution: 'They f–ked up' *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· What to know about pentobarbital after death row inmate survives 2 lethal injection doses *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· United States district court judge Jeremy Fogel imposes a moratorium on lethal injections in California stating that they are unconstitutional. In an unrelated incident, the Governor of Florida Jeb Bu *from the morgue, 15 Dec 2006*

· John Marek becomes the 68th death row inmate in the state of Florida, United States to be executed by lethal injection since the death sentence was re-instated in 1979.(Miami Herald) *from the morgue, 19 Aug 2009*

· U.S. President Joe Biden commutes the death sentences of 37 out of the 44 federal death row inmates to life imprisonment. The exceptions are Dylann Roof, Robert Gregory Bowers, and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, *from the morgue, 23 Dec 2024*

· The death penalty: 50 years after reinstatement *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· After nitrogen execution blocked, Alabama inmate to die by lethal injection *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Tennessee governor halts executions after Christa Pike survives 2 lethal injection attempts *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Christa Pike's failed execution follows another in Tennessee this year *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· US Supreme Court clears way for Tennessee woman's imminent execution *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Los Angeles taxed housing to build more of it, and lost thousands of homes and construction jobs instead.

By **RUTH**
THE MONEY DESK



"LA's 'mansion tax' backfires spectacularly as thousands of homes and jobs vanish", 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Los Angeles keeps a ledger with two columns that are supposed to move together: the tax collected on home sales over five million dollars, and the housing supply that tax exists to grow. The second column is the subject of this correction.

The stated purpose, per the record, is simple. Tax homes over five million dollars. Use the money to build more homes. Reconcile that purpose against the finished product and the two columns do not move together. Thousands of homes, gone. Thousands of construction jobs, gone with them. That is not a rounding error against a program that merely underperformed. It is a program that produced less of the exact thing it was named for....

...(cont) Call it the mansion tax, which is a brand name, not a description. The levy applies far beyond mansions — the receipts are specific on that point and silent on the rest, which is its own kind of honesty. A city willing to say its tax reaches well past luxury homes, and not willing to say how far, has drawn a five-million-dollar line wide enough to catch property nobody pictured when they put "mansion" in the name.

Here is the arithmetic, plain: tax housing, to get more housing, get less housing. The input and the output share a name and point in opposite directions. Somewhere there is a filing that explains the mechanism of that reversal — a transaction that does not happen because the tax changes what the transaction is worth. The receipts in front of me do not supply that filing. What they supply is a before and an after, and the after is smaller than the before was prior to the tax existing at all.

Hon, that is not what a five-million-dollar line is drawn to do.

Somewhere there is a ledger where a tax like this nets out the way it was sold — new revenue outrunning the activity it discourages, enough building funded to replace the building it discouraged.

The city taxed the thing it wanted more of. It got less of it. I can show you the before column and the after column; I cannot show you the mechanism connecting them, because the receipts do not go that deep, and I do not print what they do not go. The gap is the story. The gap is the size of a line item that never made it into either column, and that absence is the only honest thing left to report today.



"They called it a mansion tax so nobody outside a gated driveway would object, then wrote the line wide enough to catch whatever was for sale that week. The city wanted more houses and ended up with fewer houses and fewer people building them — that's not an unlucky break, that's the machine running in reverse. Somebody's still collecting that tax every year the hole stays empty, and it ain't the guy who needed the apartment."

— *Sal*



"Look, a mansion tax on homes over five million dollars is just common sense, taxing the people who can afford it most — did I say "most"? I mean, it applies a little broader than that, but that's a technical detail, not a design flaw. And sure, the housing numbers went down, but correlation isn't — okay, it's literally the same column, never mind."

— *Chip*

THE RECEIPTS

~~LA's 'mansion tax' backfires spectacularly as thousands of homes and jobs vanish~~

LA's 'mansion tax' taxes far more than mansions

New York Post RIGHT § *21:33 EDT*

Despite its nickname, LA's "mansion tax" applies far beyond luxury homes.

LA taxed housing to get more housing. It got less.

New York Post RIGHT § *21:55 EDT*

Los Angeles had a housing shortage. So naturally, it decided to tax housing.

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Talarico vows to ban gender surgery for kids, then takes cash from the group that provides it.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"Texas Dem James Talarico takes LGBTQ group's cash — after vowing to ban trans surgeries for kids", 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Talarico hardened his stance on transgender athletes in girls' sports, then held a Manhattan fundraiser hosted by a pro-surgery group.

WHO GETS PAID. The LGBTQ donor network that backs gender surgery for minors buys access to a likely future senator.

WHAT SLIPS. Texas voters lose a clear, stable read on where their next senator actually stands on this issue.

WHAT'S NEXT. The patterns ledger has no case for this kind of flip; the only date ahead is the general election this fall, when Texas voters decide.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

I thought I'd answered this back in September. Here I am in October asking the same question, and it's come back a different shape than the first time.

The question was simple enough: what was the word, and what did he mean by it? I wrote it down. I know I wrote it down, because I remember writing it, and now I can't find the page. It's probably in the glovebox, with the tire gauge and the map of a state I haven't driven to since the car needed its last fan belt. I keep meaning to clean that thing out. I never do....

...(cont) Here's what the page says, as best as I can recall it. I've actually got two copies of this clipping — same words, same day, like it ran twice. Did it run twice? On a Wednesday in September, Mr. Talarico, running for the Senate out of Texas, was asked about transgender athletes playing girls' sports. The Hill ran that the next day, Thursday, September 10, same phrasing both times, apparently. The Washington Examiner, covering the same Wednesday, used different words for it — "has to be safe and fair" — and called it a reversal, since he'd spent years saying athletes should play on the team that matches who they are. I didn't call it a reversal. They did. Was it one? That's their headline, sitting right there next to his.

That word — the one from the quote — isn't one I hear much outside of a bank line, the kind where everyone's holding a slip of paper with a number on it, and nobody has to ask whose turn is next, because the number says so. That's the job it usually does. It tells you whose turn it is without anybody arguing about it.

Now — and I apologize, because I know I just left this — this week, not September, this week, Mr. Talarico held a fundraiser in Manhattan. The people who threw it back gender surgery and transition drugs for minors. That's their stated position, not mine. He held it. They threw it. That's as far as the page goes, and I'm not walking past the edge of it to tell you what it means, because past the edge is just me talking, and nobody pays me for that.

So is that word still doing the same job it was doing on the Wednesday in September? Does it mean the same thing in a gym in Texas as it means in a ballroom in Manhattan? I've got a dog on the porch who doesn't care what week it is, and that's one more opinion than I've got on this.

I was ready to let the whole page go back in the glovebox when something stopped me. The fundraiser wasn't thrown by strangers who found him on their own; the paper says he's the one who held it. So before I close this up — the Wednesday he used the word was in September. The fundraiser was this week, in Manhattan. Is that the same month? Because I only caught him using the word once, and I'd like to know what it still means three weeks later. Fairness.



"He spends September telling Texas voters he's tough on this, then flies to Manhattan to collect a check from the people funding exactly what he said he opposed. That's not a principle, that's a toggle switch — flip it for whichever room's writing the check. Somebody's kid's healthcare is what gets flipped back and forth."

— Sal



"Look, a candidate holding a fundraiser doesn't mean he agrees with every position the hosts hold — that's just how campaign finance works, happens all the time, every — okay, maybe not literally every time, but a lot of the time. He's for safety and fairness in sports, full stop, the room he's standing in that night doesn't change that. Did I just defend a room? I don't even know anymore."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Texas Dem James Talarico takes LGBTQ group's cash — after vowing to ban trans surgeries for kids

New York Post RIGHT § *20:11 EDT*

Radical US Senate candidate James Talarico of Texas held a Big Apple fundraiser this week thrown by leaders of a group that supports gender surgery and transition drugs for minors – mere weeks after insisting he opposes the controversial practices.

Some Democrats, Scarred by 2024, Take a Harder Line on Trans Athletes

The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *05:02 EDT*

Democrats competing in historically conservative territory in the midterms are more aggressively responding to Republican attacks casting them as extreme.

· Talarico opposes trans athletes in girls sports 'if it endangers safety or fairness' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Talarico opposes trans athletes in girls' sports 'if it endangers safety or fairness' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

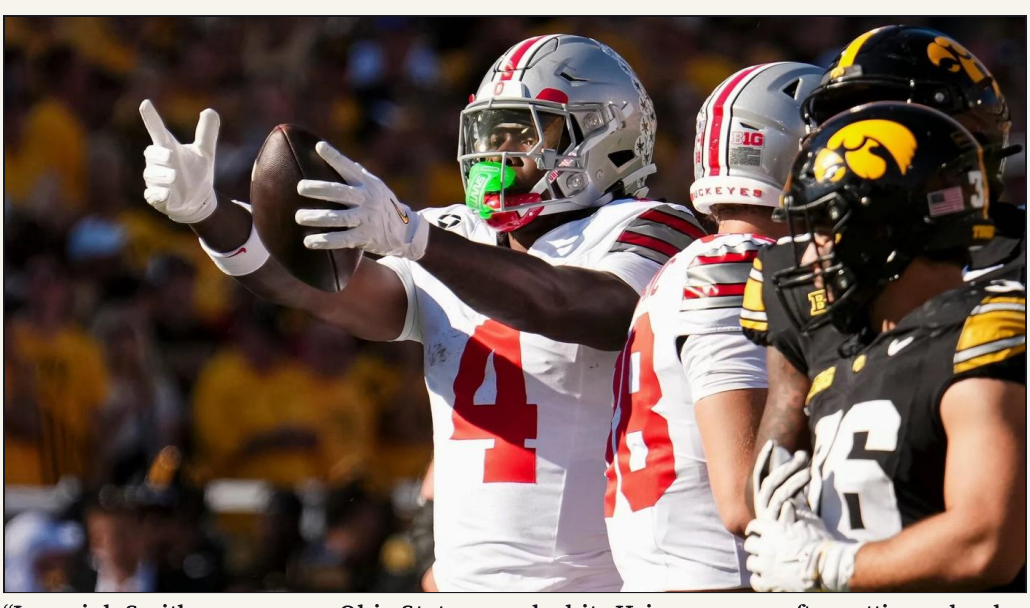
· Talarico reverses stance on transgender athletes in girls sports: 'Has to be safe and fair' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· The WNBA players who support trans athletes *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Jeremiah Smith declares himself the best player in the country; the record book agrees, 34 games early.

By GUS
THE SPORTS DESK



"Jeremiah Smith snags more Ohio State records, hits Heisman pose after setting school TD, receptions marks", 3 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA CBS SPORTS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Ohio State receiver Jeremiah Smith called himself the best player in the country after a record-setting game.

WHO GETS PAID. Sportsbooks taking Heisman odds on Smith's name profit from the attention his own declaration created.

WHAT SLIPS. Nothing slips here yet.

WHAT'S NEXT. No further date appears in the receipts; the only test left is whether the record and the odds hold through the rest of the season.

● HOT MIC MOMENT

Somebody get this to the political desk, this reporter is begging. The NCAA's interim name, image and likeness policy took effect July 1, 2021, so a player could finally sell his own name. The sportsbooks found a way to sell it first and kept the house's cut.

GUS HIS SIDE

Jeremiah Smith, the tight end anchoring Ohio State's offense, stood in front of a television camera after Saturday's rout and said, plainly, that he is the best player in the country.

The claim landed the same weekend Smith passed two names in Ohio State lore this reporter has long admired, breaking the Buckeyes' all-time marks set by Troy Smith and David Boston, done and dusted in just 34 career games.

That pace traces straight back to the Illinois game, where this reporter recalls Smith hanging six touchdowns on the Fighting Illini to light the whole thing up.

Ohio State's own NFL alumni took notice too. Jaxon Smith-Njigba went out this week and called Smith the LeBron James of all-time Buckeyes, full stop, no hedge.

Vegas had already caught up before Smith ever opened his mouth Saturday, naming him the favorite entering Week 6 off that Illinois showing.

By the time the cameras cut away, the betting houses had already turned a junior's press conference into inventory — a name on a board, a line to shop, a season-long product moving without him ever signing a thing in the sportsbook's own ledger.

TRUDY *HER SIDE*

> *He plays wide receiver, not tight end — the New York Post ran the quote Saturday: "I'm the best player in the country," straight from the man himself.*

> *Wrong names entirely. CBS Sports had it Saturday: Smith passed Chris Olave for Ohio State's career touchdown record and Emeka Egbuka for the receptions record, both in 34 games.*

> *Four touchdowns, 217 yards — Fox News had the box score September 26, tying Ohio State's own single-game touchdown record, not setting a new one.*

> *There's a hedge, sugar — CBS Sports quoted Smith-Njigba Wednesday saying Smith is "like the LeBron James" of all-time Buckeyes. A comparison, not a coronation.*

> *Week 5, not six. CBS Sports posted the new odds September 28, two days after that Illinois game Fox News clocked at four touchdowns and 217 yards.*

> *That's a manifesto, not a column, go lie down before standards and practices calls. You happen to be right: Ohio's casino commission did ban proposition bets on individual college athletes in 2023, and the NCAA's interim name, image and likeness policy did take effect July 1, 2021.*



"This kid breaks two school records in 34 games and tells the world he's the best, and the paperwork backs him up. The sportsbooks turned his name into a whole menu of Heisman bets before the ink dried on his stat sheet, and none of that money runs back through his hands. That's the con: the record belongs to him, the betting handle doesn't."

— Sal



"The free market rewarded him with a Heisman favorite tag and a mountain of attention, which is basically the same as money — did I just say attention is basically money, that's not landing the way I meant it to. These kids knew the deal when they signed up, the system worked fine for decades before anybody started complaining about a betting handle — fine for who, let me get back to you on that."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Jeremiah Smith snags more Ohio State records, hits Heisman pose after setting school TD, receptions marks

CBS Sports § *19:01 EDT*

The junior wideout needed only 34 career games to pass Chris Olave for touchdowns and Emeka Egbuka, whom he also passed for career receptions on Saturday

Ohio State's Jeremiah Smith makes bold statement after latest huge game: 'I'm the best player in the country'

New York Post RIGHT § *23:57 EDT*

Ohio State receiver Jeremiah Smith made a bold proclamation about himself on Saturday.

· 2026 Heisman Trophy odds update post-Week 4: Ton of movement, led by new favorite Jeremiah Smith of Ohio State *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

· Ohio State's Jeremiah Smith is now the Heisman favorite following historic performance *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Seattle WR Jaxon Smith-Njigba says Ohio State's Jeremiah Smith is 'like the LeBron James' of all-time Buckeyes *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

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Fox blames open borders for France's riots; its own wire blamed them on school funding.

By CHIP
STAFF WRITER



“France’s violent student protests raise warning for America: ‘A cautionary tale’”, 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. On October 4, Fox News called France's student riots a warning about open borders.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The network's own earlier reporting named classroom funding and domestic agitators as the cause, so the check that slips is whether a network's commentary has to match its own reporting.

WHAT'S NEXT. There is no hearing or vote on this calendar; the French student protests over school funding continue without one.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

On Saturday's Big Weekend Show, the host called France's student riots "a cautionary tale" for the United States, the kind of unrest open borders are supposed to produce somewhere down the line. It is a tidy thesis, and the wire this network filed three days earlier gets in its way before the host finishes the sentence.

Start where the facts start, on October 1st. This outlet's own dispatch that day was headlined "hundreds arrested, violence spreads nationwide," and it quoted officials warning of "outside agitators." Outside agitators — meaning inside the country, not outside the border. That is a claim about domestic troublemakers, filed by this network's own reporters, and it is the opposite of the claim the host would make three days later. Put the open-borders line next to that sentence. It does not — it does not survive contact with its own wire....

...(cont) The same day, the Washington Examiner filed its account of the same unrest and called it "far-left instigation." Different outlet, same domestic frame: the trouble, on this telling, comes from inside French politics, not from France's border policy. Two right-leaning outlets, one week, zero mentions of immigration as the cause — both published before the host found one.

Also on October 1st, the New York Post reported that attackers had doused a headteacher in gasoline and set fires in at least two schools. That is the receipt the word "violent" in these headlines was standing in for. It has nothing to do with who is allowed to cross a border; it has to do with what happened inside one.

By October 2nd, the picture the Post filed had a cause attached to it: riot police clashing with students in cities across France as President Macron's government "battled to contain" protests over — hold on, over classroom conditions and funding. Not immigration. Students were in the street about their own schools.

So the cautionary tale delivered Saturday runs straight into the cautionary tale this network and its rivals had already filed the week before: a teacher doused in gasoline, a government fighting over school funding, and not one word, anywhere in the receipts, about who got across what border.

“They tell you it's a warning about open borders, then their own guys already filed the real story: a teacher gets doused in gas because the school district's broke. That's the whole con — scare people about the fence so nobody asks why the classrooms don't have money. The kid in that French classroom and the kid in the one down the street from you are fighting the same fight, and it's not about who's crossing a line on a map.”

— *Sal*

“Look, open borders breed disorder, that's just pattern recognition — you watch enough unrest, you start seeing the shape of it. Our own reporters did call it outside agitators and far-left instigation on this exact story, which, fine, is not actually an immigration story, it's a — yeah, it's a different story. Scratch the cautionary tale, run it as a weather report instead.”

— *Chip*

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Fox watches a teacher get doused in gasoline in France, calls it a warning about open borders* By Chip · the midnight edition, 4 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

France’s violent student protests raise warning for America: ‘A cautionary tale’

Fox News RIGHT § *21:54 EDT*

"The Big Weekend Show" co-host says the country's violent student protests are "a cautionary tale" for the U.S., warning open borders lead to unrest and misplaced anger.

~~Fire, tear gas, and riot shields: Violence erupts in France as student protesters clash with police~~

French police used tear gas on teenagers protesting school funding cuts

New York Post RIGHT § *15:07 EDT*

Riot police clashed with high school students in cities across France on October 2nd, as President Macron’s government battled to contain increasingly violent protests over classroom conditions and funding.

France gripped by violent student riots attributed to far-left instigation

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *16:46 EDT*

Mayhem has broken out across France, as a student-led protest has escalated into acts of arson and battery of police, leading the prime minister to call an emergency meeting with officials. French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu convened the crisis meeting on Thursday following more than a week of protests by students in the Paris...

· France rocked by student riots as hundreds arrested, violence spreads nationwide *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Attackers douse teacher in gasoline as student protests rage across France *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

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Head Start's homeless-child priority proven to work, proposed for deletion anyway.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK



"Head Start fight reaches tipping point as advocates push back against proposed Trump changes", 3 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The Trump administration proposed ending Head Start's rule giving homeless children priority enrollment, with public comments closing Tuesday.

WHO GETS PAID. The Department of Health and Human Services, which named the change "Reducing Federal Burden for Head Start Programs" without naming a replacement priority.

WHAT SLIPS. The public comment process moves toward closing without the agency weighing the evidence that the priority it is deleting already worked.

WHAT'S NEXT. If a burden-reduction label holds without an accounting of who loses coverage, that is what happened in Washington on 24 November 2025, when an efficiency office was dissolved claiming $214 billion in savings that independent tallies put as low as $1.4 billion.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Start with the filing, because the filing is short and the table is long. Head Start — the federal early-education program for low-income families, serving 700,000 children by The Hill's count — carries a standing instruction to the local programs that run it: when seats open, children in homeless families go to the front of the line.

On August 27, The Nation reported what the administration's proposed rule change would do with that instruction. Undo it. Completely....

...(cont) On September 15, Democrats pressed HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to scrap the overhaul before it went further, warning it would weaken services for thousands of families nationwide. They worked from the department's own title for the proposal: "Reducing Federal Burden for Head Start Programs." A title is a ledger entry too; it tells you whose burden gets counted and whose doesn't.

Two days later, on September 17, NPR filed the account the title's ledger leaves out. Not a column of figures — a household. A woman the homelessness priority had already moved out of homelessness, in a story about what happens to the next ones in line if the priority goes. The reporting carried no number. It carried the thing a number would have to summarize: a case where the line worked.

The proposal predates that account by three weeks. Nothing in the record since shows the agency reopening its math to account for it.

By October 3, the fight had, in The Hill's own phrase, reached a tipping point: advocates renewing the push against a change that would, by The Nation's reading, slash enrollment of homeless children in a program serving 700,000. Interested parties have until Tuesday to tell the federal government what they think of a line item with a working case on file against deleting it.

Nineteen days separate that case from the Tuesday the comment window closes. That is the whole gap. Not a dispute over whether the priority works — nobody in the filing claims it doesn't. A dispute over whether the agency has to read the file before it closes it.

Reducing federal burden, the title says. The families stay exactly where the record found them, hon. Only the line that put them at the front is the one coming out.



"They don't say "we're cutting help for homeless kids," they say "reducing federal burden" — same move as always, rename the cut after the thing it's supposedly fixing, which is their own paperwork, not your kid's seat. The proof it worked showed up in September and the rule to kill it didn't wait around for anybody to read it. That's not an oversight, that's the schedule working exactly as designed."

— Sal



"Look, nobody's taking anything away from anybody, the rule is about cutting red tape for providers who are drowning in federal paperwork — that's it, that's the whole story. Sure, a family in the reporting used the priority and it worked, but one account isn't a trend line, and we can't run a 700,000-child program on anecdotes. Though — did I just call a kid's housing status an anecdote? That's not landing the way I wanted it to."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *NPR found Head Start lifts families out of homelessness; the rule deleting that priority takes comments through Tuesday.* By Ruth · the midnight edition, 4 October 2026

— *Head Start rule declares finding homeless children a federal burden, then moves to reduce it.* By Ruth · the early evening edition, 3 October 2026

— *Britain was still paying the slave-owner compensation debt eleven years ago; the King rules out paying anyone else.* By Sterling · the early bird edition, 3 October 2026

— *Washington Examiner reports the same Oct. 14 payment four times in seven days, each with a new countdown.* By Ruth · the matinee edition, 3 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

~~Head Start fight reaches tipping point as advocates push back against proposed Trump changes~~

Trump administration moves to limit Head Start access for 700,000 low-income children

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *17:00 EDT*

The Trump administration is moving ahead with big changes to Head Start, the federal early childhood education program that serves low-income families, to the outcry of advocates who say the proposals will limit access to the program, currently serving 700,000 students. Interested parties have until Tuesday to submit their thoughts to...

· Head Start got her out of homelessness. Trump proposal threatens that help for others *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

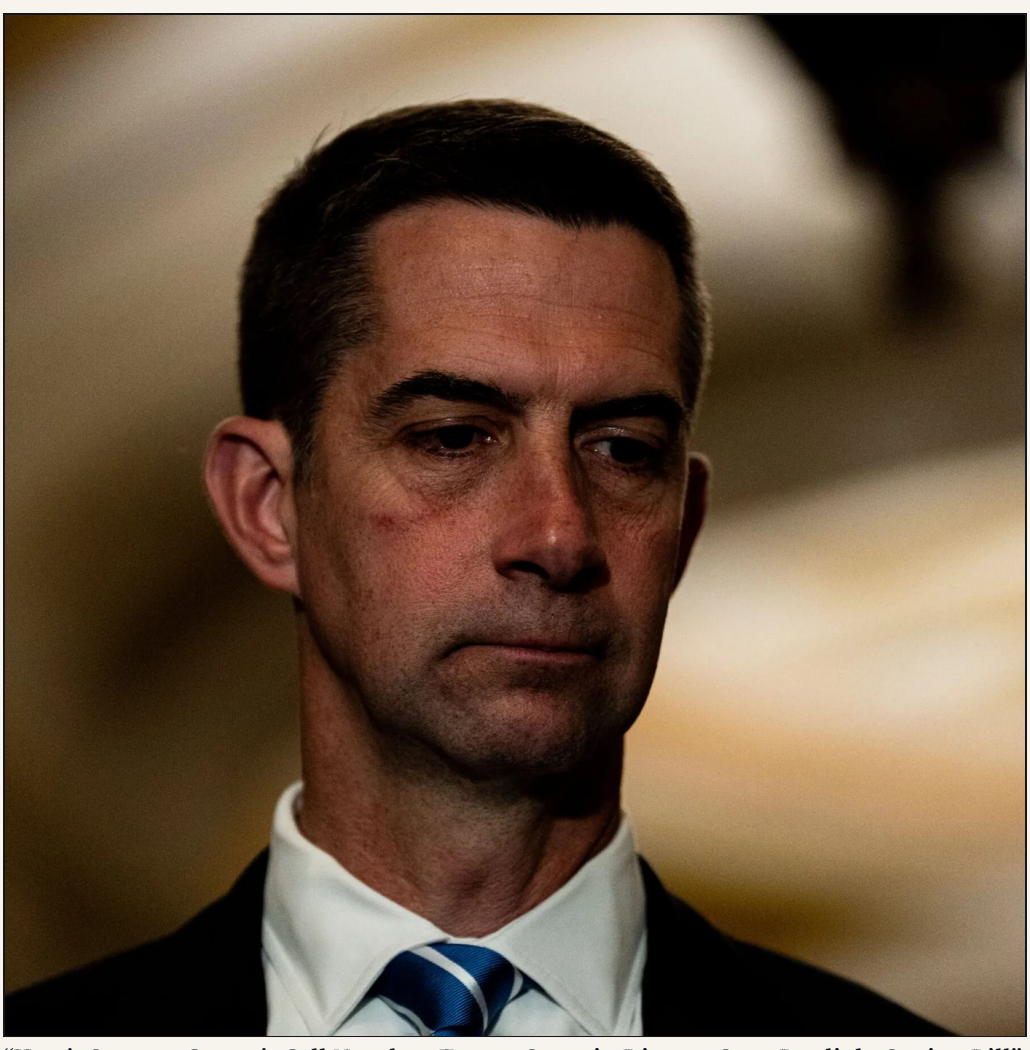
· Head Start Rule Changes Would Slash Enrollment of Homeless Children *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

· Democrats urge RFK Jr. to scrap proposed Head Start overhaul *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

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President couldn't flip a Republican senator's vote on daylight time, so he flipped his phone number public.

By SAL
STAFF WRITER



"Here's Senator Cotton's Cell Number, Trump Says, in Dispute Over Daylight Saving Bill", 4 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE NEW YORK TIMES — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. President Trump posted Senator Tom Cotton's personal cellphone number on Truth Social and urged the public to call him over a stalled clock bill.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. A colleague's ordinary legislative privacy slips when a president turns a stalled floor vote into a public call-in campaign aimed at one senator's personal phone.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the president's public pressure on a dissenting Republican turns into a primary threat next, that is what Kentucky got after October 2025: the president endorsed a challenger to Representative Thomas Massie, who lost the primary in May 2026.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

That friction between the party's own candidates and its own president is the backdrop for what the president would do to one of his own senators three weeks later.

Twenty days after that, Canada supplied the comparison. On September 29th, officials in the Northwest Territories announced that clocks there will not "fall back" in November, becoming the standard — less than a week after Manitoba officials said daylight saving time there would become permanent too. The Hill's own headline on it called the change what residents "asked us for." No senator's personal number went out to make that happen. No network had to run anyone's cellphone across a news desk. A government decided a policy and announced it, and the clocks changed....

...(cont) On Saturday, in Washington, the president posted the personal cellphone number of Senator Tom Cotton, a sitting Republican from Arkansas, on Truth Social and urged the public to call him, according to The New York Times. The number went out anyway, to a fellow Republican, in public, with an instruction attached: pressure him until it moves. What started as a stalled bill is now, on the record, a public tussle between two members of the same party, the kind of fight a party usually keeps off a senator's own cellphone.

Put the three beats in order and the asymmetry is the whole story. Canada changed its clocks with a press release. The United States has not changed its clocks at all. What moved instead was a phone number — out of a senator's pocket and into a crowd, because the normal mechanism, a vote, didn't go the president's way. The bill is still stalled. The number is not.

"This is the oldest move at the bar: you can't win the vote, so you turn the senator's own voters into the pressure campaign, cellphone and all, in public, with his name on it. Canada changed the same clocks with a press release last month — no premier had to publish anybody's personal number to get it done. When the president can't move one vote in his own party, he doesn't change the policy, he changes the target."

— Sal

"Look, the president is just making sure Senator Cotton hears from his constituents — that's outreach, that's democracy working as intended. That the outreach happens to route through a number that's reportedly his personal cell and not some office line, well — I didn't say "posted," I said "shared." There's a difference. There has to be a difference."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Flag etiquette is mandatory for a congressional nominee, optional for the President's own social media account.* By Lou · the early evening edition, 3 October 2026

— *President posts senator's cell number over clock bill same week his convention chair admits rallies dropped votes* By Sal · the early evening edition, 3 October 2026

— *President whose rallies dropped his own numbers broadcasts a senator's personal number instead.* By Sal · the early bird edition, 3 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Here's Senator Cotton's Cell Number, Trump Says, in Dispute Over Daylight Saving Bill

The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *21:59 EDT*

The president urged people to call Senator Tom Cotton of Arkansas and accused him of blocking a bill to cement daylight saving time.

· Permanent daylight saving time expands in Canada: 'Gives residents what they've asked us for' *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Trump's escalation of fight with Canada puts GOP Senate candidates in a vice *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

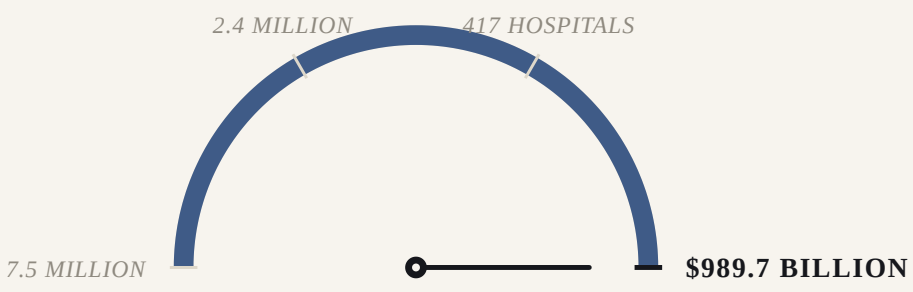
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§51 — 04 OCTOBER 2026

On the forgotten man

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



$989.7 BILLION

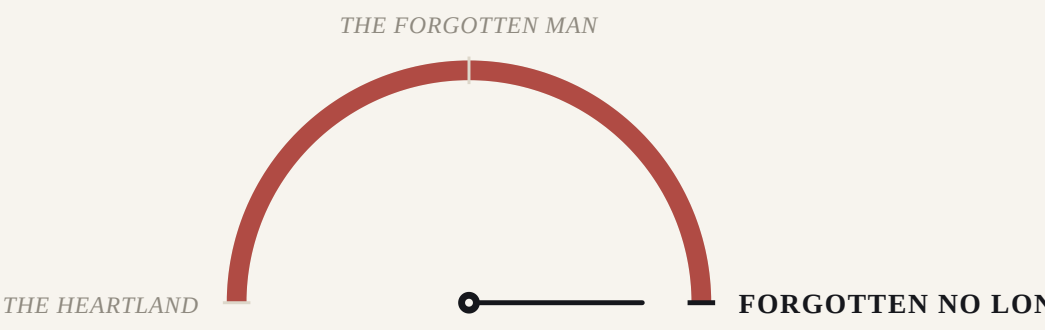
The rest of the paper. The Congressional Research Service, citing the Congressional Budget Office, puts the Medicaid provisions of the July 2025 law at $989.7 billion in reduced federal outlays from 2025 through 2034, with 7.5 million more people uninsured by 2034; the work requirement begins December 31, 2026 [1]. The same law's SNAP changes extend work requirements to adults 55 to 64 and to parents of teenagers, cut participation by 2.4 million people in an average month, and begin shifting benefit costs to states in fiscal 2028 [2].

And the hospitals the promise was about. The Chartis Center counts 417 rural hospitals vulnerable to closure, 206 that have closed or stopped inpatient care since 2010, and 41.2 percent operating at a loss [3]. Fifty billion over five years in, nine hundred eighty-nine billion over ten out. The forgotten were remembered at about a dollar for every twenty.

SOURCES

1. The Medicaid provisions "reduce federal outlays by $989.7 billion" over FY2025–2034 and increase the uninsured by 7.5 million in 2034; work requirements begin "beginning December 31, 2026, or sooner at state option" — Congressional Research Service, R48633, 18 August 2025 ↑
2. SNAP work requirements extended to ages 55–64 and parents of children 14–17; participation reduced by 2.4 million in an average month; state benefit cost-share beginning in FY2028 — Congressional Research Service, R48552, 15 August 2025 ↑
3. 417 rural hospitals vulnerable to closure; 206 closed or converted since 2010; 41.2 percent operating at a loss — The Chartis Group, 10 February 2026 ↑

REPUBLICAN



FORGOTTEN NO LONGER

The promise was the spine of the first inaugural, and it deserves its full weight: "The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer" [1]. It named people who had watched the factories and the hospitals leave, and it said the government would look at them first.

There is a receipt for it. In December the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services announced $50 billion in Rural Health Transformation awards for 2026 through 2030, reaching all 50 states, with first-year awards averaging $200 million — from about $147 million in New Jersey to about $281 million in Texas [2]. The agency's administrator called it "an extraordinary milestone for rural health" [2]. Money aimed by name at rural America is the promise, kept, on paper. The other side of the page is the rest of the paper.

SOURCES

1. "The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer" — inaugural address, 20 January 2017 — Trump White House archives ↑
2. $50 billion in Rural Health Transformation awards for 2026–2030 to all 50 states; first-year awards averaging $200 million, from $147,250,806 (New Jersey) to $281,319,361 (Texas); "an extraordinary milestone for rural health" — CMS, 29 December 2025 ↑

“I kept a copy of the inaugural address — I wasn't there, somebody sent it. "The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer." Then I've got this other paper, from the Congressional Research Service. Medicaid: nine hundred eighty-nine point seven billion dollars less over ten years, seven and a half million more people uninsured by 2034. And from the agency, fifty billion for rural health, five years, every state. I did the division in the car at a red light. It comes out about twenty to one. Sorry — I'm going — one more thing. Which of those two numbers is the one doing the remembering?” — Lou

“"Forgotten no longer." Here's how you remember somebody in Washington: fifty billion dollars for rural health over five years, with a press release, and nine hundred eighty-nine point seven billion out of Medicaid over ten, in the fine print. That's about twenty dollars out for every dollar in. Four hundred seventeen rural hospitals are on the vulnerable list. They remember.”

— Sal



“The fifty billion is a historic investment in rural America, and the nine hundred eighty-nine billion is savings, and savings are also an investment, one you make by not spending — so in a real sense rural America has received over a trillion dollars.”

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎