FROM § EACH

FIRST YEAR · MONDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2026 — THE EVENING EDITION · FREE, FOREVER — EVERY CLAIM LINKED

THE DRAGNET

DOJ's voter-fraud sweep breaks a citizen's arm; Congress answers same day with a bill to sue ICE.

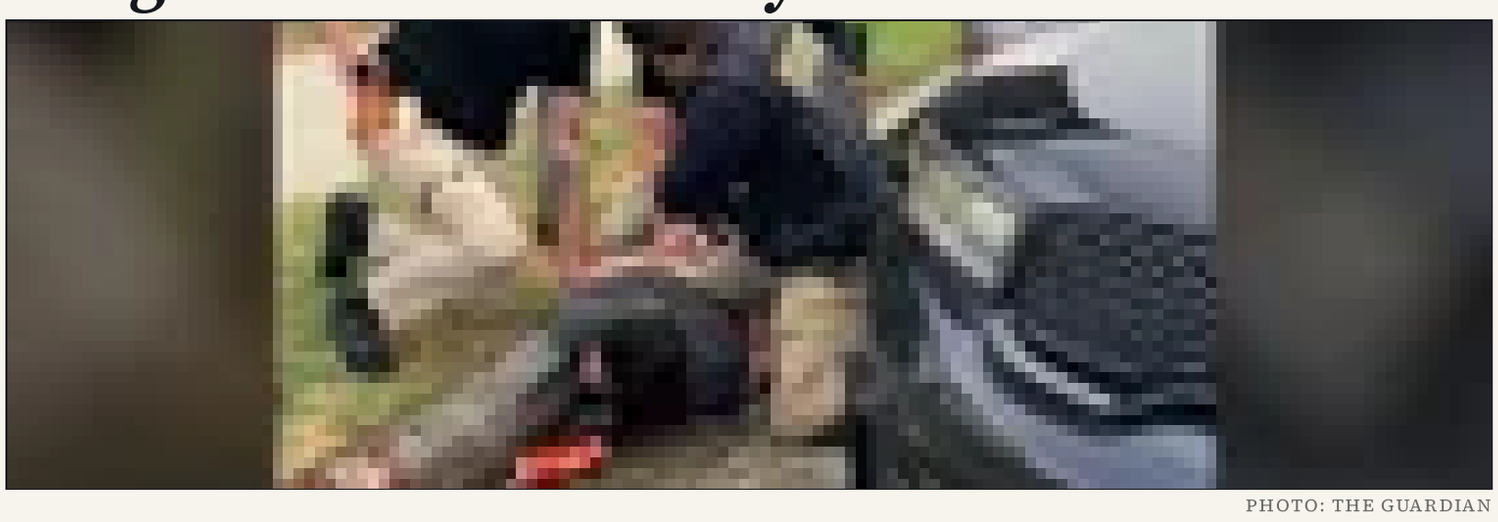


PHOTO: THE GUARDIAN

BY THE WRECKING CREW
The Remedy Desk

A Justice Department official went on "60 Minutes" this week and said there is no effort to stoke fear about noncitizens voting. The Department's own calendar tells it differently, one beat at a time, and the Crew is here for the parts list, not the denial.

On August 31st the Department announced a "massive criminal voter fraud surge" in California, with eight more states warned to expect the same. On October 9th a federal judge ruled the Department's practice of pulling states' unredacted voter rolls to check against an immigration database unlawful. On October 16th the administration told state election officials they could face legal consequences for counting those same ballots. Ricardo Gonzalez was born in Hanford, California. He is a United States citizen. On October 19th the FBI delivered the sweep's receipt: 28 green card holders charged under an operation the Department calls Protect the Vote.

Lay the pieces side by side and every one of them is a tool the government already owns, pointed at people it has not yet proven did anything: a voter-roll database, a 48-hour court deadline, a pair of handcuffs. ...

... Continued on Page T29

THE WORD

§66 — 19 OCTOBER 2026

On training grounds

DEMOCRAT · REPUBLICAN



UNTIL 2029 · *TRAINING GROUNDS*

"I'll read it the way he said it, because the wording matters. Quantico, September 30th of last year, to the generals: "we should use some of these dangerous cities as training grounds for our military national guard, but military." Then the courts, one at a time. A district judge in California. The Seventh Circuit: "political opposition is not rebellion." The Supreme Court, December 23rd: the government "failed to identify a source of authority." Then the bill: about four hundred ninety-six million through December. Excuse me, I'm going — the troops came home from three cities. The fourth deployment runs until 2029. What's it training for?" — Lou

... Continued on Page W66

Saudi government flew bugging suspect's family home, then offered to cover his bail.



PHOTO: BBC NEWS

BY MITCH
Investigations

The filing arrives this weekend as a court memorandum, and like most federal filings it reads best out loud, in order. All together now — paragraph one: the defendant is an OpenAI engineer named Abdulrahman Alfozan, employed since last July, roughly three months

... Continued on Page F122

■ THE SHORT VERSION

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The FBI charged 28 green card holders in a California voter-fraud sweep on October 19.

WHO GETS PAID. The Justice Department gains another voter-fraud announcement to run on before the midterms.

WHAT SLIPS. A county's voter rolls slip into a federal database a judge already ruled unlawful to use that way.

WHAT'S NEXT. If California's lawsuit holds, expect a spike then a fade; that is what Texas got after its March 2022 ID rule: a 12.4 percent rejection rate falling to 1.78 percent by November.

On DOJ's voter-fraud sweep breaks a citizen's arm; Congress answers same day with a bill to sue ICE. — the column, by The Wrecking Crew. The whole front, short, and the precedents, on E6

French officials blame the riots on the ultra-left, then admit their own intelligence failed to see them coming.

BY LOU
One More Question

I spent twenty minutes stuck at the toll plaza on the turnpike this week, the kind where five lanes pinch down to two right past the booths, and I had nothing to do but listen. The driver in the Civic ahead of me was sure it was the E-ZPass lane, backed up because somebody's transponder had died. The woman in the minivan behind me, I could hear her through two rolled-up windows, blamed the cash lane, said they should have closed it years ago. My own wife, who was riding with me, guessed it was the construction two exits back. Three

... Continued on Page A216

Feds cite unnamed DNA to confirm denaturalizing a congresswoman already cleared by three probes.

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

An old presumption in American law — that government proves its case before it ruins someone's career — died this week, somewhere between a sealed grand jury room and a Fox Business studio.

A month before that, on September 15, Representative James Comer had asked the Trump administration to release its evidence so the House could decide whether to expel her. The administration did not release it.

By October 13, the silence had become its own campaign. Omar's own fundraising email that week called the

... Continued on Page T29

THE WAIVER

Trump administration denies any pause in intelligence sharing with Ukraine for the second time in six days.

BY LOU
One More Question

My neighbor and I have been arguing about the fence between our yards for something like six years, and I want to say up front that I don't think either one of us is lying about it.

He says the line hasn't moved since his father set the posts, back before either of us owned the houses. I say the post nearest my tomatoes sits a good eight inches into what the survey calls mine. We've each had somebody out to check it — a surveyor for him, a man from the title company

... Continued on Page A216

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

French students have marched since September over teacher shortages and crumbling schools with rats and falling debris; French intelligence now admits it missed how big that got, until sixty thousand police were overwhelmed. The five competing theories that followed — communists and Muslims, a Muslim Brotherhood front group, Trump's "Muslim city," open borders, an "ultra-left movement" — leave out that intelligence failure entirely, and that omission is not an accident, it is the cover. Because the intelligence services that missed it stay unnamed in all five theories, the government that starved the schools in the first place stays unnamed too, and that is why the rat that was in your kid's classroom in September is still there now, having outlasted every explanation you were handed instead.

⁂

On French officials blame the riots on the ultra-left, then admit their own intelligence failed to see them coming. *— the column, by Lou*

Musk to give every American child SpaceX stock; parental consent optional under the Trump Accounts program

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

Every child in America is to receive a share of SpaceX, and you are thinking: how handsome. Look at the delivery. A gift is a thing one may decline — decline, mind you — and the Examiner reports this one goes into Trump Accounts even where the parents object. Not a gift, then. An enrollment. Every donee a minor, and no donee asked.

He wrote on Monday that it "will be the first of many."

Price the month. On October 12 the Post put his midterm spending at $276 million, the largest of the cycle. On October 9 his plan for SpaceX to become a mobile

... Continued on Page F122

Today

News, continued	A2
The Wire	A3
The Word	W66
Finance	F1
The Ledger	F2
The Business Desk	F3
The Money Pages, continued	F4
The Record	B1
Legal	B2
The Service	B3
Obituaries	B4

Poll finds 5% tax on 200 billionaires tied; $100 million campaign calls it collapsing

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

Proposition 40 asks California voters, on November 3, for a one-time 5 percent tax on the state's roughly 200 billionaires, the proceeds earmarked to offset federal Medicaid cuts signed into law last year. In August, two campaign committees formed to defeat it before most voters had heard of it — Building a Better California and Californians Against Wasteful Spending and Higher Taxes — financed in part by Google co-founder Sergey Brin and venture capitalist Peter Thiel. On October 1, a former Andreessen Horowitz partner, John O'Farrell, told his followers in a twelve-post thread that he was glad to pay the tax and had no plans to leave the state that would collect it. On October 11, Governor Newsom endorsed a competing ballot measure that would cancel the wealth tax outright and bar any future one — a move SEIU-UHW's Debru Carthan called Newsom "showing California his true colors." Within the week, Brin was photographed at Mar-a-Lago beside the president whose tax cuts Proposition 40 is written to offset.

This week the ledger took two new entries. The Post's headline calls that a "spectacular collapse." The filing says otherwise: a tied race that was already tied in September, reported this week as a collapse by a paper whose readers are

... Continued on Page F122

Paxton told donors "everybody's numbers are down." Three weeks later, the polls agree.

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

Today we bury a lock, not a man — the plain assumption that a Texas Senate seat does not need defending, the kind of inherited certainty political parties budget around instead of poll for. The death took about six weeks, and it is worth reading beat by beat, because that is the only way an institution's passing looks: not a heart attack, a slow bleed with a date stamped on every page.

On September 3, Karl Rove told Republicans that "time is running out" for Ken Paxton, the state attorney general and the president's handpicked nominee. A week later, on September 10, an AARP poll found Talarico, the Democrat, ahead by four points. By September 27 the lead had grown to five, the same day Democratic strategist Paul Begala pointed to Governor Abbott's own tightening re-election number and called the shape of the state a "wipe out" in progress. Three days after that, in audio leaked to reporters, Paxton told his own donors "everybody's

... Continued on Page B42

> *"Don't let anybody tell you that people running Congress right now are looking out for the rich. Actually, I think we should do a little more for them"*
>
> — REP. GLENN GROTHMAN (R-WI), AUGUST 2026

> *"Maybe the children will have two dolls instead of 30 dolls. So maybe the two dolls will cost a couple bucks more than they would normally"*
>
> — PRESIDENT TRUMP, CABINET MEETING, 30 APRIL 2025

> *"Access to cheap goods is not the essence of the American dream"*
>
> — TREASURY SECRETARY SCOTT BESSENT, ECONOMIC CLUB OF NEW YORK, 6 MARCH 2025

"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

FOR SALE One share of SpaceX, gifted to every American child under a federal savings program *Parental consent not required; dividend schedule subject to the owner's mood.* **— Classifieds**

WANTED A sportsbook willing to take odds on whether seven fraternity brothers get charged *Must tolerate boycotts. Celebrity endorsers need not apply.* **— Classifieds**

WANTED 11,780 votes, Georgia only. Fresh or aged, no questions asked. *Reward: one pardon, gently used.* **— Classifieds**

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

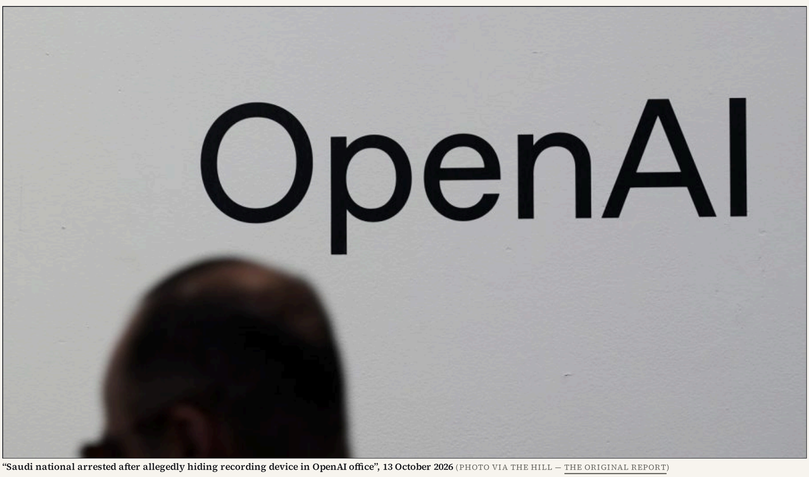
— Chip

Snow held the fox's prints till the thaw,
while the farmer mended the door.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

Saudi government flew bugging suspect's family home, then offered to cover his bail.

By MITCH
INVESTIGATIONS



"Saudi national arrested after allegedly hiding recording device in OpenAI office", 13 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Saudi officials flew an OpenAI engineer's family out of the U.S. and offered to pay his bail.

WHO GETS PAID. The Saudi government, already in contact with the accused through its royal family, gets his family moved out and his bail covered.

WHAT SLIPS. The court's hold on a flight risk slips when a foreign government flies the defendant's family out of the country before any bail is even set.

WHAT'S NEXT. The engineer stays in federal custody with no further hearing date in the filings; the record shows only that Saudi officials paid for his family's exit and offered to cover his bail.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The filing arrives this weekend as a court memorandum, and like most federal filings it reads best out loud, in order. All together now — paragraph one: the defendant is an OpenAI engineer named Abdulrahman Alfozan, employed since last July, roughly three months before his arrest, charged with installing a recording device in a company conference room.

Back up to October 1st. The Wall Street Journal reports that Thursday that OpenAI has terminated three safety researchers for sharing what the company calls "confidential company information." The company does not say what the information was. Twelve days later, on October 13th, the Department of Justice announces Alfozan's arrest. He had been on the job three months....

...(cont) The FBI confirms the arrest the next day, October 14th. Routine enough — an employee, a hidden microphone, a federal charge. Then the document keeps going.

All together now — the next clause: Saudi officials paid for Alfozan's wife and son to fly out of the United States. The filing does not say when the flights were booked relative to the arrest, only that Saudi officials paid for them. The clause after that: Saudi officials offered to cover his bail. The clause after that: Alfozan was in close contact with a member of the Saudi royal family. The clause after that: he was planning to move to Riyadh when the FBI arrested him first.

Not released on the bail a foreign government had offered to pay. Held.

Here is what the document does not contain: a reason. It does not say why a government would move a suspect's family out of the country while he remains in federal custody, or why it would offer to post bond for a man charged with planting a bug in the offices of the company that makes ChatGPT. It does not have to. Prosecutors filed it to establish what Alfozan was doing and who was paying for it. The rest is left to the reader, the same way it is left to the judge, who read the same four clauses and decided three months on the job and one plane ticket home were enough to keep a man in custody.

The document speaks for itself. That is what a court filing is for.

"Every time one of these companies gets caught with its security down, it's the same move — some government with oil money flies the family out first and sorts the bail paperwork later. OpenAI fires the people warning about risk a month before this, so there's nobody left in the building to say maybe don't let the guy on good terms with a royal family near the hardware. This isn't a spy novel, it's a staffing decision with consequences."
— Sal

"Look, every country provides consular support to its nationals abroad, that's just basic diplomacy, nothing unusual about helping a family get home — did I say helping him make bail too? That's not consular support, that's — forget I said bail, that one's on me."
— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Saudi national arrested after allegedly hiding recording device in OpenAI office

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *17:51 EDT*

An OpenAI employee from Saudi Arabia has been arrested after allegedly hiding a recording device in the company's offices, the Department of Justice (DOJ) said Tuesday. Abdulrahman Alfozan, a 35-year-old Saudi national who had worked as an engineer at OpenAI since last July, was charged with using or attempting to use a device to...

Ex-OpenAI worker accused of planting device had Saudi support, says court filing

BBC News MAINSTREAM § *17:12 EDT*

The Saudi government did not immediately respond to BBC requests for comment.

Ex-OpenAI engineer who allegedly planted bug in office was in contact with Saudi royal family

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *15:23 EDT*

A former OpenAI engineer who allegedly installed a listening device in an executive conference room was in close contact with a member of the Saudi royal family and was planning to leave the U.S. for Riyadh when authorities arrested him, federal prosecutors said Sunday in a court memorandum. CBS News' Nicole Sganga has more.

FBI arrests OpenAI engineer for allegedly planting bug in office

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *10:24 EDT*

The FBI arrested an OpenAI engineer for allegedly planting a recording device in a company office. CBS News' Jo LIng Kent reports.

Saudis Aided Family of Engineer Accused of Bugging OpenAI, Prosecutors Say

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

Saudi officials paid for his wife and son to fly out of the U.S. and offered to cover his bail, according to court filings. A judge ordered the engineer to remain in custody.

· 'Looks Like They're Firing Whistleblowers': Alarm as OpenAI Reportedly Ousts Safety Experts *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.

French officials blame the riots on the ultra-left, then admit their own intelligence failed to see them coming.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"Trump warns Paris will become 'Muslim city' unless France closes borders", 19 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA WASHINGTON EXAMINER — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The Federalist, Washington Examiner, Trump, Speaker Johnson and France's government each gave a different explanation for October's riots.

WHO GETS PAID. The border-closing argument from Trump and Speaker Johnson, and France's own intelligence service, each gain cover from the other four explanations.

WHAT SLIPS. Public scrutiny of the intelligence failure that actually overwhelmed French police slips every time a new scapegoat theory takes the headline instead.

WHAT'S NEXT. The next concrete step on the record is the security review Macron ordered into what French intelligence missed; none of the five public explanations are part of it.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

I spent twenty minutes stuck at the toll plaza on the turnpike this week, the kind where five lanes pinch down to two right past the booths, and I had nothing to do but listen. The driver in the Civic ahead of me was sure it was the E-ZPass lane, backed up because somebody's transponder had died. The woman in the minivan behind me, I could hear her through two rolled-up windows, blamed the cash lane, said they should have closed it years ago. My own wife, who was riding with me, guessed it was the construction two exits back. Three drivers, one jam, three different explanations, and when I finally cleared the booths there was a sign from the turnpike authority that didn't match any of them: a booth had gone unstaffed for forty minutes during a shift change. None of the three drivers was foolish to be annoyed. They were just answering a different question than the one that actually explained the delay.

I bring this up because I've been reading about Paris, and I wrote some of it down, though I'll admit I had to go looking for the page before I could read it back to you....

...(cont) Here's what I found. There are five separate explanations going around right now for what happened in the riots in France, and I want to walk through all five the way I walked through the Civic, the minivan, and my wife's construction theory, one at a time, because that seems like the only fair way to treat five explanations that don't agree with each other.

One: a magazine called the Federalist reports a network of fifty-four organizations — communists, union activists, and Muslim student and pro-Palestinian groups among them — working together to fuel the protests. Two and three both come from the Washington Examiner, and I want to be careful here, because I had this backwards once already: one Examiner piece says a French parliamentary investigation flagged a Muslim student group as a front for the Muslim Brotherhood; a separate Examiner piece quotes President Trump saying Paris will become a "Muslim city" unless France closes its borders, and it notes hundreds of thousands of people are protesting right now. Four is Speaker Mike Johnson, who told the New York Post that open borders caused the riots and that Democrats could bring the same thing to this country. Five is the French government itself, which told CBS News the trouble came from an "ultra-left movement," and asked for local curfews.

I counted them twice. Communists and Muslims. A Muslim Brotherhood front. A Muslim city. Open borders. An ultra-left movement. Five explanations for one set of riots, and I went looking for two of the five that pointed to the same cause. I found zero.

My car doesn't turn over some mornings without a little coaxing, and when it won't start, I don't guess five things at once — I open the hood and look at the one thing in front of me. France, by its own account, did something closer to that, separately from all five of the explanations above: Fox News reported that Macron ordered a security review after intelligence services underestimated the protests badly enough that sixty thousand police officers were overwhelmed. Not communists. Not Muslims. Not open borders. Not the ultra-left. A security review, into what the services themselves missed.

Oh — before I let this go, one more thing, and I almost didn't write it down twice. It isn't on the Federalist's list, or either Examiner story, or the Speaker's, or even the French government's own curfew announcement. Officers got overwhelmed by something the services themselves didn't see coming until it was already in the street. Which of the five explanations I just read you told you that part first?

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

FRENCH STUDENTS HAVE MARCHED SINCE SEPTEMBER OVER TEACHER SHORTAGES AND CRUMBLING SCHOOLS WITH RATS AND FALLING DEBRIS; FRENCH INTELLIGENCE NOW ADMITS IT missed how big that got, until sixty thousand police were overwhelmed. The five competing theories that followed — communists and Muslims, a Muslim Brotherhood front group, Trump's "Muslim city," open borders, an "ultra-left movement" — leave out that intelligence failure entirely, and that omission is not an accident, it is the cover. Because the intelligence services that missed it stay unnamed in all five theories, the government that starved the schools in the first place stays unnamed too, and that is why the rat that was in your kid's classroom in September is still there now, having outlasted every explanation you were handed instead.

"When the people running the show don't see something coming, they don't say that out loud — they hand out a list of enemies instead: communists, Muslims, open borders, the ultra-left, whoever's handy that week. Sixty thousand police got overwhelmed because an intelligence service missed it, and that part is not on any of the five lists making the rounds, because that one's on the agency, not on a student group. Keep the fight going about who to blame, and the people who actually missed it keep their jobs."

— Sal

"Fifty-four organizations don't coordinate themselves — communists, a Muslim Brotherhood front, that's not a theory, that's a French parliamentary investigation, I didn't make that up. Open borders have consequences, the Speaker's not wrong to say so, it's just — one open border causing a communist-Islamist-ultra-left pileup all at once, that's, okay, did I just say the same riot has four different masterminds? That doesn't sound like me."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Trump warns Paris will become 'Muslim city' unless France closes borders
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *17:14 EDT*
President Donald Trump said Paris will become a "Muslim city" soon if France doesn't close its borders to immigrants. His comments come as hundreds of thousands of anti-government protesters continue rioting in the Parisian streets.

France's insane student protests are really about a growing radical Muslim population that wants to get rid of democracy
New York Post RIGHT § *10:00 EDT*
The French are revolting. It's a tradition with them. Riots are as French as croissants, adultery and the 35-hour work week.

Student group among those spurring on France protests is accused of Muslim Brotherhood connections
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *15:48 EDT*
An Islamic student group helping to drive France's chaotic leftist-driven protests is an alleged Muslim Brotherhood front. Muslim Students of France repeatedly posted on social media in support of the anti-government protests over school conditions that have descended into rioting since last month. A May 2025 French parliamentary...

Mike Johnson says 'open borders' caused riots in France — warns Democrats could bring similar mayhem to US
New York Post RIGHT § *16:17 EDT*
House Speaker Mike Johnson argued Monday that "open borders" caused a weekend of mayhem across France that brought widespread looting, arson and clashes with police — arguing Democrats could bring similar chaos to the US.

France vows to crack down after protests spiral out of control
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *15:45 EDT*
French leaders call for local curfews and say an "ultra-left movement" was behind widespread violence and vandalism amid anti-government protests.

~~The Bastille Has Been Retaken~~
Rats in the classrooms, no teacher for 6 months, French student says — 71,500 marched
The Bullet § *08:00 EDT*
High school students across France on Thursday once again took to the streets to protest against against the state of the country's schools.

BBC calls France protests 'mostly peaceful' as footage shows rioters torching cars, battling police
Fox News RIGHT § *14:42 EDT*
BBC News called France riots "mostly peaceful" as its own footage showed burning cars, looted shops and nearly 1,000 officers injured nationwide.

~~French High School Students Lead Mass Protests over School Funding, Inequality, Thousands Arrested~~
French police have arrested over 5,000 protesting students, most of them minors
Democracy Now! § *08:14 EDT*
Nearly 2,000 French high schools are blockaded or closed today amid massive student-led protests over school funding and inequality. The demonstrations began in September at a single school in the economically deprived suburbs of Paris, where students protested teacher shortages, overcrowded classrooms and dilapidated school buildings...

France's massive intel failure sparks resignation offers amid days of rioting
Fox News RIGHT § *14:59 EDT*
Emmanuel Macron ordered a security review after France's intelligence services badly underestimated protests that overwhelmed 60,000 police officers.

Report: A Network Of Communists And Muslims Is Fueling France's Riots
The Federalist RIGHT § *17:27 EDT*
The rioters burning and pillaging cities across France are not led primarily by disgruntled students, as corporate media claim, but rather by a red-green alliance of communist activists and Muslim agitators, a recent investigation found. The network is made up of 54 organizations representing communism, revolutionary socialism, unions...

- Behind France's student riots: Communists, unions and a global propaganda network *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*
- Police fire tear gas at barricaded high school in Paris as protests spread to Belgium *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*
- Student protests in France leave hundreds of schools closed *from the morgue, 2 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.

Poll finds 5% tax on 200 billionaires tied; $100 million campaign calls it collapsing

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK



"Newsom Endorses Ballot Measure That Would Cancel Out Billionaire Tax—and Ban Future Wealth Taxes", 11 October 2026
(PHOTO VIA COMMON DREAMS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Proposition 40 asks California voters, on November 3, for a one-time 5 percent tax on the state's roughly 200 billionaires, the proceeds earmarked to offset federal Medicaid cuts signed into law last year. In August, two campaign committees formed to defeat it before most voters had heard of it — Building a Better California and Californians Against Wasteful Spending and Higher Taxes — financed in part by Google co-founder Sergey Brin and venture capitalist Peter Thiel. On October 1, a former Andreessen Horowitz partner, John O'Farrell, told his followers in a twelve-post thread that he was glad to pay the tax and had no plans to leave the state that would collect it. On October 11, Governor Newsom endorsed a competing ballot measure that would cancel the wealth tax outright and bar any future one — a move SEIU-UHW's Debru Carthan called Newsom "showing California his true colors." Within the week, Brin was photographed at Mar-a-Lago beside the president whose tax cuts Proposition 40 is written to offset.

This week the ledger took two new entries. The Post's headline calls that a "spectacular collapse." The filing says otherwise: a tied race that was already tied in September, reported this week as a collapse by a paper whose readers are also the voters the Brin-Thiel committees are spending $100 million to persuade....

...(cont) Stanford economists, in a study CBS News covered the same day, caution that a billionaire tax could backfire. The CBS report attaches no dollar figure to the warning, names no mechanism by which the backfire occurs, and gives no account of whom it would fall on. It also does not name the economists, cite the paper, or say where it was published. What it offers is a university's name and the word "could."

Reconcile the two filings against each other, hon. A poll that moved one point in five weeks is being sold as a landslide reversal. A caution with no number, no mechanism, and no named author is being sold as a warning from Stanford. Both filings surfaced the same week a man who has spent $100 million fighting this tax dined with the president whose cuts it would offset, and the same month the governor whose party depends on that man's money endorsed a measure to cancel the tax for good. The gap between what the filings say and what the headlines claim they say is not an accounting error. It is where the $100 million went.

"They don't need the poll to be real, they just need you to read the headline and stop reading. Forty-five to forty-six is a rounding error dressed up as a landslide, and the same week some egghead study with no number in it gets wheeled out to say the quiet part with a Stanford return address. A hundred million dollars doesn't buy you facts, it buys you the headline before anybody checks the math."

— Sal

"The study is from Stanford — that's not some partisan outfit, that's serious economics, and serious economists are raising a caution flag. Growth effects, capital flight, you don't just wave that away. Though I'll grant, if you'd asked me for the number on the flight risk, or the paper itself, I — did I just say I didn't have the number? That's not usually how I open."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Man spending $100 million to kill a 5% tax dines beside the president whose cuts it offsets* By Ruth · the afternoon edition, 19 October 2026
- *Newsom endorses the measure that cancels the billionaire tax he let California's voters decide on his own* By Ruth · the morning edition, 18 October 2026
- *Newsom pitches a federal stock-trading ban, then endorses the measure canceling his state's billionaire tax.* By Ruth · the afternoon edition, 17 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

~~Newsom Endorses Ballot Measure That Would Cancel Out Billionaire Tax—and Ban Future Wealth Taxes~~

Newsom's pick to kill the billionaire tax is bankrolled by billionaire Sergey Brin

Common Dreams · *14:27 EDT*

California Gov. Gavin Newsom ramped up his opposition to a proposed tax on the state's billionaire residents on Friday by endorsing a competing ballot measure that would both cancel out the billionaire wealth tax initiative and prohibit any new taxes on the ownership of financial assets or other personal property. "He's showing...

~~California billionaire tax faces spectacular collapse in bombshell new poll~~

Billionaire tax leads 46% to 43%, poll shows

New York Post RIGHT · *14:26 EDT*

California voters remain closely divided over Proposition 40, a proposed wealth tax on billionaires, with 46% of likely voters supporting it and 43% opposed.

California billionaire tax could backfire, Stanford study says

CBS News MAINSTREAM · *14:16 EDT*

A new analysis from Stanford economists cautions that enacting a billionaire tax could have unintended consequences.

· 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*

· '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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Feds cite unnamed DNA to confirm denaturalizing a congresswoman already cleared by three probes.

By MORT
THE RECORDS BUREAU



"Border Czar Homan Confirms Trump Admin Is Looking to Denaturalize Ilhan Omar", 19 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA TRUTHOUT — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Border czar Tom Homan confirmed the administration is working to strip Representative Ilhan Omar of her citizenship.

WHO GETS PAID. The Department of Homeland Security and the administration gain a precedent for using citizenship law against an elected critic.

WHAT SLIPS. The check that slips is the rule that fraud gets proven in court before a citizenship is stripped or a lawmaker is publicly ruined.

WHAT'S NEXT. If this case does not hold up, correction could take years before anyone is made whole; that is what Castle Hills, Texas got after a 2019 arrest over a council critic's speech: a $500,000 settlement six years later.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

An old presumption in American law — that government proves its case before it ruins someone's career — died this week, somewhere between a sealed grand jury room and a Fox Business studio.

A month before that, on September 15, Representative James Comer had asked the Trump administration to release its evidence so the House could decide whether to expel her. The administration did not release it....

...(cont) By October 13, the silence had become its own campaign. Omar's own fundraising email that week called the investigation "baseless" and "partisan" and asked supporters for money to fight it. Two days later, her office called the reported plan to strip her citizenship "an authoritarian move to silence an opponent."

Former President Obama called the probe appalling, and the right answered him by reading back his own administration's Tea Party IRS file, the one his officials once swore under oath did not exist.

Then came Sunday, and three things arrived in order. Border Czar Tom Homan confirmed, on the record, that the administration is looking to denaturalize Omar. The New York Post reported, citing sources, that federal investigators have DNA evidence showing she married her brother in 2009 for a green card — a claim that lands, Truthout noted the same day, after previous inquiries into her citizenship found no evidence of fraud. Whether that is proof or malarkey will not be settled on a cable panel, but on Fox Business, Washington Examiner's Byron York settled it anyway: "Obviously, Ilhan Omar is in a ton of trouble."

The presumption is survived by the subpoenas, the sealed file, and a grand jury that has not yet spoken. It is preceded in death by the unnamed source, who always gets there first.

In lieu of flowers, wait for the indictment before you read the verdict.

"This is the same move every time: leak an anonymous tip, let a cable panel call it a verdict, and the actual case never has to show up in a courtroom. They've cleared her before — Truthout says so, today, in the same story — and the new thing this week is a DNA claim nobody's put in front of a judge. If this works on a sitting member of Congress, it works on anybody with a green card and the wrong last name."
— Sal

"Nobody's saying she's guilty here, the administration is just confirming they're looking into it — well, and the sourcing is DNA, which is, okay, pretty specific for a "looking into it" — but Comer just wants the evidence released so Congress can decide, that's oversight, that's not a lynch mob. Did I just use the word lynch mob? Strike that, forget I said that."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Justice Department denies stoking voter-fraud fear on '60 Minutes,' breaks a citizen's arm enforcing it days later.* By Mitch · the afternoon edition, 19 October 2026
- *Obama calls Omar probe appalling; backlash reads his own IRS's Tea Party file back to him.* By Lou · the afternoon edition, 19 October 2026
- *Justice Department promises midterms will have 'no interruption,' delivers one to a congresswoman's front door instead.* By Lou · the evening edition, 19 October 2026
- *Conservative lawyer refutes 'political revenge' claim by revealing the warrant judge donated to Clinton* By Mitch · the afternoon edition, 18 October 2026
- *Homeland Security opens deportation case against congresswoman over a text message on her sister's phone* By Mitch · the morning edition, 18 October 2026
- *Homeland Security agents explained the criminal investigation the border czar confirmed in September and would not describe by searching Rep. Ilhan Omar's home on 12 October, over immigration forms her late father filled out when she was a child.* By Mitch · the evening edition, 18 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

~~Border Czar Homan Confirms Trump Admin Is Looking to Denaturalize Ilhan Omar~~

Homan confirms Trump team wants to denaturalize Omar - past probes found no fraud
Truthout | *15:34 EDT*

Previous inquiries into Ilhan Omar's citizenship have found no evidence of fraud.

~~Omar fundraising off federal investigation~~

DHS agents raided a sitting congresswoman's home Monday
The Hill | MAINSTREAM | *09:55 EDT*

Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) released a fundraising email focused on the federal investigation for which agents raided her home on Monday. "Stand with Ilhan Omar,"

~~Jayapal Responds to Omar Raid With Reminder of $50,000 in Paper Bag for Trump Border Czar~~

His border czar took a $50,000 bribe. His DOJ dropped it. Then his agents raided Omar's home.
Common Dreams | *16:34 EDT*

Progressive US Rep. Pramila Jayapal this week not only joined a growing chorus outraged by President Donald Trump's "rogue" Department of Homeland Security agents raiding Congresswoman Ilhan Omar's home, the Washington Democrat took it a step further. After putting out a nearly three-minute video decrying Trump's repeated attacks on her...

'Obviously Ilhan Omar is in a ton of trouble' if DOJ allegations are true: Byron York
Washington Examiner RIGHT | *15:28 EDT*

Washington Examiner chief political correspondent Byron York said Sunday that the immigration fraud allegations against Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN) could derail her entire career if true. "Obviously, Ilhan Omar is in a ton of trouble,"

~~Ilhan Omar's Office Slams Trump Deportation Plot as 'Authoritarian Move to Silence an Opponent'~~

DHS raided Ilhan Omar's home to build a case for stripping her citizenship, WSJ reports
Common Dreams | *17:01 EDT*

The office of Rep. Ilhan Omar slammed the Trump administration on Thursday over its reported plot to have the Minnesota Democrat stripped of her US citizenship. On Wednesday, The Wall Street Journal reported that the raid on Omar's home carried out earlier this week by Department of Homeland Security agents was part of and effort to...

~~Ilhan Omar's phone seized and relatives subpoenaed in criminal inquiry, source says~~

Federal agents seized Omar's phone and subpoenaed her relatives weeks before her reelection, sources say
The Guardian | MAINSTREAM | *18:22 EDT*

Federal authorities issued more than a dozen grand jury subpoenas in inquiry into potential immigration fraud US politics live – latest updates Federal authorities investigating the Minnesota representative Ilhan Omar seized the Democratic lawmaker's phone and have issued more than a dozen grand jury subpoenas, including to some of her...

Feds have DNA evidence that can prove Ilhan Omar committed immigration fraud, wed her brother: sources
New York Post RIGHT | *17:05 EDT*

The sprawling criminal probe is seeking in part to prove Omar allegedly married her brother in 2009 to try to help him get a green card.

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

Trump administration denies any pause in intelligence sharing with Ukraine for the second time in six days.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"Max Miller comes out against Trump waiving Russia sanctions", 19 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The President waived his own Russia sanctions law hours before it took effect.

WHO GETS PAID. Russian oil and energy exporters gain relief from the sanctions the waiver set aside.

WHAT SLIPS. Congress passed a mandatory sanctions law, and the President set it aside alone, so Congress's own check on Russia policy slips.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the waiver goes unchallenged, the sanctions law Congress passed stays symbolic; that is what the Senate got after its 2023 vote to repeal the Iraq war authorizations: the repeal did not become law until December 2025, 33 months later.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

My neighbor and I have been arguing about the fence between our yards for something like six years, and I want to say up front that I don't think either one of us is lying about it.

He says the line hasn't moved since his father set the posts, back before either of us owned the houses. I say the post nearest my tomatoes sits a good eight inches into what the survey calls mine. We've each had somebody out to check it — a surveyor for him, a man from the title company for me — and it took me longer than I'd like to admit to see the actual problem. We were both right, depending on where you stood to measure. He measures from his porch. I measure from the hose bib. The fence didn't move. What moved was whose yard you were standing in when you looked at it....

...(cont) I think about that fence because of what the Secretary of State said on Monday: there has been no pause in intelligence sharing with Ukraine. I wrote it down so I'd have it exact — no pause. That same Monday, Ukraine's president said he still can't get a straight answer on whether the sharing ever resumed, and that Russia hit the power grid overnight with no warning reaching Kyiv — the kind of warning the sharing is supposed to produce. Who's that warning supposed to reach, if not Kyiv?

The denial isn't the only place the record runs ahead of the statement. On October 13th, after a report that the administration had threatened to cut off intelligence sharing over Ukrainian strikes on Russian oil refineries, the President told reporters the sharing had not stopped. On Monday, it was the Secretary of State's turn to say the same thing, about the same sharing. That's two dates, six days apart, for one sentence. How many times has the sharing been declared unpaused since the 13th?

A month earlier, in September, the President had signed a new Russia sanctions law — Congress named it for the late Senator Graham — authorizing tariffs up to 100 percent on Russian energy. Friday night, hours before that law would have taken full effect, he waived it. The next night, Russia sent more than 320 drones at Ukraine's power grid. Senator Cassidy, a Republican I wouldn't call hostile to this President, said Monday that Graham and Ronald Reagan would be ashamed of the waiver. Congressman Max Miller said he opposes it outright. How many members of the President's own party went on record against that waiver in one week?

On a call hosted by Senator Tillis, Senator Blumenthal says Ukraine's president told a bipartisan group of senators his country still doesn't have full access to the Starshield satellite network — the one that's supposed to carry exactly the kind of warning that didn't reach Kyiv overnight. I don't have a fence analogy for a satellite. I tried. Does Ukraine have full access to Starshield yet?

Monday, on his way to a campaign rally in Kansas, the President said it's time for "somebody else" to negotiate on Ukraine's behalf. The same day, he said he'd be open to a three-way summit with President Putin and President Xi. "I would do it," he told reporters.

One more thing, and then I'll get out of your way. That summit — three men arranging terms for a war happening in a fourth man's country. I went back through what's actually on the guest list the Russian president proposed. Trump. Xi. Putin. I checked it twice. Whose name isn't on it?

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

THE PRESIDENT WAIVED A MONTH-OLD RUSSIA SANCTIONS LAW HOURS BEFORE IT TOOK EFFECT, AND THE NEXT NIGHT RUSSIA ANSWERED WITH MORE THAN 320 DRONES AT UKRAINE'S power grid; the Secretary of State then told the country nothing had paused, the same week the Ukrainian president said his own satellite warning network still isn't fully his. That isn't a lapse, that's a schedule kept by the wrong side. Favor goes out Friday night, the lights go out Saturday, and when they tell you nothing paused, go check the porch light, because it still runs on somebody else deciding when the warning gets sent.

"They waive a month-old sanctions law on a Friday night, and the receipt comes back Saturday as 320 drones on somebody else's power grid. Call one denial a mistake; the second one, six days later, same claim, different guy saying it, that's not a mistake, that's a script. Ukraine's buying time it doesn't have while three of the President's own party go on record against him in the same week — that's not a crisis of messaging, that's a receipt with everybody's signature on it."
— Sal

"Look, the waiver's strictly an energy-market tool, keeps diesel flowing, nothing to do with the war — I mean, the timing's just a coincidence of the legislative calendar. And the "no pause" thing, that's Rubio using "pause" in a technical sense, there's degrees of sharing, it's nuanced — did I say nuanced? That's not a word I use. Scratch all that."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Rubio tells Zelensky to end the war Putin is settling with Trump and Xi without him.* By Lou · the afternoon edition, 19 October 2026
- *Treasury insists Russia got no sanctions relief, just a waiver pausing the sanctions.* By Lou · the evening edition, 19 October 2026
- *Trump waives his own Russia sanctions the night before they take effect, and hours later more than 320 drones hit Ukraine's grid.* By The Wrecking Crew · the evening edition, 18 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

But: **Trump promised to settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours - on 53 separate occasions, per CNN's count** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Max Miller comes out against Trump waiving Russia sanctions
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *15:22 EDT*

Rep. Max Miller (R-Ohio) on Monday said he opposes President Trump's waiver on Russian sanctions after striking a deal with the Kremlin to permit diesel into the U.S. and global marketplace amid the energy shortage brought on by the Iran war.

Trump slams Zelenskyy amid Russia sanctions rift and says 'somebody else' should negotiate for Ukraine - live
The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *17:25 EDT*

President facing criticism for his move to waive sanctions for Russia as a new poll by Reuters shows only 31% of Americans approve of his performance in office Sign up for US Breaking News email A new Washington Post-ABC poll shows that Donald Trump's approval rating has reached a new low – 33% . This comes, just over two weeks away from...

But: **Trump promised in 2023 he would meet Putin and Zelensky and settle the war "within 24 hours" - CNN counted 53 such promises** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

GOP senator: Reagan, Graham would be 'ashamed' of Trump waiving Russia sanctions
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *16:22 EDT*

Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-La.) says former President Reagan and the late Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) would be "ashamed"

Trump says he would be open to trilateral meeting with Putin, Xi
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *16:07 EDT*

President Trump said Monday he has not yet agreed to a trilateral meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping, but he said he is open to it. "I would do it," Trump told reporters on the White House's South Lawn before heading to a midterm rally in Kansas. "Not so much...

Zelensky disputes US resumed intelligence sharing with Ukraine
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *15:06 EDT*

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Monday again called into question whether the U.S. has continued to share intelligence with the war-torn country a day after he said Washington resumed providing Kyiv with such information to help defend against Russian missile strikes. Zelensky said Russia launched ballistic missiles and drones...

But: **Trump promised Putin and Zelensky would settle the war in 24 hours - 53 times, CNN counted** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Trump rips Zelensky, refers to infamous Oval Office blowup in call to end Ukraine war: 'Time for someone else to negotiate'
New York Post RIGHT § *16:00 EDT*

"I think it's time for somebody else to negotiate on behalf of Ukraine," Trump said in a blistering takedown of Zelensky.

Marco Rubio says there is "no pause" in intelligence sharing with Ukraine
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *17:06 EDT*

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy claims that he received no early warning of a Russian attack from partner countries that previously shared intelligence, including the United States. U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio responded, saying there's been no pause in intelligence-sharing.

But: **Trump promised 53 separate times he'd end the Ukraine war within 24 hours of meeting Putin and Zelensky** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Speaker Johnson warns WH of 'unintended consequences' of sanctions relief on Russia: 'Putin cannot be trusted'
New York Post RIGHT § *17:22 EDT*

House Speaker Mike Johnson revealed that he privately pushed the White House to contemplate the consequences of giving Russia sanctions relief as its bloody war in Ukraine unfolds.

But: **Trump promised 'within 24 hours, that war will be settled' - CNN counted 53 separate occasions he made that promise** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Trump calls on 'somebody else' to negotiate for Ukraine with Russia
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *16:48 EDT*

President Donald Trump recommended that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky nominate someone else to negotiate a peace deal with Russia. Trump made the recommendation Monday as he departed the White House for a campaign rally in Kansas. The comments came in response to a question about Zelensky saying Trump is on the "wrong side of...

~~Trump faces bipartisan backlash over waiving Russia sanctions~~
Trump waived sanctions that refill Russia's pocketbooks. Its war on Ukraine continues.
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *17:00 EDT*

President Trump is defending his decision to waive sanctions, which will refill Russia's pocketbooks as it attacks Ukraine.

~~Zelensky shrugs off Trump's call for him to be replaced~~
Trump wants Zelensky gone for the war he vowed to end in a day
Morning Star § *08:20 EDT*

UKRAINIAN President Volodymyr Zelensky shrugged calls from his US counterpart, President Donald Trump, to quit today. Mr Trump called for Mr Zelensky's departure on Saturday, saying that he has not done enough to end the war and blaming him for high diesel prices in the US. "I suggest they get a new leader who can make a deal because he...

But: **Trump said in May 2023 he'd settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours of meeting Putin and Zelensky - CNN counted 53 such promises** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Trump denies stopping intelligence sharing with Ukraine
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *13:54 EDT*

The United States has not stopped sharing its intelligence with Ukraine, President Donald Trump said Tuesday after a news report claimed that the administration threatened to withhold intelligence from its European ally if Ukrainian strikes continued hitting Russian oil refineries. "We help them, but we're really helping them get to a...

Democratic senator: Zelensky says Ukraine doesn't have full access to Starshield, intelligence sharing
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *14:58 EDT*

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) said Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky told senators Ukraine still does not have full access to the critical satellite-based Starshield network or U.S. intelligence sharing amid growing tensions with President Trump.

~~Trump announces immediate 'energy ceasefire' between Russia and Ukraine~~
Trump demanded Ukraine replace its leader. A day later, he declared a ceasefire.
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *10:34 EDT*

President Donald Trump on Sunday announced an immediate "energy ceasefire" between Russia and Ukraine, a day after ripping Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky for targeting Russian energy infrastructure during the war and calling for a new Ukrainian leader. "Effective immediately, there is an ENERGY CEASEFIRE in the War between Russia...

· What's behind the Ukrainian intelligence gunfight *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump signs Russia sanctions bill named after Lindsey Graham *from the morgue, 19 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.

Paxton told donors "everybody's numbers are down." Three weeks later, the polls agree.

By MORT
THE RECORDS BUREAU

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. A CBS poll finds Ken Paxton and James Talarico tied in the Texas Senate race before Election Day.

WHO GETS PAID. Talarico and national Democrats, who could flip a Texas Senate seat if the toss-up holds.

WHAT SLIPS. Nothing slips here yet.

WHAT'S NEXT. No case in the pattern file covers a safe Senate seat collapsing into a tie in six weeks. What happens next is the count when Texans vote, two weeks away.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Today we bury a lock, not a man — the plain assumption that a Texas Senate seat does not need defending, the kind of inherited certainty political parties budget around instead of poll for. The death took about six weeks, and it is worth reading beat by beat, because that is the only way an institution's passing looks: not a heart attack, a slow bleed with a date stamped on every page.

On September 3, Karl Rove told Republicans that "time is running out" for Ken Paxton, the state attorney general and the president's handpicked nominee. A week later, on September 10, an AARP poll found Talarico, the Democrat, ahead by four points. By September 27 the lead had grown to five, the same day Democratic strategist Paul Begala pointed to Governor Abbott's own tightening reelection number and called the shape of the state a "wipe out" in progress. Three days after that, in audio leaked to reporters, Paxton told his own donors "everybody's numbers are down." By October 7, a second leak had him blaming the president's war for his troubles; by October 13, reporters had placed him at a 2025 New Year's party in Dubai attended by American fugitives; by October 15 the president was preemptively blaming Senator John Cornyn and Rove for a loss that had not happened yet; by October 18 the Guardian had tallied the rest and called him, in its own words, "uniquely ill-chosen." A candidate's character is a straight-news matter, not an obituary, and none of that is this column's business. What is this column's business is what all of it did to the lock....

...(cont) Today, October 19, the number arrived. A new poll finds Talarico and Paxton essentially tied, the five points gone, two weeks before Texans vote. CBS brought on two strategists to ask, soberly, whether Paxton has a likability problem — a question nobody books airtime for about a seat that is actually safe. That panel is the death certificate. A coin flip is not a loss; Paxton may still win. But the lock never needed him to lose. It only needed the race to become discussable, pollable, worth a Sunday-show segment, and by that penny-ante standard it has been dead for six weeks.

Born: longer ago than anyone currently covering the seat. Survived by: a toss-up, a party spending money it did not plan to spend, and a nominee telling his own donors the numbers are down. Preceded in death by nothing; it had not lost a round before this one.

In lieu of flowers, vote like the lock is already gone, because every number filed here says that it is.

"Paxton told his own donors in private that the numbers were cratering, and three weeks later the public poll says the exact same thing. That's not a late surprise, that's a man watching his private numbers catch up with him on cable news. The only lock left on this race is the one on the ballot box, and it opens on Election Day no matter who's embarrassed by what's inside."
— Sal

"A tied poll two weeks out just means Texans are finally paying attention — that's healthy, that's democracy working. Paxton's numbers aren't down, the sample's skewed, everybody knows CBS skews these things — did I say CBS skews, I meant the methodology needs context. Republicans have held this seat for a long time; a close race proves nothing except enthusiasm, probably more of it on our side."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Trump preemptively blames Cornyn for Paxton's Senate loss, two weeks before Texans vote.* By The Lodgers · the afternoon edition, 18 October 2026
- *Op-ed warns Congress twice in 16 days, drops the $17.1 billion fix it cited the first time.* By Ruth · the afternoon edition, 18 October 2026
- *Farmers who backed Trump for a decade turn two weeks before Republicans must defend Congress.* By Ruth · the afternoon edition, 18 October 2026
- *Record-low approval arrives before Vance finishes asking voters for more time.* By Ruth · the morning edition, 18 October 2026
- *Trump's $5,000 a head arrived as $90 out of the Medicare fund he called a pointless slush fund, with the other $4,910 due only if Republicans keep both chambers November 3* By Lou · the evening edition, 18 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

New poll shows Talarico, Paxton essentially tied in Texas as Democrats, Republicans weigh midterms

CBS News MAINSTREAM $ *09:22 EDT*

A recent CBS News poll shows James Talarico is essentially tied with Ken Paxton among Texas voters. CBS News' Fin Gómez reports.

Republican, Democratic strategists weigh in on if Ken Paxton has a likability problem

CBS News MAINSTREAM $ *10:11 EDT*

Some Republican voters in Texas are weighing whether to elect Ken Paxton to the U.S. Senate despite his checkered past. Political strategists Harrison Fields and Robyn Patterson join with more.

- Ken Paxton says midterm convention hurt GOP in leaked audio *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- One normally quiet Texas race shows 2026 will be a 'wipe out' for Republicans, Dem stategist claims *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*
- Talarico leads Paxton by 5 points in Texas Senate race poll *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*
- Talarico leads Paxton in Texas by 4 points: Poll *from the morgue, 10 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.

Musk to give every American child SpaceX stock; parental consent optional under the Trump Accounts program

By STERLING
THE OWNERSHIP DESK

"Zelenskyy vows to retaliate if Russian strikes on Ukraine's power grid continue", 12 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE GUARDIAN — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Elon Musk says he will give every child in the United States a share of SpaceX stock.

WHO GETS PAID. Musk gets every American family on his company's shareholder list; Republicans got $276 million from him this cycle.

WHAT SLIPS. Parents lose the say over whether their child is enrolled.

WHAT'S NEXT. If donor money keeps setting the price of a seat, the winner is picked before voters vote; that is what Kentucky got after 19 May 2026: a seven-term congressman lost a primary where $37 million was spent, the most ever on a House primary.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Every child in America is to receive a share of SpaceX, and you are thinking: how handsome. Look at the delivery. A gift is a thing one may decline — decline, mind you — and the Examiner reports this one goes into Trump Accounts even where the parents object. Not a gift, then. An enrollment. Every donee a minor, and no donee asked.

He wrote on Monday that it "will be the first of many."...

...(cont) Price the month. On October 12 the Post put his midterm spending at $276 million, the largest of the cycle. On October 9 his plan for SpaceX to become a mobile carrier wiped more than $50 billion off AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile before lunch. On September 22 a disclosure showed Trump bought up to $50,000 of SpaceX in July and sold up to $15,000.

The child holds one share ... and the man who sent it holds billions.

Each morning now, grain in the
coop the fox leaves. The hens stay.

— ENOCH
The Ownership Desk

"They tell you there's no money for your kid's school, and then one guy hands every kid in the country a single share of his rocket company — and the law says you don't get to say no. Same guy put $276 million into Republicans this cycle, and when he said SpaceX was getting into the phone business, AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile lost fifty billion dollars of value before lunch. A share you can't refuse isn't a gift, it's your kid's name on his list."

— Sal

"Objecting to free stock for children? That's — look, nobody is forcing anyone, parents can object all they like, the program handles it. Did I say that? That doesn't sound like me. The point is a kid gets an asset, and if the man behind it happens to be the biggest donor in the midterms, those are just two nice things landing in the same month."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *The contribution limit died this week of natural causes, survived by a record $276 million, a $400 million party edge, and the 100 mph ceiling on Ukraine's air defense that the contractor spent three days attributing to the government that funds the terminals.* By Mort · the evening edition, 18 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

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...

How much money has Musk given to Republican groups since July? The quiz knows
NPR MAINSTREAM § *05:00 EDT*

Plus, this week saw comings and goings at the White House, the revenge of a child (reality) star, and Elon Musk doing Elon Musk things.

Zelensky laments Ukraine is 'losing America' as Congress cries foul over intel and Starlink reports
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *15:24 EDT*

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is waving a red flag over the partnership between his country and the United States, saying he feels his administration is "losing" a strong ally in the U.S. under President Donald Trump.

~~Ukraine says SpaceX's Starshield throttling hampers defense against Russian strikes on energy sites~~

SpaceX capped speeds on Ukraine's military drones without warning, Kyiv says
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *09:31 EDT*

Ukrainian officials said speed limits were imposed on military-grade Starlink terminals without warning, disrupting military missions and forcing the cancellation of some drone operations. Serhii Beskrestnov, an adviser to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on defense technology, said the restrictions apply to Starshield, SpaceX's...

~~Ukrainian military's access to Starlink satellite internet suddenly restricted~~

Musk's SpaceX cut Ukraine's battlefield internet as Trump pushed Kyiv to halt oil strikes
The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *12:18 EDT*

Launch of Russian ballistic missiles on Ukraine, with no US warning, coincides with outage of Starlink managed by Musk's SpaceX Ukraine's military has suddenly had its access to Starlink satellite internet terminals restricted as the Trump administration has increased pressure on Ukraine to halt long-range strikes on Russia's oil...

What Is Starshield, SpaceX's Military-Grade Satellite Internet Service Ukraine Relies On?
The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *18:20 EDT*

For years, Ukraine's armed forces have relied on satellite communication services developed by Elon Musk's SpaceX. Recent restrictions have hampered its war effort.

~~GOP Sen. Tillis asks Musk to explain Ukraine losing access to Starlink~~

A billionaire holds the off switch to Ukraine's wartime communications
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *15:22 EDT*

Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) is pressing Elon Musk to explain Ukraine's loss of military access to Starlink and expressing hope that Ukraine's restricted access to the space-based communications network was because of an error and not a deliberate decision. Tillis called on Musk in a social media post to "please tell me these overnight...

~~U.S. may have withheld warnings to Ukraine on deadly Kyiv strikes~~

Trump administration may have withheld warnings before a strike that killed 6, cut power to 600,000: sources
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *19:56 EDT*

The Trump administration may have withheld intelligence warnings to Ukraine about Russian strikes that killed 6 and cut power to 600,000 people, sources say.

~~Ukraine slams SpaceX for cutting Starlink internet access while Russians launch brutal attacks~~

Musk's SpaceX throttled Ukraine's Starlink, Kyiv says, as Trump pressured it to halt Russian refinery strikes
New York Post RIGHT § *10:59 EDT*

Top Ukrainian officials erupted with outrage after their soldiers allegedly faced throttled Starlink access without warning in the middle of operations, as President Trump has pressured Kyiv to stop attacking Russian refineries.

~~Ukraine says SpaceX limiting Starlink operations, impacting air defense~~

Musk's Starlink is limiting Ukraine's air defense, Kyiv says, as Zelensky warns Trump may cut intelligence sharing
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *09:51 EDT*

Ukraine is raising alarm that air defense operations are being impacted by unannounced limitations on SpaceX satellites. The disruption comes following Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky warning that President Trump has threatened to cut off intelligence sharing with the country. Limits on Starlink's services in Ukraine occurred...

Ukraine's Exposure Grows as Satellite Use Is Restricted and Russia Escalates
The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *05:06 EDT*

A huge attack cut power to 600,000 people in Kyiv, and a Pentagon-funded satellite internet program appeared to be curbed without warning.

But: Trump promised he'd settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours of taking office – CNN counted 53 separate times he said it
CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)

Washington limits its support to Kyiv amidst increased Russian attacks on energy infrastructure
Le Monde MAINSTREAM § *04:58 EDT*

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said he felt 'betrayed,' as the US is threatening to halt intelligence sharing and new restrictions on the Starlink satellite network hamper the country's defense capacities.

Musk says US government may be behind slowdown of Ukraine drone speeds
BBC News MAINSTREAM § *00:30 EDT*

Ukraine says Starlink access has improved but it is still facing speed limits which are disrupting its battlefield "missions".

Thanks to Trump Accounts tweak, Musk can give every child SpaceX shares even if parents object
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *11:02 EDT*

Elon Musk announced he will give every child in the United States stock in his company SpaceX, a maneuver that is possible thanks to the implementation of the Trump Accounts program. Musk, the founder of SpaceX, Tesla, and other ventures, made the announcement Monday morning. He holds billions of shares of SpaceX.

Musk blames Trump and US military for Ukraine's Starshield restrictions
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *17:08 EDT*

SpaceX CEO Elon Musk said his company is not responsible for any speed restrictions on Starshield defense communications systems, saying that power is vested in the U.S. military and President Donald Trump. "Starshield systems are owned and controlled by the US government.

Elon Musk's growing SpaceX empire sends AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile shares plunging
NBC News MAINSTREAM § *13:55 EDT*

Elon Musk's plan for SpaceX to become a major mobile carrier sent shares of AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile plunging and wiped out over $50 billion before lunch.

Musk and Anthropic pledge public share giveaways
BBC News MAINSTREAM § *05:38 EDT*

Musk's announcement comes after Anthropic pledged to create a public benefit fund ahead of its blockbuster stock market listing.

Now that Musk owns Republicans, they own his extremism
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *10:30 EDT*

Why is Musk exempt from the kind of scrutiny devoted to social media influencers who have far less influence on our culture and political system?

Throttling of Ukraine's Starlink Access Heightens Concerns Over Government Reliance on Elon Musk
Common Dreams § *10:53 EDT*

The Ukrainian government on Tuesday night said that its access to the SpaceX-owned Starlink satellite internet service was throttled, prompting critics to question the wisdom of depending on any company owned by far-right billionaire Elon Musk. According to a Wednesday report in The New York Times, Ukrainian officials suspect that orders...

Elon Musk points to Trump for Starshield throttling in Ukraine that Zelensky warns will cost lives
New York Post RIGHT § *19:06 EDT*

Tech titan Elon Musk indicated the Trump administration, not SpaceX, caused the throttling of a military version of Starlink in Ukraine that set off panic in the war-torn country.

~~Elon Musk is the largest 2026 midterms donor — with $276M spent for GOP~~

Musk's $276M for the GOP could cover classroom-supply costs for 300,000+ teachers
New York Post RIGHT § *17:58 EDT*

Tech billionaire Elon Musk has spent $276 million on behalf of Republicans ahead of the 2026 midterm elections, making him the largest donor this cycle, The Post has learned.

~~Ukrainian officials accuse U.S. of withholding intelligence, leading to Russian missile attack~~

The U.S. threatened to stop warning Ukraine about Russian strikes – Trump says the strikes raise gas prices.
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *19:55 EDT*

Ukrainian officials suspect the U.S. has been withholding information about incoming Russian air strikes. The U.S.

Elon Musk pledges to give a SpaceX share to every U.S. child
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *11:03 EDT*

The SpaceX CEO wrote on social media on Monday that the gift "will be the first of many."

~~Ukraine accuses SpaceX of restricting Starlink, disrupting military amid Trump pressure~~

Ukraine says Musk's SpaceX throttled the Starlink it depends on in war
NBC News MAINSTREAM § *08:51 EDT*

Ukrainian officials and military units accused Elon Musk's SpaceX of throttling a technology at the heart of their battlefield communications and drone operations.

Amid Ukraine uproar, Musk says decisions to restrict Starshield up to president
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *16:19 EDT*

SpaceX CEO Elon Musk on Wednesday said decisions to restrict the speed or usage of Starlink's Starshield are made by the U.S. military and, ultimately, the president, as confusion swirls over Ukraine's loss of military access to the systems. It is not clear at this point what caused Ukraine's military to lose access to Starshield,...

Ukraine reports U.S. early warning system shut down as Russia launched new air strikes
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *19:39 EDT*

Ukrainian officials tell CBS News that a U.S. early warning system failed amid a new wave of Russian strikes on Tuesday. CBS News' Charlie D'Agata has the details.

U.S. Continues to Provide Intelligence to Ukraine, Officials Say
The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *19:11 EDT*

Confusion about the U.S. stance has mounted in Kyiv amid restrictions on how the military version of Starlink is used.

But: Trump promised he'd end the war within 24 hours of meeting Putin and Zelensky – CNN counted 53 separate occasions he made that promise *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Ukraine faces loss of key satellite support amid tensions between Trump and Zelenskyy
ABC News MAINSTREAM § *07:40 EDT*

Trump declared a ceasefire, but both sides are still shooting.

~~Musk says Zelensky should 'go' as doubts grow over US support for Ukraine~~

Ukraine's battlefield satellites belong to one company. Musk says blame Washington for any cutoff.
France 24 MAINSTREAM § *16:19 EDT*

SpaceX CEO Elon Musk on Wednesday called on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to "go" after Kyiv raised doubts over US support for his country against the Russian invasion. A day earlier, Musk said any restrictions on Ukraine's use of the Starshield system would be due to decisions made by the US government after Zelensky called on...

· Trump bought and sold shares in Musk's SpaceX in July, financial disclosure shows *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Facebook and Instagram starts to allow users in Eastern Europe, the Baltics, and the Caucasus to promote violence against Russians and Russian soldiers in the context of the war in Ukraine, which is n *from the morgue, 10 Mar 2022*

· A missile strike kills two people in the village of Przewodów in eastern Poland. President of the United States Joe Biden says that the missile blast in Poland was caused by a Ukrainian air defense mi *from the morgue, 15 Nov 2022*

· Russia launches dozens of ballistic missiles at Ukrainian cities for a second consecutive day with reports of power outages in Kharkiv after critical infrastructure was damaged. At least eight missile *from the morgue, 22 Mar 2024*

· Ukraine accuses Elon Musk of allowing Russian forces to attack Ukrainian cities after it was revealed that Starlink satellite communications interfered with a drone operation by disabling a communicat *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2023*

· The Security Service of Ukraine says that it detained two Ukrainian government protection unit colonels recruited by Russia's Federal Security Service who were planning an assassination of President V *from the morgue, 7 May 2024*

· Twelve Ukrainian servicemembers are killed and 60 more are injured in a Russian missile strike on a training camp in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast. The commander of the Ground Forces of Ukraine, Mykhailo Drap *from the morgue, 1 Jun 2025*

· With Elon Musk's Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Hegseth puts the future of warfare in the hands of major Maga donors *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· 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 Accord Enshrines Light-Touch Regulation of AI *from the morgue, 3 Oct 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*

· Soaring diesel prices take their toll on US farmers in midwest corn belt *from the morgue, 3 Oct 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*

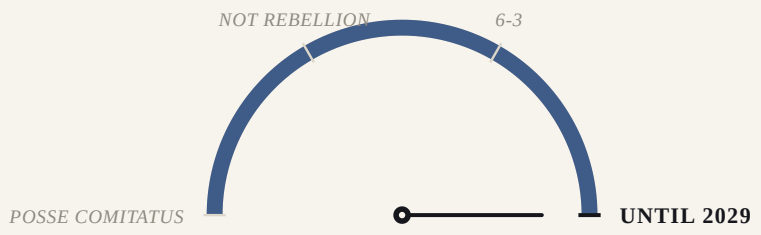
This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

§66 — 19 OCTOBER 2026

On training grounds

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



UNTIL 2029

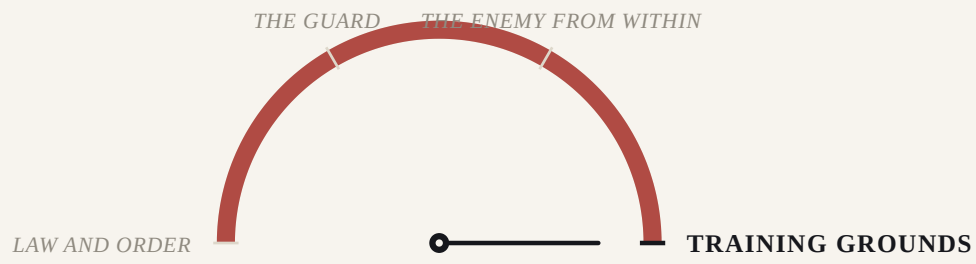
The courts. In September 2025 a federal judge in California ruled that the Los Angeles deployment violated the Posse Comitatus Act; the ruling was stayed on appeal [1]. In October the Seventh Circuit wrote that "political opposition is not rebellion" [2]. On December 23 the Supreme Court, 6 to 3, refused the Illinois deployment: "At this preliminary stage, the Government has failed to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois" [3]. The FBI's 2025 figures showed murder down 18.1 percent nationally; one analyst noted rates "are falling in cities with very different public safety strategies" [4].

The bill and the calendar. The Congressional Budget Office put the deployments at about $496 million through December 2025, and about $93 million a month going forward [5]. The Los Angeles, Chicago and Portland deployments ended. The one in Washington was extended in August until Inauguration Day, 2029 [6].

SOURCES

1. A federal judge ruled the Los Angeles deployment violated the Posse Comitatus Act; the Ninth Circuit stayed the ruling — Cato Institute, September 2025 ↑
2. "Political opposition is not rebellion" — Seventh Circuit — Chicago Sun-Times, 16 October 2025 ↑
3. Trump v. Illinois, 23 December 2025, 6–3: "the Government has failed to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois" — NBC News ↑
4. FBI 2025 data: murder down 18.1 percent; "Rates are falling in cities with very different public safety strategies" — CBS News, 14 August 2026 ↑
5. About $496 million through December 2025; about $93 million per month going forward, per CBO — CBS News, 29 January 2026 ↑
6. The Washington deployment "quietly extended until Inauguration Day of 2029" — NPR, 11 August 2026 ↑

REPUBLICAN



TRAINING GROUNDS

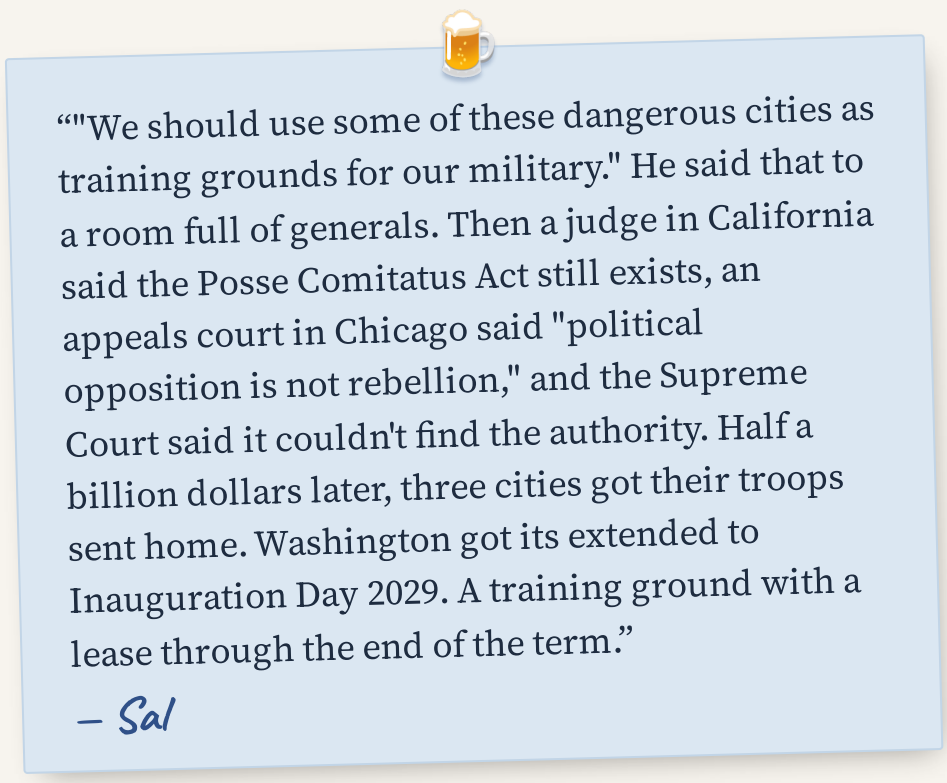
The line, to the generals and admirals at Quantico on September 30, 2025: "I told Pete, 'we should use some of these dangerous cities as training grounds for our military national guard, but military. Because we're going into Chicago very soon.'" And: "it's the enemy from within and we have to handle it before it gets out of control" [1].

The case for the deployments is the crime numbers, and in Washington they moved. Metropolitan Police data reported in February showed four homicides in the previous 41 days, a 78 percent drop from the same period a year earlier, with violent crime down 36 percent [2]. When he ended three of the deployments at the end of 2025, he credited the troops: "CRIME has greatly reduced by having these great Patriots in those cities, and ONLY by that fact" [3]. A falling homicide count is the kind of result a city can feel. Whether the troops were the reason is on the other side.

SOURCES

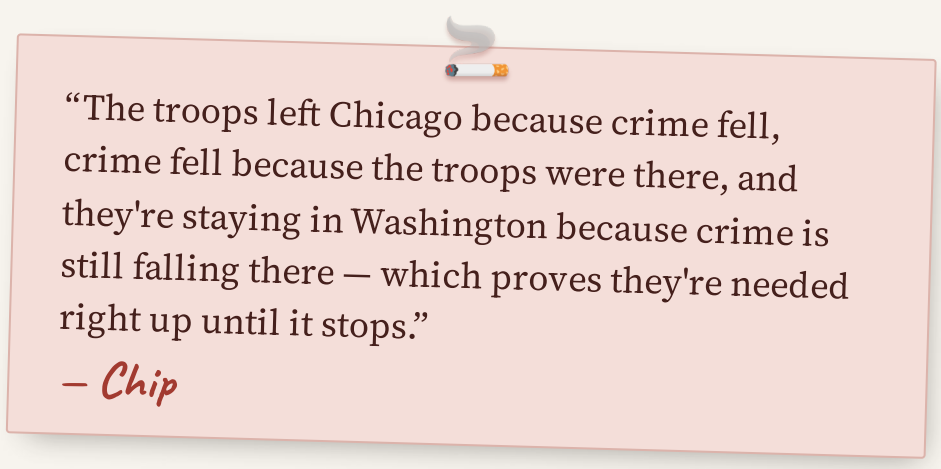
1. "We should use some of these dangerous cities as training grounds for our military"; "it's the enemy from within" — remarks to military leaders at Quantico, 30 September 2025 — Miller Center ↑
2. Four homicides in 41 days, a 78 percent drop from a year earlier; violent crime down 36 percent — NBC Washington, 10 February 2026 ↑
3. "CRIME has greatly reduced by having these great Patriots in those cities, and ONLY by that fact" — Stars and Stripes, 31 December 2025 ↑

"I'll read it the way he said it, because the wording matters. Quantico, September 30th of last year, to the generals: "we should use some of these dangerous cities as training grounds for our military national guard, but military." Then the courts, one at a time. A district judge in California. The Seventh Circuit: "political opposition is not rebellion." The Supreme Court, December 23rd: the government "failed to identify a source of authority." Then the bill: about four hundred ninety-six million through December. Excuse me, I'm going — the troops came home from three cities. The fourth deployment runs until 2029. What's it training for?" — Lou



""We should use some of these dangerous cities as training grounds for our military." He said that to a room full of generals. Then a judge in California said the Posse Comitatus Act still exists, an appeals court in Chicago said "political opposition is not rebellion," and the Supreme Court said it couldn't find the authority. Half a billion dollars later, three cities got their troops sent home. Washington got its extended to Inauguration Day 2029. A training ground with a lease through the end of the term."

— Sal



"The troops left Chicago because crime fell, crime fell because the troops were there, and they're staying in Washington because crime is still falling there — which proves they're needed right up until it stops."

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎