The Single-Column Edition

FROM § EACH

TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2026 — THE MORNING EDITION — FREE, FOREVER

Republicans demanded proof of life, then placed him in Ohio; his security camera placed him in Texas

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

Nobody in this building said Ohio. Hold onto that, because everything else I have today needs it.

The question we asked was reasonable, and the calendar supports us. On August 27th The Hill had James Talarico leading Ken Paxton in the Texas Senate race. On October 5th Representative Jasmine Crockett said she supports all Democrats — "yes, that includes James Talarico" — which is what a party says when its man is not where he is supposed to be. He was off the trail nine days, by the Times' count, with what his campaign called a bad case of the flu. So on October 8th our committee's spokesman asked his handlers to "stop the lies and release proof of life." That is a wellness inquiry. It is worded like a ransom note because we were worried.

Paxton that same morning posted photographs of missing-persons flyers with his opponent's face on them, flyers that had gone up outside Kyle Field, in Fort Worth, in Dallas. The president, the Examiner reported, fueled rumors about the absence. That is humor, and humor is allowed — though humor about a man with influenza only works if you believe the diagnosis, and

... Continued on Page A211

THE WORD

§59 — 12 OCTOBER 2026

On Columbus Day

DEMOCRAT

ELEVEN

REPUBLICAN

ARSONISTS

"Columbus Day. I pulled the proclamation and I pulled the founding, and I'd like somebody to help me line them up. The proclamation says we're reclaiming the legacy from "left-wing arsonists who have sought to destroy his name." Fine. The founding is 1892, Benjamin Harrison, and the reason is the year before: a mob took eleven Italian men out of the Orleans Parish Prison and killed them, none of them proven guilty, and the government paid twenty-five thousand dollars to the families. Sorry, one thing before you go. The holiday was invented to tell immigrants that this country would have them. So when we defend it now, which half are we defending — the explorer, or the apology?" — Lou

... Continued on Page W59

Agents the mayor says looked like 'mass shooters' prompt sweeping review of the NYPD's use of force

BY LOU
One More Question

They run a quick shop downtown, and I'd like that on the record before I start bothering anybody. Thursday night the statement was out the same evening — the street named, the child's condition in it, the rounds characterized. That is a careful operation. I have sat in rooms where it takes nine days to admit a pothole. A shop that fast doesn't usually leave a loose page lying around, which is why this one keeps me up. I had it written down. Hang on — this coat has two pockets and four holes, everything migrates. Here.

Thursday, the eighth, about four in the afternoon, Marble Hill. An ICE agent shot and wounded Oscar Belgal, twenty-eight, sitting in his car. His five-year-old was in the back seat. Early reports, the mayor said, had agents surrounding the car before firing multiple rounds. The child was physically unharmed. Belgal was hit in the neck and taken to a hospital.

Next beat comes from the police. The Hill reported on the ninth that the NYPD had first reported a shooting "involving federal law enforcement agents" at approximately four p.m. in Marble Hill, and that city police were not involved. So for about a day, the question of whose use of force this city

... Continued on Page T27

Altman said accept some "bad things." Sanders asked which ones. The IMF named one this week.

BY THE WRECKING CREW
The Remedy Desk

The chief put the clipping on the table face up and said: we build this one today, because somebody already made the hard part and left it in a drawer.

The mess, in order. On 3 September a senator and a House member filed the Ban Artificial Superintelligence Act — a permanent ban on developing or deploying any model that "exceeds human cognitive performance," with a temporary pause bolted on the front. On 25 September ten House members signed the companion, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Ro Khanna among them. On 2 October OpenAI fired three of its safety researchers — Jasmine Wang, Tomek Korbak, Mikita Balesni — for what the company called misconduct, reportedly sending confidential information to an AI safety group. Then the company's chief executive went on Politico's podcast, described a coming tidal wave of cybersecurity problems out of open-source models, and said the public would have to be willing to accept some unspecified bad things to get the benefits. On 6 October the senator asked him to name them: global financial crisis, mass extinction, which. And this week the International Monetary Fund, in a twice-yearly report it publishes whether

... Continued on Page F118

The billionaire tax a former Andreessen partner volunteered to pay would be voided by the measure Newsom endorsed.

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

Two measures on one California ballot, and the second exists to annul the first. That is the design. A retroactive tax is the only sort that reaches a fortune in hand, and Proposition 42 prohibits retroactive taxes. Prohibits. Proposition 40 asks the state's 200 billionaires for five percent of their net worth, once, for healthcare and education. Proposition 42 asks nobody for anything.

You are thinking the voters decide. They do. In August, groups funded by Sergey Brin and Peter Thiel opened an advertising blitz against 40; by 22 September, 45 percent of registered voters still backed it. Forty-five.

And the Governor? On Friday Gavin Newsom endorsed 42.

John O'Farrell, formerly of Andreessen Horowitz, took twelve posts on X to say he would be happy to pay. Tens of millions went the other way.

Two hundred fortunes keep the five percent ... and the five percent was for healthcare and education.

... Continued on Page F118

Trump threatens to fire the ambassador over a $100,000 wire whose source he still won't name.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

On October 8th, Eric Deters, a Kentucky lawyer, former congressional candidate, and donor to the Trump campaign, said on the record that Ambassador Kimberly Guilfoyle had asked him to pay off a $100,000 American Express bill. The exchange, by his account, ran the direction you'd least expect: the money bought him her help with the administration — access to officials — timed ahead of her own Senate confirmation hearing, not help clearing it. Secretary of State Marco Rubio was asked to answer for that twice that same day, once recorded by The Hill and once by The Guardian. He answered neither.

Four days passed. On October 12th the number still had not moved, but the temperature did. The New York Post reported Guilfoyle was "on very thin ice." The Washington Examiner and The Hill both reported that Trump and Rubio were weighing whether to fire her. The Senate's own majority whip called the allegations "very troubling" — a chamber that had already voted to confirm her now grading its own homework after the fact.

That same Monday, the file picked up its first quote from the man who

... Continued on Page F118

Washington backed the Saudi offensive nine days ago; the White House is now weighing whether to join it.

BY LOU
One More Question

You run a smart operation. I mean that, I'm not being cute about it. The statements come out clean, the dates in them match the dates on the calendar, somebody over there reads the page before it goes out the door. Which is why I keep bothering you about page nine. A sloppy shop leaves something sitting on page nine and nobody's surprised. A careful one does it and I'm standing here in the hallway with a notebook, not understanding.

I wrote it all down. Hang on, the book's got the registration in it, the car needs a fan belt and I keep the paperwork where I can reach it — here. September eighth. Your allies' own statement: the kingdom promises to retaliate against the Houthis, this after the group wounded at least seventy-three Saudi civilians, fires at the energy infrastructure. That's a promise they made about themselves. No American signature anywhere on it. Am I reading that right?

Then September sixteenth, The Hill, and the word they used was hands-off: the President "reportedly rebuffed a request from Saudi Arabia to launch strikes." So on the sixteenth somebody asked, and the answer that came back

... Continued on Page T27

Trump's Russian diesel deal ruled too small, too late for the midterms, by his own party's newspaper.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The file opens September 14th, when the president posted that Russia and Ukraine had agreed to leave each other's energy grids alone. Russia's defense ministry answered October 4th: keep hitting refineries and Russian forces would hit Ukrainian military and industrial sites in return. Five days after that, the president lifted sanctions on Russian diesel and bought it.

Friday the 9th, he posted the invoice in three lines: 300,000 tons of Russian diesel "immediately," 500,000 more in November, a million tons after that. No unit of relief was attached to a price at any American pump; the post supplied tonnage, not a timetable for the number drivers actually watch.

Saturday the 10th, the accounting turned personal. The president told reporters outside the White House that Ukraine's leader "could have settled this war many times" and "chose not to," and added, "I suggest they get a new leader." Monday the 12th, in Warsaw, Zelenskyy answered a room of European security officials: he said he learned of the "energy ceasefire" the way everyone else did, from a social media post, and had not signed off on it. He said that if Russian strikes on Ukraine's power grid continue through the

... Continued on Page F118

Trump denies involvement in a raid his own attorney general says he knew about, then leads deport chants.

BY MITCH
Investigations

Last week's file never closed: the co-pilot Oman Air flagged as a security risk in 2024 was in the cockpit over 174 Flydubai passengers on September 30th when, per the UAE's attorney general, he turned the crash axe on the captain. The airline that cleared him faces no fine; the only federal action on record is a plumbing job, wage and start date unstated, offered to the passenger who helped stop him, dated two days before investigators said where the plane was headed. This week's file is different paper, same cabinet.

Three weeks of paper came before Monday's door.

September 10th: a raid on the Minneapolis home Omar's son shares with a felon roommate turns up firearms; Fox News shows her declining to discuss it. September 15th: Representative James Comer asks the administration to release its evidence that Omar married her own brother for immigration purposes, so Congress can vote her out. September 22nd: those rumors return to the wires after Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin's comments give them federal weight.

Monday, the agents arrived at her own door in Washington. The case, CBS

... Continued on Page A211

"Nothing up there is a conspiracy. That's the part that should worry you — it's all on the record, filed, stamped, and in a couple of cases notarized."

— *Sal*

"Nothing here is a scandal. A scandal requires surprise, and I can assure you nobody involved was surprised."

— *Chip*

The hens, a man counts in spring. The fox counted in winter.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

Agents the mayor says looked like 'mass shooters' prompt sweeping review of the NYPD's use of force

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION



"ICE agent shoots man in New York City with five-year-old reportedly in car", 9 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE GUARDIAN — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

They run a quick shop downtown, and I'd like that on the record before I start bothering anybody. Thursday night the statement was out the same evening — the street named, the child's condition in it, the rounds characterized. That is a careful operation. I have sat in rooms where it takes nine days to admit a pothole. A shop that fast doesn't usually leave a loose page lying around, which is why this one keeps me up. I had it written down. Hang on — this coat has two pockets and four holes, everything migrates. Here.

Thursday, the eighth, about four in the afternoon, Marble Hill. An ICE agent shot and wounded Oscar Belgal, twenty-eight, sitting in his car. His five-year-old was in the back seat. Early reports, the mayor said, had agents surrounding the car before firing multiple rounds. The child was physically unharmed. Belgal was hit in the neck and taken to a hospital....

...(cont) Next beat comes from the police. The Hill reported on the ninth that the NYPD had first reported a shooting "involving federal law enforcement agents" at approximately four p.m. in Marble Hill, and that city police were not involved. So for about a day, the question of whose use of force this city was discussing had an answer sitting inside it.

Then the street answered too. The wire headlined the protests "Abolish ICE" — hundreds at the hospital, a Democratic congressional candidate among them. Then Sunday, his first interview since the shooting, MS NOW, Jacob Soboroff: the agents looked like "mass shooters," he said, and he called for an end to the agency's operations in his city. A rogue agency, he called it elsewhere that week, whose agents treat the law as merely a suggestion.

Then the order came down, and this is the page I can't file. What he ordered reviewed was the New York Police Department's use-of-force policy. The coverage called the review sweeping. Fox also reported that it stopped short of key promises he campaigned on in the spring. The Washington Post carried it, the Examiner carried it. And the New York Post reported his own allies pressing him to fire the police commissioner.

Now, the garage. My car has been up on ramps since August waiting on a fan belt, which has made the garage floor a museum since August. Saturday I swept it. Forty minutes, the big push broom, corner to corner, and when I was done you could eat off that concrete. Anyone can walk in and check the floor, and the floor will back me up. What they would also find, down on one knee, is the two feet of concrete behind the workbench, where the broom head doesn't fit and a drop cloth has been sitting since spring. I swept the garage. The broom went where the broom goes.

So here is what the notebook has. Two use-of-force questions came out of Marble Hill, and one review came out of City Hall. The agency whose agent fired is outside the review, and what it got instead was a request to end its operations in the city. The department that reported it was not involved is inside the review, and its commissioner is who the mayor's allies want fired, per the New York Post. One of those two is getting its policy read line by line this month. I keep writing the wrong one down and crossing it out.

Oh — excuse me, before you get in the elevator. It's one word, and then I'm out of your hair. Thursday night's statement used it about the shooting in Marble Hill. Monday's order covers the other department. So: which department's use-of-force policy is under review, and which department's use of force was that word for? I wrote it down because I didn't trust myself with it. Here it is. Unconscionable.

"A masked federal agent fires multiple rounds into a car with a five-year-old in the back seat, the kid's father ends up in a hospital with a neck wound, and the paperwork that comes out of City Hall is a review of the department that reported it wasn't even on the scene. That's the oldest move in city government: when you can't touch the guy who did it, audit the guy you can. The agents who fired are still working these streets, and the only policy getting rewritten belongs to somebody else."

— Sal

"Look, the mayor has no authority over a federal agency, so he reviewed what he has authority over — that's not a dodge, that's structure, that's how the system is built. Did I say "dodge"? I didn't say dodge, you said dodge. And calling federal officers "mass shooters" while quietly declining the use-of-force changes he promised in the spring — that's balance, that's a mayor governing, I don't know why that's confusing to people."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Mamdani orders sweeping review of the one agency that didn't open fire* By Lou · the evening edition, 12 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

But: **Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department** *NBC News, May 2026*

"Abolish ICE": Protests Erupt in NYC After ICE Agents Shoot Father with 5-Year-Old Son in Car

Democracy Now! § *08:16 EDT*

Protests have erupted in New York City after a federal immigration agent shot and wounded a man in the Bronx on Thursday afternoon. As masked agents reportedly posing as construction workers attempted to arrest 28-year-old Oscar Belgal, they opened fire on his car. Belgal was shot in the neck.

But: **Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department** *NBC News, May 2026*

ICE agent shoots man in New York City with five-year-old reportedly in car

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *21:50 EDT*

Police say man taken to hospital and mayor says child physically unharmed as he demands Trump stop ICE enforcement in city A US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent shot and wounded a man in New York City on Thursday afternoon during an enforcement operation, federal officials said. The man was conscious and hospitalized...

Mamdani says ICE agents who shot man in New York looked like 'mass shooters'

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *11:03 EDT*

Mayor calls for end to agency's operations in city after agents shot and wounded man with five-year-old in car The New York mayor, Zohran Mamdani , on Sunday compared US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)'s recent shooting of a man in the Manhattan enclave of Marble Hill to a mass shooting scene – and called for an end to the...

· Man shot by ICE in New York City *from the morgue, 9 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.

Altman said accept some "bad things." Sanders asked which ones. The IMF named one this week.

By THE WRECKING CREW
THE REMEDY DESK

"Sanders calls for artificial superintelligence ban after OpenAI CEO interview", 13 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. OpenAI's chief executive said the public should accept some bad things from the technology his company is building.

WHO GETS PAID. OpenAI and the AI companies whose valuations the IMF calls sky-high.

WHAT SLIPS. Three safety researchers who raised alarms were fired, and the Senate has not voted on the ban bill, so the company decides what counts as acceptable.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the bill stays in committee, the building continues while the vote waits; the Senate voted 66 to 30 to repeal the Iraq war authorizations on 29 March 2023, and the repeal became law 33 months later.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The chief put the clipping on the table face up and said: we build this one today, because somebody already made the hard part and left it in a drawer.

The mess, in order. On 3 September a senator and a House member filed the Ban Artificial Superintelligence Act — a permanent ban on developing or deploying any model that "exceeds human cognitive performance," with a temporary pause bolted on the front. On 25 September ten House members signed the companion, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Ro Khanna among them. On 2 October OpenAI fired three of its safety researchers — Jasmine Wang, Tomek Korbak, Mikita Balesni — for what the company called misconduct, reportedly sending confidential information to an AI safety group. Then the company's chief executive went on Politico's podcast, described a coming tidal wave of cybersecurity problems out of open-source models, and said the public would have to be willing to accept some unspecified bad things to get the benefits. On 6 October the senator asked him to name them: global financial crisis, mass extinction, which. And this week the International Monetary Fund, in a twice-yearly report it publishes whether or not anyone asks, wrote down the first answer — sky-high AI valuations and the sector's growing debt pile are a reason system risks are "elevated," and a share crash there ripples out across global markets....

...(cont) The planner loves this part. You rarely get the witness, the referee and the bill in the same week.

So the tinkerer lays out parts. One: the bill's definition clause, which does the thing everyone calls impossible — it says in plain words what is prohibited. Two: the temporary pause, the part that buys time. Three: the IMF report, which supplies a finding with an institution's name on it that this is financial stability, not a mood. Four: Geoffrey Hinton, who helped lay the foundations and said this week that the claim this industry can regulate itself does not survive contact. Five: the three firings, which are the load-bearing evidence — the internal check existed, it was removed, and the removal is on the record.

The muscle takes out the self-regulation story first, because nothing bolts to it. Then the pilot, who only needs the address: the bill has a Senate number and ten House co-sponsors, and the call has come three times since 3 September. The floor vote has not come once. That is the last part, and it is the one part a crew cannot machine itself.

It's built. It's on the table, face up, next to the clipping.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

OpenAI fired three of its safety researchers on 2 October, and its chief executive then told a podcast that the public should be willing to accept some unspecified bad things from what the company is building. That is not a risk disclosure, it is an invoice — the company keeps the valuation and the bad things get delivered to the rest of the address list. The IMF says those valuations and the debt underneath them now put world financial stability at risk, and world financial stability is the funds your retirement money is parked in, so the bad thing you were asked to accept shows up as one sheet of paper on your kitchen table, the quarterly statement with your name printed at the top and a smaller number than last quarter's.

"They fired the three people whose entire job was to walk in and say "this one's bad," and then the chief executive went on a podcast and told the rest of us to accept bad things. That's the con — the upside stays private and the bad things get socialized, and this week the IMF named where they land: world financial stability. The bill to stop it has been sitting in a Senate drawer since 3 September, co-sponsors and all, waiting on a floor vote nobody will schedule."

— Sal

"Those researchers were terminated over confidential information, that's a personnel matter, it has nothing to do with safety — did I say that? That doesn't sound like me. And the IMF warns about everything, they warn about government borrowing in the same report, no one's moving to ban Treasury bonds. A permanent ban on a technology you can't even define — fine, the bill defines it, but you can't just legislate the definition of — look, I'm not going to be lectured about valuations."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Washington backed the Saudi offensive nine days ago; the White House is now weighing whether to join it.* By Lou · the evening edition, 13 October 2026
- *White House weighs joining a war Delta already decided was too dangerous to fly into.* By Lou · the evening edition, 12 October 2026
- *U.S. backs Saudi offensive in writing Oct. 4, now weighs joining the war it already backed.* By Lou · the morning edition, 12 October 2026
- *U.S. backs Saudi war before airport deaths, which arrive afterward exactly as scheduled* By Mort · the evening edition, 11 October 2026
- *Trump said Houthis agreed not to fight the US, weighs joining the war after they killed an American.* By Lou · the morning edition, 11 October 2026
- *The paperwork beat the news twice this week: Washington's backing for the Saudi offensive is dated before the three deaths at Riyadh's airports, and OpenAI's pledge to spend less on the midterms is dated after it fired the researchers who flagged its risks.* By Lou · the evening edition, 11 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

~~Sanders calls for artificial superintelligence ban after OpenAI CEO interview~~

OpenAI's own CEO warns his technology brings a 'tidal wave' of cybersecurity problems

The Hill MAINSTREAM 22:34 EDT

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) on Monday called for permanently banning artificial superintelligence in response to recent remarks made by OpenAI CEO Sam Altman. Altman told Politico's "Decoded" podcast in an interview last week that society will face a "coming tidal wave of cybersecurity problems" coming from open-source AI models.

Iran calls U.S. response "insufficient" amid stalled talks to end the war

CBS News MAINSTREAM 15:07 EDT

After Saudi Arabia said Iran's Houthi allies carried out another strike at Riyadh's airport, Iran called the U.S. effort to negotiate toward ending the war "insufficient."

Bores on OpenAI's spending retreat: I'll believe it when I see it

Politico MAINSTREAM 20:30 EDT

AI safety advocates want stronger commitments to reduce the money AI super PACs push into the midterms.

Threat of AI share crash puts world financial stability at risk, says IMF

The Guardian MAINSTREAM 23:15 EDT

High valuations and debt put sector in danger, while fund also warns on government borrowing and cyber-attacks IMF warns global economy 'could soon test the limits of resilience' The threat of an AI share price crash rippling out across global markets is putting world financial stability at risk, the International Monetary fund has...

~~AI godfather Geoffrey Hinton: 'We're creating alien beings. I'm willing to be selfish and choose humans'~~

Geoffrey Hinton: Trump's 'superintelligence' obsession proves he doesn't understand AI

The Guardian MAINSTREAM 05:00 EDT

Pioneering computer scientist on why Trump is using 'superintelligence' wrong, whether AI could wipe out humanity – and how our biggest challenge will be accepting we're not the only intelligent beings Donald Trump is a "corrupt, senile felon" whose fixation on the term superintelligence proves he knows nothing about AI , said Geoffrey...

· Bernie Sanders introduces bill to ban artificial superintelligence *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· Sanders, Casar call for artificial superintelligence ban amid rogue AI hackings *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· Ten Democrats, including AOC, back AI superintelligence ban *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*

· 'Global Financial Crisis? Mass Extinction?' Sanders Asks Altman What 'Bad Things' World Should Accept for AI *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· OpenAI fires researchers for sharing data with AI safety advocacy group: Report *from the morgue, 2 Oct 2026*

· Saudi Arabia promises response to Houthi attacks *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Is Yemen Heading Back to All-Out War? Saudis Launch Strikes as Houthis Take Control of Red Sea Coast *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· US Backs Major Saudi-Led Offensive as Yemen Slides Back Toward All-Out War *from the morgue, 4 Oct 2026*

· F Lead Iran must stop arming Yemen's Houthi forces, say the G7 *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Blasts Rattle Riyadh as Saudi Arabia Hit by Deadliest Houthi Attacks So Far *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*

· Saudi Arabia sees disruptions at Riyadh airport amid ballistic missile attacks from Houthis *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*

· Houthis claim they struck Riyadh's main airport in Saudi Arabia *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*

· The Royal Saudi Air Defense intercepts a ballistic missile fired from Yemen over the Saudi capital Riyadh that caused panic among residents. Houthis say they fired several Burkan-2 missiles at targets *from the morgue, 11 Apr 2018*

· The Houthis say that they have struck Saudi Arabia's Abha International Airport and King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah with drones. A Houthi spokesman said on Twitter that the attacks halt *from the morgue, 15 Feb 2021*

· Houthis tried to hit Saudi capital with ballistic missile, Riyadh confirms *from the morgue, 20 Sep 2026*

· Riyadh airport explosion prompts Saudi Arabia to issue air raid alerts as Houthi fighting escalates *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

· Markey Urges Congress to Block Trump-Saudi Deal, a 'Starting Gun for a Middle East Nuclear Arms Race' *from the morgue, 26 Aug 2026*

· Trump admin's list of US-designated 'foreign terrorist' groups in Latin America expands to 21 *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Top Trump official reveals how 30-minute military op unlocked Venezuela oil windfall for US buyers *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Ex-Venezuelan first lady Cilia Flores seeks release from NYC jail, citing heart ailment *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· New York City protest once again demands release of Maduro and Flores *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Trump Official Denies Stealing Venezuela's Oil One Hour After Boasting Country is 'Forced to Work' With US *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· 'Mobster Language': Trump Says Venezuelan Oil Will Replenish US Reserves *from the morgue, 30 Aug 2026*

· 'Yet Another Trump Grift': Congress Called to Stop US Takeover of Venezuelan Oil Fields *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· The Biggest Oil Deal or Theft at Gunpoint? U.S. Claims Majority Control of Venezuela's Oil Reserves *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Tehran threatens attacks after U.S. strikes Iranian tankers *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· US forces take out 3 Iranian oil tankers in retaliation *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Oil prices up as Iran says it will expand control over Strait of Hormuz *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Iran live updates: Trump speaks to MBS, says everything will 'work out fine' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

· Iran threatens retaliation against U.S. tanker strikes *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· U.S. gas prices hit record high for Labor Day *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Ship tracking websites, including Kpler, MarineTraffic, and TankerTrackers, show that three Iranian oil tankers, including two from the National Iranian Tanker Company, have escaped the blockade that *from the morgue, 17 Jun 2026*

· Iranian state media reports that the United States Navy attempted to capture an Iranian oil tanker. The oil tanker was boarded, commandeered and then returned by Iranian NEDSA marines in a helicopter *from the morgue, 3 Nov 2021*

· US strikes Iranian rocket launchers in first attack since late July *from the morgue, 30 Aug 2026*

· An Iranian Navy commander claims on state television that the Iranian Navy forced a U.S. submarine to surface as it transited the Strait of Hormuz and that the submarine violated Iranian territorial w *from the morgue, 20 Apr 2023*

· Trump Threatens to Rename Strait of Hormuz for Himself as War Pushes Diesel Prices Toward Record High *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump floats renaming Strait of Hormuz after himself *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· U.S. strikes targets in Iran near Strait of Hormuz as Iran says it is retaliating *from the morgue, 1 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*

· '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*

· Price of diesel in U.S. hits record as Vance downplays Iran war impact *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Diesel prices hit record high as wars disrupt supply *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Trump vows response to Iran's retaliatory strikes: 'We're going to hit them hard' *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

· Trump threatens Iran against retaliation for latest U.S. strikes *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Live updates: US, Iran ramp up strikes; incumbents hold on in Massachusetts *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump calls Iran conflict "small potatoes" *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Labor Day gas prices are highest ever for holiday *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· How 'Hypermilers' Are Trying to Beat High Gas Prices *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Fuel prices at record Labor Day high in US thanks to Iran War and refinery issues *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Oil Prices Rise Slightly After U.S. and Iran Trade Strikes *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· USS Lincoln heads home as war with Iran escalates *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Lawler disagrees with Trump on Iran war: 'It is certainly not small potatoes' *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· OPEC Plus to Keep Oil Production Steady *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Has Cost the Average American More Than $1,200 Over Six Months, Economist Estimates *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Trump says military conflict in Iran is 'small potatoes for us' *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Wright: US has 'a lot of leverage' in Venezuela after oil deal reached *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· White House unveils new details of Venezuela agreement *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Chris Wright explains how Venezuelan crude will 'fill' the Strategic Petroleum Reserve *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Energy Secretary Wright says Venezuela oil deal will bring down gas prices in a year or two *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Chevron to expand in Venezuela, days after the U.S. and Venezuela strike oil deal *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Venezuelan oil flows will lower gas prices in 12-24 months, Wright says in Caracas *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump says Venezuelan oil will replenish Strategic Petroleum Reserves *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

· US, Russia explore gas sale to Europe amid Ukraine war: Report *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*

· Countries across Europe report reductions in gas supplies after Russia disconnected supplies to Ukraine yesterday. Russia accuses Ukraine of stealing cubic metres of gas yesterday from pipelines trans *from the morgue, 2 Jan 2006*

· AI safety group outlines demands for legislation, warns lawmakers *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· AI-generated child sexual abuse images cause real-life harm *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· Courts just allowed AI child sex abuse material because it's 'virtual.' Who do you think it's trained on? *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*

· 'We Cannot Wait for Disaster to Strike': Beyer Leads Bipartisan Push in House to Urgently Regulate AI *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· MPs demand tech firms block nude images on children's smartphones *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· AI safety advocacy group sues OpenAI over Hugging Face incident *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· OpenAI scraps release of new 'Astra' model over safety concerns *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Alarming California map shows exactly where wildfires are tearing across the state — as sweltering heat wave hits *from the morgue, 5 Oct 2026*

· California Democrats kill bill to hold wildfire-starting utility companies accountable *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· LA sues State Farm over allegations of unfair claims process after 2025 wildfires *from the morgue, 1 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 billionaire tax a former Andreessen partner volunteered to pay would be voided by the measure Newsom endorsed.

By STERLING
THE OWNERSHIP DESK



"Newsom backs California ballot measure that cancels out billionaire tax proposal", 13 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Governor Gavin Newsom endorsed a ballot measure that would cancel California's proposed billionaire tax.

WHO GETS PAID. California billionaires, including the Brin- and Thiel-funded groups paying for ads against the tax.

WHAT SLIPS. Voters could approve the tax and still lose it, because the second measure undoes their vote.

WHAT'S NEXT. If both pass, the tax dies the moment it is approved; that is what Denton, Texas got after voters banned fracking in November 2014 — a state law 195 days later barring the city from regulating drilling.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Two measures on one California ballot, and the second exists to annul the first. That is the design. A retroactive tax is the only sort that reaches a fortune in hand, and Proposition 42 prohibits retroactive taxes. Prohibits. Proposition 40 asks the state's 200 billionaires for five percent of their net worth, once, for healthcare and education. Proposition 42 asks nobody for anything.

You are thinking the voters decide. They do. In August, groups funded by Sergey Brin and Peter Thiel opened an advertising blitz against 40; by 22 September, 45 percent of registered voters still backed it. Forty-five....

...(cont) And the Governor? On Friday Gavin Newsom endorsed 42.

John O'Farrell, formerly of Andreessen Horowitz, took twelve posts on X to say he would be happy to pay. Tens of millions went the other way.

Two hundred fortunes keep the five percent ... and the five percent was for healthcare and education.

Spring now. In the yard the
fox sits. A man feeds the fox.

— ENOCH
The Ownership Desk

"They keep telling you there's no money for clinics or classrooms, and here's five percent of 200 fortunes, one time, sitting right there on the ballot — and beside it, a second measure whose only job is to make the first one disappear. Brin and Thiel money bought the ad blitz; the governor signed on Friday. When a guy who'd have to pay it says he's happy to pay it and your own governor still backs the eraser, that tells you who he's answering, and the bill lands on your kid's school."

— Sal

"Retroactive taxes — nobody supports retroactive taxes, that's not about billionaires, that's basic fairness, that's rule of law. Did I say billionaires? I don't think I said billionaires. And the polling is the polling; 45 percent is the voters speaking for themselves, we just helped them hear about it, which, last I checked, is called informing the public."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

~~Newsom backs California ballot measure that cancels out billionaire tax proposal~~

Newsom backs ballot measure that lets California's billionaires skip the one-time tax.

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *23:00 EDT*

California Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) endorsed a ballot measure that, if approved by voters, would cancel out the ballot measure proposal that would impose a one-time tax on the Golden State's billionaires. On Friday, Newsom endorsed Proposition 42, which would prohibit retroactive taxes imposed by Proposition 40, known as the Billionaire Tax...

· Fewer than half of California voters back billionaire tax: Poll *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Billionaire-Backed Groups Launch Ad Blitz Against California Wealth Tax *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· Bernie Sanders Going Back to California to Rally for Billionaire Tax Ballot Measure *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· 'I Know Where I Want to Live': Ex-Venture Capitalist Explains Why He'd Be Happy to Pay California Billionaire Tax *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

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THE WIRE TRANSFER

Trump threatens to fire the ambassador over a $100,000 wire whose source he still won't name.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK



"Trump says Kimberly Guilfoyle could be fired as Greece envoy after alleged misconduct", 13 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA BBC NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Trump said Monday he is "looking at" firing Ambassador Guilfoyle over a donor's $100,000 credit-card allegation.

WHO GETS PAID. The donor, Eric Deters, who says the payment bought him access to administration officials.

WHAT SLIPS. The Senate already confirmed her, and now no one in the administration will confirm who authorized the $100,000.

WHAT'S NEXT. No hearing or deadline is yet set to force an answer; the only date on record is Monday, when Trump said he was still deciding.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

On October 8th, Eric Deters, a Kentucky lawyer, former congressional candidate, and donor to the Trump campaign, said on the record that Ambassador Kimberly Guilfoyle had asked him to pay off a $100,000 American Express bill. The exchange, by his account, ran the direction you'd least expect: the money bought him her help with the administration — access to officials — timed ahead of her own Senate confirmation hearing, not help clearing it. Secretary of State Marco Rubio was asked to answer for that twice that same day, once recorded by The Hill and once by The Guardian. He answered neither.

Four days passed. On October 12th the number still had not moved, but the temperature did. The New York Post reported Guilfoyle was "on very thin ice." The Washington Examiner and The Hill both reported that Trump and Rubio were weighing whether to fire her. The Senate's own majority whip called the allegations "very troubling" — a chamber that had already voted to confirm her now grading its own homework after the fact....

...(cont) That same Monday, the file picked up its first quote from the man who could end it. CBS News reported that Trump, asked directly, said he was "looking at" firing Guilfoyle and added, "we're not happy." Two outlets today repeat that quote — the New York Times and the BBC — a day after CBS carried it first.

Here is what reconciles and what does not. The sum is fixed: $100,000. The instrument is named: an American Express card. The alleged purpose is named: access to the administration, ahead of a confirmation hearing. What is missing from every column in this ledger is the one line an auditor asks for first — the source of funds. Not the donor who says he sent it. The person inside the building who was supposed to say yes or no when he did.

Trump is willing to say he's unhappy. He is willing to say he's looking at a personnel decision. He is not willing, and neither is his own secretary of state, to say who signed off on a $100,000 wire to a sitting ambassador's personal credit card. That is not a gap in the reporting, hon. That is a gap in the filing, and gaps that size, in this administration, tend to turn up in the column marked "no one available for comment."

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

A donor says he wired $100,000 to pay off Ambassador Guilfoyle's American Express bill for her help inside the administration, timed to her Senate confirmation hearing, and the President now says he's "looking at" firing her without naming who approved the wire. That isn't a personnel review, it's a non-disclosure agreement paid for in press conferences — you keep the title as long as nobody makes the money say its own name out loud. The State Department answers to Congress until it doesn't want to, so it stops answering to anyone but the President instead, which means the only penalty on the table is "we're not happy" — read the overdue notice with your own name on it and you don't get "looking at it," you get the account closed.

"They don't fire her for the hundred grand, they fire her for making them say the number out loud in front of cameras. Watch the verbs — "looking at," "not happy" — that's the language of a guy stalling until the news cycle moves, not a guy running an investigation. The question was never whether she did it, it's who at State signed off on it, and that's the one sentence nobody in that building will say."

— Sal

"Look, the Ambassador has been incredibly effective for this administration, and these are unverified claims from a single donor with his own — wait, "on the record" isn't unverified, is it. The President is handling this appropriately, he's reviewing it personnel-style, through the proper — no, there is no proper channel for a credit card bill, I'm aware of that. This is clearly a distraction from the real work of diplomacy, which, fine, I'll just leave it there."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Rubio now weighs firing the ambassador he still won't say took the $100,000.* By Ruth · the afternoon edition, 12 October 2026
- *Ambassador accused of demanding $100,000 payoff gets 'very troubling' from the one Republican who'll say anything.* By Ruth · the morning edition, 12 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Trump says he's "looking at" firing Kimberly Guilfoyle: "We're not happy"

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *18:27 EDT*

President Trump said Monday he was "looking at" firing Kimberly Guilfoyle as U.S. ambassador to Greece after an associate of Guilfoyle's alleged she asked him to wire $100,000 to pay her American Express bill in exchange for her help with the Trump administration ahead of her Senate confirmation hearing. CBS News political director Fin...

~~Trump says Kimberly Guilfoyle could be fired as Greece envoy after alleged misconduct~~

Trump gave his son's ex-fiancée an embassy. Misconduct claims may end it.

BBC News MAINSTREAM § *20:10 EDT*

"We're not happy," says the president about his son's ex-fiancée following reports of improper behaviour.

~~Trump Says He Is 'Looking at' Firing Kimberly Guilfoyle~~

Ambassador accused of asking a donor to pay her credit card; Trump's just 'looking at' firing her.

The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *00:33 EDT*

President Trump made the remark in response to a question about the U.S. ambassador to Greece, who faces accusations that she asked a G.O.P. donor to pay off her credit card.

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.

Washington backed the Saudi offensive nine days ago; the White House is now weighing whether to join it.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

■ THE SHORT VERSION

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The White House is weighing whether to join a Saudi offensive it already committed on paper to back.

WHO GETS PAID. Saudi Arabia's government, which asked for American strikes and now wants U.S. forces in the fight.

WHAT SLIPS. The choice to enter a war was put on paper before the public saw a debate about it.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the paper commitment becomes strikes, the war outlasts the objection to it: Congress voted to end U.S. support for the war in Yemen on 2 May 2019, the veto held, and the support ran 21 more months.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

You run a smart operation. I mean that, I'm not being cute about it. The statements come out clean, the dates in them match the dates on the calendar, somebody over there reads the page before it goes out the door. Which is why I keep bothering you about page nine. A sloppy shop leaves something sitting on page nine and nobody's surprised. A careful one does it and I'm standing here in the hallway with a notebook, not understanding.

I wrote it all down. Hang on, the book's got the registration in it, the car needs a fan belt and I keep the paperwork where I can reach it — here. September eighth. Your allies' own statement: the kingdom promises to retaliate against the Houthis, this after the group wounded at least seventy-three Saudi civilians, fires at the energy infrastructure. That's a promise they made about themselves. No American signature anywhere on it. Am I reading that right?...

...(cont) Then September sixteenth, The Hill, and the word they used was hands-off: the President "reportedly rebuffed a request from Saudi Arabia to launch strikes." So on the sixteenth somebody asked, and the answer that came back was no?

Then October fourth. "US Backs Major Saudi-Led Offensive as Yemen Slides Back Toward All-Out War." Nine days ago, that one. Sorry to park on it, but it's the page I keep turning back to, so let me ask the simple thing: on the fourth, how many people had died at Riyadh's airport?

Because the seventh is when the Houthis claim new attacks on Saudi airports and military bases. The eighth, disruptions at Riyadh airport, ballistic missiles coming in. The ninth, three Saudis killed. The twelfth, fresh missiles and drones after the airport attacks, and by then a week of strikes had killed Americans alongside Saudis. And today the airport is still closed, the barrage hit the main terminal, massive damage, at least thirteen dead over the weekend, and the Saudi government vows to retaliate and wants the United States in it. The Houthis say the response will be "painful" if we come. And the White House is weighing.

So that's my trouble. The backing is dated the fourth. The weighing is dated today. Which of the two is the current position?

Now here's the thing a shop this careful would normally catch, and it isn't in a cable, it's in a timetable. Delta announced Atlanta to Riyadh, launched the route into that market, and then put out their own word for what became of it: postponed. Same airport. Same sky. And in this whole business, who is it that loses actual money for reading that sky wrong? What did the people in Atlanta have in front of them that the position filed on the fourth did not?

Across the street from my place a limb came down over the fellow's garage. I told him I'd hold the ladder. Said it standing in the driveway with the dog leaning on my leg, said it before I'd looked up at the limb once. Then the tree outfit came, the ones who do this for money and carry insurance on it, and they looked at the same limb, wrote something on a carbon sheet, and took the truck home, and the appointment is off the books until further notice. So now I'm the only one in that yard still standing on something I said before anybody looked up. When the professional reads the tree and drives away, does my promise get read again, or does it just sit there being nine days old?

Oh — I'm sorry, one thing, you're walking, I'll be quick. Two papers. One is the backing, dated the fourth. One is a schedule out of Atlanta. Both of them describe the same airport. Since the fourth, which one has been changed by the people who wrote it? And the one that got changed — it's got a word on it. Their word, not mine. I wrote it down. Here: postponed.

🍺

"They said yes to the Saudis on October 4th, in writing, before a single American was dead at that airport — and now they stand there "weighing" it like the paper doesn't exist. Delta read the same airport and yanked its own planes out of the market, because an airline that guesses wrong loses money; we guess wrong and we bury people. The Houthis just told us in plain language what joining costs, and that commitment got filed before anybody asked us a thing."

— Sal

🚬

"The October position was support, not participation, and there's a difference — a real difference, why are you looking at me like that. Did I say support? I said options remain open, which is exactly what the President did in September when he declined the request, so clearly nothing's been promised to anybody. And the Delta thing is a commercial decision, completely separate, carriers postpone routes for a dozen ordinary reasons — I'm sorry, what was the question?"

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *White House weighs joining a war Delta already decided was too dangerous to fly into.* By Lou · the evening edition, 12 October 2026
- *U.S. backs Saudi offensive in writing Oct. 4, now weighs joining the war it already backed.* By Lou · the morning edition, 12 October 2026
- *U.S. backs Saudi war before airport deaths, which arrive afterward exactly as scheduled* By Mort · the evening edition, 11 October 2026
- *Trump said Houthis agreed not to fight the US, weighs joining the war after they killed an American.* By Lou · the morning edition, 11 October 2026
- *The paperwork beat the news twice this week: Washington's backing for the Saudi offensive is dated before the three deaths at Riyadh's airports, and OpenAI's pledge to spend less on the midterms is dated after it fired the researchers who flagged its risks.* By Lou · the evening edition, 11 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Houthis threaten "painful" response if U.S. joins Saudi offensive

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *05:33 EDT*

As Trump mulls joining Saudi Arabia in attacking the Houthis, the Iran-backed group is threatening a "painful" response.

Inside the Houthis' power as Trump considers strikes after attacks on Saudi Arabia

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *20:46 EDT*

The main international airport in Riyadh remains closed after Houthi forces fired a barrage of missiles at the main terminal, causing massive damage and killing at least 13 people over the weekend. Saudi Arabia's government has vowed to retaliate and now wants the U.S. to join in.

· Trump leaves Saudis in the lurch with hands-off response to Houthi advances *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Saudi Arabia promises response to Houthi attacks *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

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Trump's Russian diesel deal ruled too small, too late for the midterms, by his own party's newspaper.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK

“Trump rips Zelensky amid Russia diesel deal feud: 'I suggest they get a new leader'”, 10 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. President Trump lifted sanctions and bought Russian diesel days after his Russia-Ukraine energy ceasefire collapsed.

WHO GETS PAID. Russian diesel exporters gain a sanctioned-market buyer in the United States.

WHAT SLIPS. Voters are told fuel relief is coming before the midterms, but the president's own party's newspaper says it will not arrive in time.

WHAT'S NEXT. If that holds, the relief keeps getting promised and keeps arriving late; that is what happened on 22 September 2026, when Senator Grassley urged a diesel export ban the same day the national diesel average hit a record $6.53 a gallon.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The file opens September 14th, when the president posted that Russia and Ukraine had agreed to leave each other's energy grids alone. Russia's defense ministry answered October 4th: keep hitting refineries and Russian forces would hit Ukrainian military and industrial sites in return. Five days after that, the president lifted sanctions on Russian diesel and bought it.

Friday the 9th, he posted the invoice in three lines: 300,000 tons of Russian diesel "immediately," 500,000 more in November, a million tons after that. No unit of relief was attached to a price at any American pump; the post supplied tonnage, not a timetable for the number drivers actually watch....

...(cont) Saturday the 10th, the accounting turned personal. The president told reporters outside the White House that Ukraine's leader "could have settled this war many times" and "chose not to," and added, "I suggest they get a new leader." Monday the 12th, in Warsaw, Zelenskyy answered a room of European security officials: he said he learned of the "energy ceasefire" the way everyone else did, from a social media post, and had not signed off on it. He said that if Russian strikes on Ukraine's power grid continue through the winter, Ukraine will respond.

Today the arithmetic came due, filed by the one newspaper with no reason to flatter the other side. The Washington Examiner — not a Democratic outlet, not a foreign one, a paper that counts Republican seats as its own stock — ran the diesel deal through its own ledger and filed it as "worse than useless": too tiny, too late to change anyone's mind about gas prices before voters decide the House and maybe the Senate, and, by the same filing, a dose of relief handed to the economy the sanctions were written to punish. The number did the explaining by itself.

Run the sequence in the order it happened: a ceasefire announced and ignored inside the week, a purchase from the party sanctioned for the war, a leader told to find a different leader for refusing to end a war still being fought on his own grid, and a relief shipment that, by his own side's math, relieves the seller first. The gap between the podium and the pump has a name on this desk: late, small, and credited to the wrong column.

“This is the oldest trick in the ledger: sanction the guy, then quietly pay the guy, then call the payment a gas-price fix for people who can't afford the drive to work. The only account that clears here is Moscow's — the pump stays where it was, and Zelensky's still catching drones while Washington argues tonnage. That's not energy policy, that's a campaign ad paid for in diesel.”

— Sal

“Look, buying diesel from whoever's selling cheap is just smart energy diversification, presidents cut deals with adversaries all the time when it serves American drivers — and if the numbers are small now they scale up fast, 300,000 tons today is a million tons tomorrow, that's just how supply chains — did I say "adversaries"? That's not — the point is, diesel's diesel.”

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *DOJ tells judge who called it 'beyond the pale' that nearly 300 more trees are already marked.* By Mort · the evening edition, 12 October 2026
- *Six strikes into his energy ceasefire, Trump buys Russian diesel anyway and calls it the right choice.* By Ruth · the evening edition, 12 October 2026
- *Trump declares immediate energy ceasefire, Russia hits Ukraine's power plants within hours.* By Ruth · the afternoon edition, 12 October 2026
- *White House says self-ads were already scheduled to end, a court just ordered them canceled anyway.* By Ruth · the afternoon edition, 12 October 2026
- *Judge bans Trump's taxpayer-funded self-ads hours after White House says it already planned to stop* By Mitch · the morning edition, 12 October 2026
- *Trump's second ceasefire in a month dies hours after announcement, struck by Russia at a power plant.* By Lou · the evening edition, 11 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

But: **"I'll meet with Putin. I'll meet with Zelensky... And within 24 hours, that war will be settled" - Trump, CNN town hall, 10 May 2023. CNN counted 53 separate occasions he promised it** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Will Trump's Russia diesel deal actually bring down prices?

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *21:22 EDT*

President Trump said Friday on Truth Social that Russia will "immediately supply" more than 300,000 tons of diesel to global markets, an additional 500,000 tons in November, and 1 million tons "immediately thereafter." Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy, joins CBS News to discuss the effect that might have on prices.

~~Trump rips Zelensky amid Russia diesel deal feud: 'I suggest they get a new leader'~~

The White House lifted sanctions on Russian diesel. Then it blamed Zelensky for the war.

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *14:26 EDT*

President Trump on Saturday pushed back on criticism from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to the White House’s decision to lift sanctions on Russian diesel amid the Russia-Ukraine war. The president told reporters outside the White House that Zelensky “could have settled this war many times,” but “chose not to.”

But: **Trump said he'd settle the Russia-Ukraine war within 24 hours - CNN counted 53 such promises** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Trump’s worse-than-useless Russian diesel deal

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *05:00 EDT*

Rising gas and diesel prices are a major reason Republicans risk losing the House and possibly the Senate in November, but President Donald Trump’s energy deal with Russia will not fix that. It is too tiny and comes too late to change anyone’s mind about the economy. Worse, it provides much-needed economic relief to a [...]

Zelenskyy vows to retaliate if Russian strikes on Ukraine’s power grid continue

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *12:10 EDT*

Ukrainian leader says he was surprised by Trump’s ‘energy ceasefire’ announcement, posted as Russian drones hit Kyiv Volodymyr Zelenskyy has vowed to respond to Russia’s continuing attacks on the Ukrainian power grid as European leaders rally around Kyiv amid a feud with Donald Trump over Ukraine’s strikes on oil refineries. Speaking to...

· Trump: Russia has ‘lost control’ of its diesel industry as prices soar *from the morgue, 21 Sep 2026*

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THE PAPERWORK

Trump denies involvement in a raid his own attorney general says he knew about, then leads deport chants.

By MITCH
INVESTIGATIONS

"In Brazil's Elections, Trump Seeks to Tighten Right Wing Grip on the Americas", 3 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA TRUTHOUT — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Homeland Security searched a sitting congresswoman's home over immigration paperwork her father filled out in her childhood.

WHO GETS PAID. House Republicans pushing Omar's expulsion, and a campaign already chanting to deport her, gain a congressional seat they have not won at the ballot box.

WHAT SLIPS. The Justice Department's own rule against investigating candidates in the sixty days before an election is the check, and this search broke it.

WHAT'S NEXT. The next date on this file is Election Day itself, which now falls inside the sixty-day window the Justice Department has historically avoided for cases touching a sitting candidate.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Last week's file never closed: the co-pilot Oman Air flagged as a security risk in 2024 was in the cockpit over 174 Flydubai passengers on September 30th when, per the UAE's attorney general, he turned the crash axe on the captain. The airline that cleared him faces no fine; the only federal action on record is a plumbing job, wage and start date unstated, offered to the passenger who helped stop him, dated two days before investigators said where the plane was headed. This week's file is different paper, same cabinet.

Three weeks of paper came before Monday's door....

...(cont) September 10th: a raid on the Minneapolis home Omar's son shares with a felon roommate turns up firearms; Fox News shows her declining to discuss it. September 15th: Representative James Comer asks the administration to release its evidence that Omar married her own brother for immigration purposes, so Congress can vote her out. September 22nd: those rumors return to the wires after Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin's comments give them federal weight.

Monday, the agents arrived at her own door in Washington. The case, CBS News reports from sources inside it, is immigration paperwork — not hers. Her father's. Filled out when Omar was a child. All together now: the file agents searched her home over was completed by a parent, for a daughter too young to have signed anything herself.

The New York Times filed the next clause: the search landed inside the sixty-day window before a midterm election, a window the Justice Department has historically avoided for actions touching a sitting candidate. CBS filed the one after that: Attorney General Blanche was personally aware before agents arrived.

NBC News has it: "deport," aimed at Omar, a United States citizen, and at Abdul El-Sayed, born in Michigan. The man with nothing to do with the investigation closed the week leading the sentence it was supposed to end in.

Democrats are calling this an abuse of power, which is accurate, and also beside the point the filing itself makes for free: when the document behind a federal search is a father's signature on a form filled out before his daughter could read it, the government is not building a case. It is building a pretext, and it is polite enough to leave a paper trail explaining exactly whose it is.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL KNEW ABOUT THE SEARCH BEFORE IT HAPPENED; THE CASE ITSELF IS PAPERWORK HER FATHER FILLED OUT WHEN SHE WAS A CHILD. THAT ISN'T LAW ENFORCEMENT, IT'S ARCHAEOLOGY WITH A SUBPOENA. BECAUSE THE ONLY DOCUMENT THAT COUNTS HERE IS ONE A PARENT FILLED OUT, NOT ONE THE CHILD EVER SIGNED, THE STANDARD FOR A FEDERAL SEARCH JUST DROPPED FROM EVIDENCE OF WRONGDOING TO EVIDENCE OF PAPERWORK — AND ONCE PAPERWORK ALONE IS ENOUGH, THE FORM YOUR MOTHER FILLED OUT FOR YOU AT A CONSULATE DECADES AGO IS STILL SITTING IN A FOLDER IN YOUR HALLWAY CLOSET, WAITING FOR SOMEONE IN WASHINGTON TO DECIDE IT MATTERS.

"They say "personally aware" like it's a compliment — the attorney general knew the search was coming before the agents did, and he wants you to read that as thorough instead of planned. This case runs on paperwork a father signed before his daughter could read, not on anything she did, which means the file was never about the file. The Ohio crowd chanting "deport" is the part where the pressure campaign stops wearing a badge."

— Sal

"The President said it himself: he has nothing to do with an investigation that's being handled "very carefully" by a department his own attorney general happens to run and happens to have personally known about in advance — that's not interference, that's efficient interference, is what I meant to say. And the chant at the rally was just enthusiasm, people get worked up, it doesn't mean anything official — wait, deport a sitting member of Congress, did I just wave that off? Forget I said any of that."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *The only line item the federal response has produced for the 174 seats aboard Flydubai FZ1073 is one plumbing job, wage and start date unstated, priced two days before investigators said where the plane had been meant to go.* By Ruth · the evening edition, 11 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

But: The DOJ disbanded its crypto enforcement team in April 2025 and ordered inconsistent investigations closed - while the president's family runs a crypto business *CNBC, 8 April 2025 (Blanche memo)*

Ilhan Omar raid concerns immigration paperwork from when she was a child, sources say

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *19:53 EDT*

Federal agents searched Rep. Ilhan Omar's Washington, D.C., home Monday morning. Sources tell CBS News a yearslong probe into Omar involves immigration paperwork that was completed by her late father when she was a child.

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.

But: The DOJ disbanded its crypto enforcement team in April 2025 and ordered inconsistent investigations closed - while the president's family runs a crypto business *CNBC, 8 April 2025 (Blanche memo)*

AG Blanche was personally aware of search at Ilhan Omar's home, sources say

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *19:30 EDT*

Sources tell CBS News that Monday's search of Democratic Rep. Ilhan Omar's home is tied to potential false statements and immigration fraud, including paperwork that was completed when Omar was a child. Homeland security correspondent Nicole Sganga has more.

~~Trump says he's not involved in investigation into Ilhan Omar~~

Trump denies role in Omar raid, says agents watching her "very carefully"

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *18:41 EDT*

President Donald Trump denied having involvement in the raid on Rep. Ilhan Omar's (D-MN) Washington, D.C., home by federal agents as part of a criminal investigation on Monday. Trump told reporters Monday afternoon that federal investigators are looking at Omar "very carefully,"

But: The UN torture rapporteur found direct-contact electric shock gloves 'incompatible with the absolute prohibition of torture' - ICE plans to spend up to $20 million on them *ABC10 San Diego / UN Special Rapporteur finding, August 2026*

Trump attacks Rep. Ilhan Omar and Senate hopeful Abdul El-Sayed at Ohio rally

NBC News MAINSTREAM § *21:27 EDT*

The crowd chanted "deport" at several points as Trump denigrated Omar, who was born in Somalia and immigrated to the U.S., and El-Sayed, who was born in Michigan.

Attacker in FlyDubai Flight Meant to Crash Into Israeli Airport, Emiratis Say

The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *20:10 EDT*

The attorney general of the United Arab Emirates said that the co-pilot had been inspired by the Sept. 11 attacks after years of developing extreme Islamist views.

UAE says Flydubai suspect intended to crash plane into Tel Aviv airport

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *18:31 EDT*

The Flydubai co-pilot who attacked the plane's captain with an axe last month intended to crash the aircraft into a passenger terminal at an Israeli airport, according to authorities in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The suspect, identified as 29-year-old Omani national Hamam al-Hammami, planned to seize control of the 182-passenger...

~~Federal Agents Search Home of Rep. Ilhan Omar~~

Justice Department breaks its own 60-day election rule to raid Ilhan Omar's home

The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *21:54 EDT*

The search takes place within the 60-day window of the midterm elections, when the Justice Department has historically avoided such investigative steps related to political candidates.

~~Democrats condemn federal search of Ilhan Omar home~~

Federal agents searched Rep. Ilhan Omar's home - Trump accused of 'abusing his power'

RTÉ MAINSTREAM § *22:45 EDT*

US President Donald Trump has been accused of 'abusing his power' after the Washington home of Democrat Ilhan Omar was searched by US federal agents.

· Did Ilhan Omar marry her own brother? The claims explained *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· WATCH: Ilhan Omar refuses to address police raid on home her son shares with felon roommate *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· James Comer wants to see immigration fraud evidence on Ilhan Omar so Congress can decide on her expulsion *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· FlyDubai attacker intended to crash plane into Tel Aviv airport, ongoing investigation finds *from the morgue, 5 Oct 2026*

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

· 'Crazy' FlyDubai landing explained by Israeli pilot, who offers steps to prevent future crises *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Trump gushes over blue-collar flydubai hero who thwarted hijacking terrorist, says 'he can be my plumber' *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Flydubai co-pilot attacked captain with crash axe in hijacking *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Suspect in FlyDubai incident was previously identified as security risk: Officials *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Trump thanks man who helped save Flydubai flight: 'What a job he did, he's a hero' *from the morgue, 3 Oct 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*

· Lula Campaign Asks to Probe Sudden US Shutdown of Consular Services as 'Interference in Brazilian Elections' *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Lula and Bolsonaro make final push for votes ahead of Brazil's knife-edge election *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Why has Brazil accused the US of election interference? *from the morgue, 3 Oct 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*

· US suspends consular services in Brazil due to security concerns *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Brazilian voters heading to the poll this weekend say Lula is turning the country into 'another Venezuela' *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Flavio Bolsonaro: In the name of the father, sons, and holy ideology *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Alarm Grows Over 'Clearly Illegal' Trump-Rubio Election Meddling in Brazil *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

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

· Co-pilot stabs pilot, tries to crash passenger jet en route to Israel, Netanyahu says *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Flydubai co-pilot used crash ax to hack at pilot in attempted 'terrorist attack': UAE official *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· FlyDubai co-pilot accused of stabbing captain identified as 29-year-old Omani national *from the morgue, 3 Oct 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*

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

· US Meddling in Brazil May Decide Latin America's Future *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

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

· Flydubai pilot attacked captain with cockpit's crash axe in attempted terrorist attack, UAE says *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· While America debates who belongs, a Hindu captain and Jewish passengers just stopped a hijacking *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· How newsrooms turned an attempted hijacking into a 'brawl' (and killed public trust) *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Co-pilot attacker had been banned from flying over his radical views *from the morgue, 2 Oct 2026*

· Flydubai hijacker previously barred from flying by Oman over radical beliefs: Report *from the morgue, 2 Oct 2026*

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

· Mamdani says it was 'strange' getting called out by Netanyahu after calling for his arrest *from the morgue, 2 Oct 2026*

· Israeli Opposition Accuses Netanyahu Of Being Too Pro-Palestine *from the morgue, 3 Oct 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*

· Mamdani calls for US to join ICC, arrest Netanyahu during Theo Von podcast appearance: 'Architect of a horrific genocide' *from the morgue, 2 Oct 2026*

· Mamdani rips Netanyahu's UN jab as Gaza distraction: 'Not about me and him' *from the morgue, 2 Oct 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 says it's too early to determine motive in cockpit stabbing *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*

· "Grotesque": Ex-Israeli Negotiator Daniel Levy on Netanyahu's U.N. Speech & Israel's Impunity *from the morgue, 25 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*

· A Bloody Attack on a FlyDubai Plane Headed to Israel, and a Terrifying Plunge *from the morgue, 1 Oct 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*

· New information on FlyDubai cockpit flight; Russia continues attacks on Kyiv *from the morgue, 5 Oct 2026*

· Several questions remain as investigation into cockpit attack aboard Israel-bound flight continues *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· FlyDubai co-pilot was likely lone wolf, Israeli investigators believe *from the morgue, 5 Oct 2026*

· New details about co-pilot after Flydubai incident *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

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

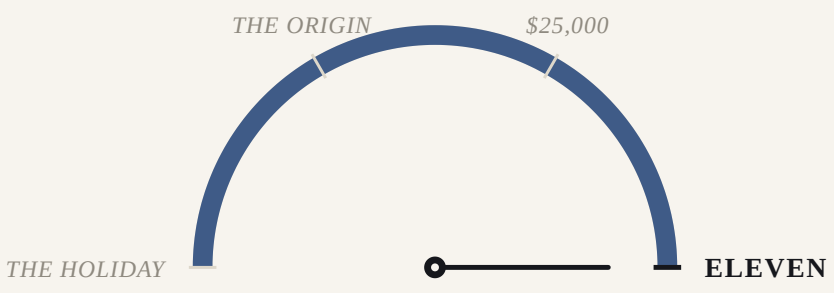
This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

§59 — 12 OCTOBER 2026

On Columbus Day

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



ELEVEN

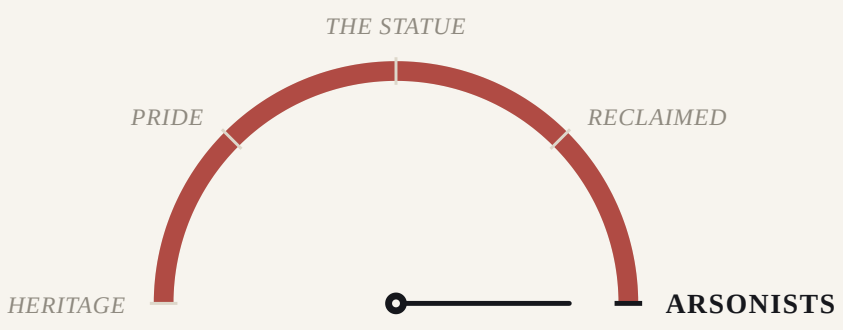
Here is why the holiday exists, and it is not a matter of interpretation. On 14 March 1891 a mob broke into the Orleans Parish Prison in New Orleans and killed eleven Italian men held over the death of the city's police chief. None of them had been proven guilty [1]. Italy recalled its minister from Washington that month, and the administration eventually paid $25,000 to the families of the dead [1].

The first national Columbus Day proclamation came the following year, 1892, from a Republican president — and the reason it came was conciliation: a gesture toward Italy and toward Italian Americans in the wake of the killings [1]. So the holiday was not built to honor a voyage. It was built to tell a hated immigrant community, after a mob had murdered eleven of them in a jail cell, that this country would have them anyway. That is the thing the proclamation is defending from arsonists. It was already the apology. The question worth asking on the second Monday in October is not whether to keep it. It is whether the people currently holding it know what it was for.

SOURCES

1. On 14 March 1891 a mob stormed the Orleans Parish Prison and killed 11 Italian men, none proven guilty in the police chief's death; Italy recalled its minister that month and the administration later paid $25,000 to the families; the first national Columbus Day proclamation, in 1892, was issued by President Benjamin Harrison as a conciliatory gesture toward Italy and Italian Americans — The Washington Post, 10 October 2021 ↑

REPUBLICAN



ARSONISTS

The proclamation is short and it does not hedge, so it can be quoted rather than characterized. Signed 9 October 2025: "This Columbus Day, we honor his life with reverence and gratitude, and we pledge to reclaim his extraordinary legacy of faith, courage, perseverance, and virtue from the left-wing arsonists who have sought to destroy his name and dishonor his memory" [1].

Two things are true about that sentence at once. The grievance under it is real — statues did come down, the name did get removed from things, and Italian American organizations who had nothing to do with any of it watched a holiday they built get treated as an embarrassment. That is a genuine loss and it was not always handled with much care. The second thing is that the proclamation makes no mention of Indigenous Peoples' Day, breaking with the practice of issuing both, which had held every year since 2021 [1]. Seventeen states and the District of Columbia now observe Indigenous Peoples' Day or Native American Day; the federal holiday on the second Monday of October remains Columbus Day [1].

SOURCES

1. "...from the left-wing arsonists who have sought to destroy his name and dishonor his memory" — Columbus Day proclamation signed 9 October 2025; the proclamation does not mention Indigenous Peoples' Day, departing from the practice held since 2021; 17 states and DC observe Indigenous Peoples' Day or Native American Day while the federal holiday remains Columbus Day — The White House ↑

“Columbus Day. I pulled the proclamation and I pulled the founding, and I'd like somebody to help me line them up. The proclamation says we're reclaiming the legacy from "left-wing arsonists who have sought to destroy his name." Fine. The founding is 1892, Benjamin Harrison, and the reason is the year before: a mob took eleven Italian men out of the Orleans Parish Prison and killed them, none of them proven guilty, and the government paid twenty-five thousand dollars to the families. Sorry, one thing before you go. The holiday was invented to tell immigrants that this country would have them. So when we defend it now, which half are we defending — the explorer, or the apology?” — Lou

🍺

“They'll tell you today that the left is trying to burn down Columbus Day. Fine. Go look up why there is a Columbus Day. Eighteen ninety-one, New Orleans, a mob walks into the parish prison and kills eleven Italians who were never convicted of anything. Italy pulls its minister out of Washington. We pay the families twenty-five thousand dollars. And the next year a Republican president proclaims a holiday, to tell Italian immigrants they belong here. That's the origin. The holiday IS the apology to immigrants. Read this year's proclamation and tell me who it's addressed to.”

— Sal

🚬

“Columbus Day is about heritage and pride and I don't think we need to relitigate 1891 every October, and frankly bringing up the lynching in this context is a way of using dead Italians to score a point, which I would never do.”

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎