The Single-Column Edition

FROM § EACH

TUESDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2026 — THE EVENING EDITION FREE, FOREVER

Republican operatives advised Alberta's bid to leave Canada, rewarded with more than two-thirds voting to remain.

BY THE LODGERS
The Euro Desk

Alberta voted today to stay in Canada, by more than two-thirds, in a referendum Republican operatives had quietly advised from outside. I shall go slowly through what was in it: a law already sitting on the shelf, a trade war running underneath, and a prime minister ready to serve the result as proof of his own plan.

Start with the law. On December 8, 2022, Alberta's legislature passed the Sovereignty Within a United Canada Act. Take it by both ends and turn it over: it does not let the province leave, only lets its cabinet set aside a federal law it dislikes. You will be looking for the clause that lets Alberta go. There is no such clause. It sat on the shelf through 2023, 2024, 2025, until October 7, when the BBC asked how the province's economy might fare if it broke away.

Clive *On the shelf. I've a stanza that's sat there longer, and mine has never once needed a referendum to be ignored.*

Gary *Ignored. Give me a hammer and the shelf's gone before lunch; your stanza can stay in the gap.*

By October 16, the law had a use. Prime Minister Mark Carney said, in the

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THE WORD

§67 — 20 OCTOBER 2026

On fire and fury

DEMOCRAT

TACO

REPUBLICAN

FIRE AND FURY

"I brought the calendar. August 8, 2017 — fire and fury. June 2018 — Singapore. February 2019 — Hanoi, no deal, the plane leaves early. August 16, 2026 — "substantially reduce the Joint Military Exercises," his capitals. August 17 to 21 — the drills, five days instead of eleven. August 20 — more than ten missiles from the north, as the drills end. Excuse me, before you go — the fire and the fury, in nine years. Whose was it?" — Lou

... Continued on Page W67

Trump invokes wartime powers twice for one gas pipeline: $200 billion from Seoul, $42 million from you

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

Forty-two million dollars of public money went out this week, and you will want to know what the emergency was. The wire does not supply one. It supplies an authority — wartime powers, those words, invoked over a pipeline the Daily Caller calls long-stalled — and it supplies a purpose: an "abundant supply of low-cost natural gas." Low-cost. Mind the hyphen. Somebody drafted that.

You are thinking subsidy. Subsidy is the amateur instrument; a line in a budget may be struck by the next committee that sits. An emergency power is standing, and standing powers do not require the emergency to be argued, only invoked. This one had a prior outing. On the thirtieth of September, in the Oval Office, South Korea's government was announced as investing up to two hundred billion dollars in American energy infrastructure — the Alaska pipeline, a gas plant in Texas, eight nuclear plants. Up to two hundred billion. Twenty days later, forty-two million of yours, into the same Alaskan line.

And what does the public hold for its forty-two million? The wire names

... Continued on Page F123

Trump calls Paris riots a preview of Democratic Congress, two weeks before voters decide.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The ledger starts on September twenty-fifth, when the Washington Examiner caught the president threading a needle: he was calling Democrats communists in the same season he was offering Xi Jinping, general secretary of an actual Communist Party, a warm embrace. No invoice attached to either position; the word just moves where it is needed.

Still no dollar figure here — this was a warning, not a budget line.

The money shows up on October fifteenth, in a Guardian dispatch filed as the president returned to Washington for the final stretch of the midterm blitz. The headline number was the poll: voters said the economy was getting worse, and the dispatch called that math trouble for a party trying to hold both chambers. Lower in the same dispatch sat the only figure in this file with a dollar sign attached — hundreds of thousands of dollars, the cost under consideration for a federal media campaign in South Africa. Its stated purpose, per the dispatch, was not to recruit white Afrikaners into the refugee program already built for them. It was to study why more of them are not applying. A government paying to ask why people decline its own offer is, on

... Continued on Page F123

Rubio insists Patriots weren't "deliberately denied"; Hegseth admits "our guys" need them too.

BY LOU
One More Question

My cousin Rosalie does upholstery out of a garage on the east side — restaurant booths, a judge's old chambers chair she still brings up at dinner — and she has strong opinions about fabric suppliers that I've learned not to argue with. I called her Tuesday night with a question that wasn't about fabric, except it kept turning into one.

Here is where the story stood before Tuesday. On September 25th, Zelensky told reporters the president himself had given the final okay on a Patriot missile license for Ukraine — signed, moving. On October 15th, Zelensky told the Financial Times Ukraine was done honoring the cease-fire on Russian oil refineries. The next day the president called that "a disgrace." That same week, October 16th, four Republican senators joined their Democratic colleagues asking the Pentagon, in writing, whether anyone had ordered restrictions on Ukraine's access to the Starshield satellite network — the thing that helps Ukraine's drones find Russian drones. On October 19th, the Guardian reported Ukraine got no American warning before Russian strikes hit Kyiv's power plants. And by the 20th, with a House Republican's

... Continued on Page A218

Trump calls Omar and Walz '100% guilty' of 'Minnesota fraud,' threatens jail or deportation.

BY LOU
One More Question

My nephew Daniel is in his second year of law school, and when he talks about criminal procedure I listen the way you listen to a weather man who has actually been right before. Last week I asked him, purely in the generic sense, what has to happen between "under investigation" and "guilty." He said: an indictment. A charging document. Something with a docket number that a judge signs off on. I asked what happens if none of that exists yet. He said then there isn't a guilty — there's just somebody with an opinion and a microphone.

Here's what that looks like where I live. I missed the toll on the parkway back in August — the automatic kind, no gate, just a camera overhead. Three weeks later an envelope came to the house: a photograph of my bumper, my plate circled in red, and a bill already inside. Not a hearing date. Not a chance to say the camera read an eight as a six. A bill. There was a camera, and then there was a number, and nothing happened in between.

I mention this because of the paperwork on Rep. Ilhan Omar.

On 13 September, Fox News carried the border czar, Tom Homan, confirm-

... Continued on Page T29

Trump invokes tariff law courts already ruled he exceeded, taxing Canada $20 billion again.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The group that persuaded the Supreme Court to strike down a large share of President Trump's tariffs filed suit again Tuesday, this time over his 50 percent tariff on Canadian goods. Same statute, same lawyers, a different country.

Hours later, a New Jersey food importer filed its own suit over the identical levy, naming the identical Depression-era law. Two plaintiffs, one morning, one law a federal court has already ruled this president exceeded.

The tariff itself traces to August. Trade talks with Ottawa collapsed on a Friday; by Saturday Washington had put a 50 percent tariff on roughly $20 billion worth of Canadian goods. Canada's response came within the week: $20 billion in retaliatory tariffs of its own, effective September 8, matched dollar for dollar.

That is the shape of the fight: $20 billion out, $20 billion back, and a law in the middle that courts have found does not reach this far. The administration invoked it a second time anyway. Tuesday's lawsuits argue the theory a court accepted once before, aimed now at a tariff imposed after that ruling came

... Continued on Page B43

Ramaswamy ad asks Acton's estranged mother to call her a liar, unites her brother and McCain's daughter.

BY SAL
Staff Writer

Donna Arthur appears on screen and tells Ohio her daughter is a liar. Donna Arthur is Amy Acton's estranged mother. The ad does not dispute the abuse. It puts the woman named inside that story on camera and lets her call her daughter a liar about a tent.

Acton's brother, Philip Stearns, answered with his own ad the same day. He did not take up the tent. He took up the method: campaigning on his sister's sexual abuse, he said, is "a despicable low." Acton answered separately, in her own words, and called what Ramaswamy's campaign had done a "lifelong pattern" of personal attacks. A brother on the method, a sister on the pattern — two different people, two different sentences, both aimed at the same sixty seconds of tape.

Then the file widened past the family. Meghan McCain, a Republican senator's daughter, called the ad "dastardly" and said shame on whatever consultant firm made it. She is not on the Ohio ballot and owes nobody in this race an opinion. She gave one anyway. By Tuesday, a Democrat's brother, the Democrat herself, and a Republican senator's daughter were on

... Continued on Page A217

Trump calls fired ambassador's work 'good,' says he 'didn't like what we were reading'

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

The ambassadorship of Kimberly Guilfoyle to the Hellenic Republic died this month, survived by a $100,000 credit card bill, a donor's on-the-record account, and her own denial of what he said. It is preceded in death by the fiction that the post was filled on credentials rather than on her four years engaged to Donald Trump Jr.

On October 8, Eric Deters, a former Republican congressional candidate and a donor to President Trump's campaign, told ABC's "Good Morning America" what Guilfoyle had offered him, he said: access to top officials in the administration, in trade for paying off her $100,000 card debt. "It was all quid pro quo," Deters said, on the record, under his own name.

Five days later, on a Tuesday, the White House announced it had asked Guilfoyle to resign, ending what the Guardian called "the diplomatic career of one of Trump's longest-standing political allies." Reporters were told Trump and Secretary of State Rubio were furious over the reports. That same Tuesday, asked about the decision, Trump told the press Guilfoyle "was doing a good job" — and in the next breath explained he was removing her anyway

... Continued on Page B42

> "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*

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

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

Trump invokes wartime powers twice for one gas pipeline: $200 billion from Seoul, $42 million from you

By STERLING
THE OWNERSHIP DESK

"Musk blames Trump and US military for Ukraine's Starshield restrictions", 14 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA WASHINGTON EXAMINER — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. President Trump used wartime emergency powers to restart a stalled natural gas pipeline with taxpayer money.

WHO GETS PAID. The Alaska LNG pipeline project, the same network South Korea's government agreed to back with up to $200 billion.

WHAT SLIPS. Emergency authority skips the vote in Congress, so the people you elect do not decide whether to fund it.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the label holds, more follows under the same authority; Washington did this on March 31, 2022, draining 180 million barrels from the oil reserve under a fact sheet titled "Putin's Price Hike at the Pump."

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Forty-two million dollars of public money went out this week, and you will want to know what the emergency was. The wire does not supply one. It supplies an authority — wartime powers, those words, invoked over a pipeline the Daily Caller calls long-stalled — and it supplies a purpose: an "abundant supply of low-cost natural gas." Low-cost. Mind the hyphen. Somebody drafted that.

You are thinking subsidy. Subsidy is the amateur instrument; a line in a budget may be struck by the next committee that sits. An emergency power is standing, and standing powers do not require the emergency to be argued, only invoked. This one had a prior outing. On the thirtieth of September, in the Oval Office, South Korea's government was announced as investing up to two hundred billion dollars in American energy infrastructure — the Alaska pipeline, a gas plant in Texas, eight nuclear plants. Up to two hundred billion. Twenty days later, forty-two million of yours, into the same Alaskan line....

...(cont) And what does the public hold for its forty-two million? The wire names no stake, no share, no toll ... it names the supply as abundant and the gas as low-cost. The owner it does not name at all.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

THE WHITE HOUSE USED WARTIME POWERS TO PUT $42 MILLION OF PUBLIC MONEY INTO a long-stalled gas pipeline, three weeks after announcing up to $200 billion from South Korea's government for the same Alaska network. That is not an energy policy, that is a private pipe with a war emergency bolted to the front of it so the bill goes to the people who will never hold a foot of it. You pay for the pipe because the emergency says so; the gas that moves through it is sold at the owner's price, because nothing in the order says otherwise; and the only paper in the whole arrangement with your name printed on it is the heating bill on your kitchen counter.

Fewer hens this spring. Down
the lane the fox goes, unhurried.

— ENOCH
The Ownership Desk

"They told you the emergency was a war, and the emergency turned out to be a pipeline that could not get built on its own. So it goes through the same wartime switch twice — up to two hundred billion from Seoul's government on September 30, forty-two million out of your pocket this week — and you do not get a share of the pipe or a dime off your bill. "Low-cost natural gas," they call it. Low cost for whoever owns the line."

— Sal

"Energy security is national security, that is not controversial, that is settled doctrine — and forty-two million dollars is a rounding error, that is nothing, we spend that on... did I say rounding error? That does not sound like me. Look, the South Koreans are putting in up to two hundred billion of their own money, so the American taxpayer is getting this pipeline practically free, apart from the part the American taxpayer is paying for."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Musk to give every American child SpaceX stock; parental consent optional under the Trump Accounts program* By Sterling · the afternoon edition, 19 October 2026

— *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

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.

> ~~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...

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.

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...

> ~~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 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...

> *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.

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 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.

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,...

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".

> ~~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...

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...

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 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.

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.

Trump Taps Wartime Powers To Revive Long-Stalled Pipeline With $42 Million In Taxpayer Funds

Daily Caller RIGHT 16:07 EDT

'abundant supply of low-cost natural gas'

> ~~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.

> ~~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...

> ~~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 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.

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.

> ~~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.

· South Korea to invest up to $200B in Alaska LNG pipeline, US power plants, Trump announces *from the morgue, 30 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.

Trump calls Paris riots a preview of Democratic Congress, two weeks before voters decide.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK



"Trump finds ominous campaign message in French riots", 20 October 2026
(PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Trump told a Kansas rally Democratic control of Congress means the same "chaos and destruction" seen in Paris.

WHO GETS PAID. Republican congressional candidates, whose hold on the House and Senate depends on voters fearing Paris more than their own shrinking economy.

WHAT SLIPS. Voters' chance to weigh their own economic worries, which polling already flagged as a problem for Republicans, slips behind imported riot footage.

WHAT'S NEXT. No dated case in the ledger matches this exact move yet. What's on the calendar is the vote itself, two weeks after this rally, deciding which party controls Congress.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The ledger starts on September twenty-fifth, when the Washington Examiner caught the president threading a needle: he was calling Democrats communists in the same season he was offering Xi Jinping, general secretary of an actual Communist Party, a warm embrace. No invoice attached to either position; the word just moves where it is needed.

Still no dollar figure here — this was a warning, not a budget line....

...(cont) The money shows up on October fifteenth, in a Guardian dispatch filed as the president returned to Washington for the final stretch of the midterm blitz. The headline number was the poll: voters said the economy was getting worse, and the dispatch called that math trouble for a party trying to hold both chambers. Lower in the same dispatch sat the only figure in this file with a dollar sign attached — hundreds of thousands of dollars, the cost under consideration for a federal media campaign in South Africa. Its stated purpose, per the dispatch, was not to recruit white Afrikaners into the refugee program already built for them. It was to study why more of them are not applying. A government paying to ask why people decline its own offer is, on this desk, still a line item, and it is filed here exactly as written.

Four days passed. Nothing in the receipts fills them. What comes out the other side, Monday, is a rally in Kansas, reported Tuesday by the Hill: the president telling supporters that a Democratic Congress means the "chaos and destruction" now playing out in France. That same month, National Review had already run two pieces assigning the Paris unrest to what one called a "radical Muslim population"; the Washington Examiner had reached for Kristallnacht; Fox News had carried a warning that a civil war could be imported here. None of those pieces carries a day on its byline in this desk's file — only the month. The rally needed no footnote from any of them. It borrowed the frame wholesale, with two weeks left before the people whose economy was "getting worse" on October fifteenth get to vote on who answers for it.

The reconciliation is simple. The dollar figure disappeared from the argument before the riot footage replaced it. Hon, that is not a coincidence the filing can explain away. It is the filing.

"They can't win the argument on the economy, so they run on Paris — borrowed riot footage standing in for a closing argument. The only dollar figure in this whole file, hundreds of thousands spent studying why Afrikaners won't take the refugee offer, vanishes from the pitch entirely. Fourteen days out, that's the trick: swap the number that hurts them for video that doesn't."

— Sal

"Look, the president is simply drawing a parallel — unrest is unrest, whether it's happening in Paris or, well, nowhere here yet, but could, theoretically, if the wrong party — did I say "wrong party"? I meant the opposing party — ends up holding Congress. And National Review isn't the campaign, it's a magazine, so any overlap in language is purely — is coincidence a talking point? Let's go with coincidence."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Kansas rally recasts French school-funding protest as migrants, jihadists and communists, two weeks before Republicans face voters.* By Ruth · the morning edition, 20 October 2026
- *The $5,000 promise ships this month as a $90 check, less than half one Medicare premium* By Mort · the midnight edition, 4 October 2026
- *Trump priced a Republican Congress at $5,000 an adult; the checks mailing this month are $90.* By Mort · the noon edition, 3 October 2026
- *Putin pitches oil deal to Trump's son-in-law, the man negotiating peace with Putin.* By Ruth · the sunrise edition, 3 October 2026
- *Seniors get $90 once; the president's oil stocks gain up to $4.4 million from the war.* By Ruth · the wee small hours edition, 3 October 2026
- *Ads praising the president's presidency were charged to border security, at the president's direction.* By Mort · the supper edition, 2 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Trump finds ominous campaign message in French riots

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *15:51 EDT*

President Trump is issuing an ominous message to supporters, warning that Democratic control of Congress would lead to chaos and destruction in his closing midterm pitch two weeks out from Election Day. Trump sought to tie the protests and riots rocking France to the U.S. during a rally in Kansas on Monday, saying the U.S....

But: **Trump promised the Ukraine war would be settled within 24 hours - CNN counted 53 separate occasions he made that promise**

CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)

Pentagon says Trump and Hegseth 'completely aligned' on decision to cancel livestream of firing squad execution – as it happened

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *21:59 EDT*

This live blog is now closed. Sign up for the Breaking News US email The US government could spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on a media campaign in South Africa to figure out why more white Afrikaners are not applying to become refugees to the US , as Donald Trump had hoped. State department officials, according to an August...

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.

Rubio insists Patriots weren't "deliberately denied"; Hegseth admits "our guys" need them too.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"Zelensky touts 'positive signals from American side' after Norway summit, call with Rubio", 20 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Hegseth said U.S. troops need the same Patriot interceptors Ukraine still awaits, days after Rubio denied any deliberate delay.

WHO GETS PAID. Russia's oil industry: the same stretch saw Washington buy Russian diesel and pause sanctions on Moscow while telling Kyiv the interceptor delay wasn't deliberate.

WHAT SLIPS. Congressional oversight slips: bipartisan senators asked the Pentagon in writing why Ukraine's satellite access was restricted, and the public still has no answer.

WHAT'S NEXT. If that goes unanswered, the delay keeps running regardless of the questions; that is what Washington got after 29 March 2023, when the Senate voted 66 to 30 to repeal two war authorizations and the repeal still took 33 months to become law.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

My cousin Rosalie does upholstery out of a garage on the east side — restaurant booths, a judge's old chambers chair she still brings up at dinner — and she has strong opinions about fabric suppliers that I've learned not to argue with. I called her Tuesday night with a question that wasn't about fabric, except it kept turning into one.

Here is where the story stood before Tuesday. On September 25th, Zelensky told reporters the president himself had given the final okay on a Patriot missile license for Ukraine — signed, moving. On October 15th, Zelensky told the Financial Times Ukraine was done honoring the ceasefire on Russian oil refineries. The next day the president called that "a disgrace." That same week, October 16th, four Republican senators joined their Democratic colleagues asking the Pentagon, in writing, whether anyone had ordered restrictions on Ukraine's access to the Starshield satellite network — the thing that helps Ukraine's drones find Russian drones. On October 19th, the Guardian reported Ukraine got no American warning before Russian strikes hit Kyiv's power plants. And by the 20th, with a House Republican's demand for "full accountability" still sitting on the record, Secretary Rubio was telling reporters — and telling Zelensky directly — that nothing had been "deliberately denied."...

...(cont) That's where things stood when I called Rosalie.

What I wanted to ask her, because she orders fabric and foam for a living and knows what a backorder actually means, was this: if a customer calls asking where their couch is, and the shop says nothing was deliberately held back, is that the same sentence as "there isn't enough foam in the building"? She said no, those are different sentences. Then she said they can describe the same couch.

I bring this up because on that same Tuesday — with "deliberately denied" still fresh in the paper — Defense Secretary Hegseth told reporters in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, that the posture toward Ukraine hadn't changed, but that "our guys" need Patriot interceptors too. Not a different interceptor. Not a different contract line. The same kind Ukraine has been waiting on since that September 25th license. If the Pentagon's own side is short, is that a second shortage, or the same one, counted twice?

That same Tuesday, Zelensky called the Norway summit with American envoys, and his separate phone call with Rubio, "positive signals." The president, separately, said it's "time" to get a peace deal done. By Tuesday afternoon, Representative Don Bacon — an outgoing congressman, not someone with an obvious reason to make noise on his way out — was calling the administration's handling "absolutely disgraceful," over a Russian diesel purchase and a paused sanctions package, and saying the president was cozying up to a "war criminal." He and others are reportedly threatening to pull support for the president's own agenda over it. The New York Times, writing up the same day, had Ukrainian officials saying that staying quiet had become riskier than speaking up.

So here is what I keep turning over, the way Rosalie turns a frame over before she quotes a job. Rubio says nothing was deliberately denied. Hegseth says the reason might be that there isn't enough of it to go around, including for the people doing the denying. Is a shortage that reaches everybody a different fact from a denial aimed at one country? And if the House Republican gets the "full accountability" that was demanded, what is there to account for, if the warehouse is short for everybody who asked?

Oh — one more thing, before you go. Rosalie mentioned that when a supplier puts something on indefinite backorder, you stop asking when it's coming and start asking how much they ever actually had. Hegseth didn't say Ukraine's interceptors were short. He said "our guys" need interceptors too — the same ones. If the people saying nothing was denied don't have enough to share, what else is left to call it besides denied?

🍺

"They tell you nothing was "denied" — it's just that there's not enough to go around, including for our own guys. Same stretch of days they cut a diesel deal with Russia and paused sanctions, but there's no hardware for the ally actually getting bombed, and now, apparently, none to spare for us either. That's the con: a real shortage isn't a conspiracy, it just means somebody still gets to decide who waits."

— Sal

🚬

"Look, nobody "denied" anything — this is allocation, logistics, prioritizing our own readiness, which frankly any serious person would — wait, is that the same interceptor the senators are asking the Pentagon about? No, that's unrelated, totally separate shipment, hold on, let me check my notes. The posture is unchanged. That's the line. I'm sticking with that."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Rubio says Patriots weren't 'deliberately denied'; Zelensky asks for the ones Washington still won't release.* By Lou · the morning edition, 20 October 2026
- *Purge spares senator bribery probe; his namesake sanctions law waived next, Tillis calls it 'beyond irresponsible'* By Mitch · the morning edition, 20 October 2026
- *Trump's purge spares Graham a bribery probe; weeks later, Trump spares Russia his own sanctions law.* By Mitch · the morning edition, 20 October 2026
- *Pentagon withholds NATO-paid Patriots with no explanation; a congressman vows to be 'fully accountable'* By The Wrecking Crew · the morning edition, 20 October 2026
- *Trump administration denies any pause in intelligence sharing with Ukraine for the second time in six days.* By Lou · the evening edition, 19 October 2026
- *Rubio tells Zelensky to end the war Putin is settling with Trump and Xi without him.* By Lou · the afternoon edition, 19 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)*

Zelensky touts 'positive signals from American side' after Norway summit, call with Rubio

New York Post RIGHT § *16:04 EDT*

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky touted "positive signals" from a phone call with Secretary of State Marco Rubio and an Oslo, Norway, summit with US special envoys, as President Trump said "it's time" to reach a peace deal to end the more than four-year war with Russia.

But: "I'll meet with Putin. I'll meet with Zelensky... And within 24 hours, that war will be settled" - Trump, 10 May 2023; CNN counted 53 such promises *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

Republicans push back on Donald Trump's wavering support for Ukraine

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *13:32 EDT*

GOP lawmakers threaten to pull support for president's agenda after Russia diesel deal and sanctions pause US politics live – latest updates A handful of Republicans have spoken out against Donald Trump 's softening stance on Russia , threatening to pull financial support for his agenda over his "embarrassing" handling of the Ukraine...

Hegseth says Ukraine posture unchanged, but 'our guys' need interceptors too

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *16:07 EDT*

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said on Tuesday that the U.S. government's posture toward Ukraine is unchanged, but emphasized that "our guys" need Patriot missiles interceptors too.

GOP senators press Pentagon over Ukraine's loss of Starshield data

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *06:00 EDT*

Four Republican senators have joined their Democratic colleagues in pressing the Trump administration for information about whether Pentagon officials ordered restrictions on Ukraine's access to the satellite-based Starshield network, which Ukrainian officials said limited their ability to intercept Russian drones. Ukraine needs access...

~~Why Zelensky Took the Gloves Off This Time With Trump~~

Trump is prioritizing Russia's interests more than ever, Ukrainian officials say

The New York Times MAINSTREAM § *16:39 EDT*

Staying quiet is riskier than speaking up, Ukrainian officials say, as President Trump goes further than ever in prioritizing Russia's interests.

But: The Pentagon has failed its audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one *Military Times, 19 December 2025*

Bipartisan senators ask Pentagon to answer for Ukraine Starlink restrictions

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *18:20 EDT*

{beacon} Technology Technology The Big Story GOP senators press Pentagon over Starlink restrictions in Ukraine Four Republican senators joined their Democratic colleagues in pressing the Trump administration for information about whether Pentagon officials ordered restrictions on Ukraine's access to the satellite-based Starshield...

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.

NO CHARGES YET

Trump calls Omar and Walz '100% guilty' of 'Minnesota fraud,' threatens jail or deportation.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"Federal agents seize phone of Rep Ilhan Omar in raid tied to immigration fraud probe", 14 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS – THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

My nephew Daniel is in his second year of law school, and when he talks about criminal procedure I listen the way you listen to a weather man who has actually been right before. Last week I asked him, purely in the generic sense, what has to happen between "under investigation" and "guilty." He said: an indictment. A charging document. Something with a docket number that a judge signs off on. I asked what happens if none of that exists yet. He said then there isn't a guilty — there's just somebody with an opinion and a microphone.

Here's what that looks like where I live. I missed the toll on the parkway back in August — the automatic kind, no gate, just a camera overhead. Three weeks later an envelope came to the house: a photograph of my bumper, my plate circled in red, and a bill already inside. Not a hearing date. Not a chance to say the camera read an eight as a six. A bill. There was a camera, and then there was a number, and nothing happened in between....

...(cont) I mention this because of the paperwork on Rep. Ilhan Omar.

On 13 September, Fox News carried the border czar, Tom Homan, confirming an "ongoing criminal investigation" into Omar, and saying he knew "things" he wouldn't describe. Five days later, the same outlet carried Omar saying the Department of Homeland Security hadn't contacted her about anything. Neither of those is a charging document; my nephew would call that the first page of a file with nothing filed in it yet.

On 12 October, agents from DHS searched Omar's home in Washington. On 14 October, Fox News reported they left with her cellphone, under what it called a "criminal fraud investigation" into her immigration paperwork — paperwork her late father filled out when she was a child. Still no charging document. An accusation. Also not a charging document.

Then this week. On Monday, Isra Hirsi was seen entering her mother's D.C. home after dark, and Capitol Police were called to the residence later that night, while rumors moved around about where Rep. Omar actually was. On Tuesday, the president told reporters Omar could go to jail in addition to being deported, and called her "a disgrace to our country." The same day, of Omar and Governor Walz, he said: "The governor is 100% guilty. He's 100% guilty. He's a fraud. He's a thief. He's a crook, and he's getting away by just getting out of office." He added: "They all knew."

If I read my nephew that last paragraph, he'd only have the one question, and it's the only one I've got for you: in all of that, where's the judge?

Indictment. It isn't in the reporting on the border czar's comments, the raid, the phone, the office's statement, or the president's. Not once.

Oh — before you go, one more thing. That camera on the parkway at least took a picture before the bill came. Where's the picture here? Who looked at it, and when?

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

HOMAN CONFIRMED A CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION INTO OMAR IN SEPTEMBER WITHOUT DESCRIBING IT, AND DHS SEARCHED HER HOME AND TOOK HER PHONE IN OCTOBER. THAT IS NOT AN INVESTIGATION ANYMORE, IT IS A SENTENCE WITH THE INDICTMENT LEFT OUT. BECAUSE THE ADMINISTRATION CAN CALL A SITTING MEMBER OF CONGRESS GUILTY BEFORE IT WRITES A CHARGE, IT DOES NOT NEED A CHARGE FOR THE NEXT CASE EITHER, AND BECAUSE THE FILE HERE STARTED WITH AN IMMIGRATION FORM FILLED OUT DECADES AGO, THE NEXT FORM PULLED WILL NOT BE A CONGRESSWOMAN'S, IT WILL BE THE NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATE WITH YOUR NAME ON IT, IN THE DRAWER BY YOUR DOOR.

"They spent five weeks not telling you what the crime was, then skipped straight to the sentencing without ever naming the charge — that's not law enforcement, that's a verdict with a press conference. They searched a sitting member of Congress's house, took her phone, and the president went on camera calling her and the governor guilty before a single document said why. If they can skip the indictment for people with Secret Service protection, what happens to the rest of us when we're the ones they decide are guilty first and charge later, if ever."

— *Sal*

"Look, the President speaks in absolutes, everybody knows that, it's not a legal finding — okay, it sounds like a legal finding, but it's rhetorical, and the investigation itself is real, Homan said so back in September, you don't raid a congresswoman's house over nothing. Does it matter there's still no indictment five weeks later? No, because — wait, why doesn't that matter? Did I just say that out loud? That's not what I meant."

— *Chip*

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *DOJ's voter-fraud sweep breaks a citizen's arm; Congress answers same day with a bill to sue ICE.* By The Wrecking Crew · the evening edition, 19 October 2026
— *Feds cite unnamed DNA to confirm denaturalizing a congresswoman already cleared by three probes.* By Mort · the evening edition, 19 October 2026
— *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

THE RECEIPTS

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

Federal agents seize phone of Rep Ilhan Omar in raid tied to immigration fraud probe

Fox News RIGHT · *19:18 EDT*

Federal agents raided Ilhan Omar's D.C. home and seized her cellphone as part of a criminal fraud investigation into her immigration paperwork.

~~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 daughters show up at scene of DC raid as rumors swirl about embattled rep's whereabouts

Fox News RIGHT · *16:08 EDT*

Isra Hirsi was spotted entering Ilhan Omar's D.C. home under cover of darkness as Capitol Police were called to the residence later that evening.

~~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.

Trump says Ilhan Omar could go to jail or be deported, calls her 'a disgrace to our country'

Fox News RIGHT · *17:11 EDT*

President Donald Trump said Ilhan Omar could face jail in addition to deportation, calling her "a disgrace" amid a federal immigration fraud probe.

~~Rep. Ilhan Omar's DC home raided by DHS as part of probe into Dem's immigration paperwork~~

DHS raided a sitting congresswoman's home over paperwork her father filed when she was a child

New York Post RIGHT · *08:08 EDT*

The raid is part of an investigation into Rep. Ilhan Omar's immigration documents, which were filled out by her late father when she was a child.

~~Ilhan Omar's Home Raided by DHS Following Trump SOP Deportation Threats~~

DOJ raided a sitting congresswoman's home over a claim an immigration expert calls 'even weaker than it already seems'

Common Dreams · *11:04 EDT*

Following years of threats from President Donald Trump and other Republicans to deport Rep. Ilhan Omar, the Minnesota congresswoman's Washington, DC home was raided on Monday morning by agents with the Department of Homeland Security. The US Department of Justice (DOJ) has confirmed that the raid was carried out as part of a judicially...

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 (Ranche memo)*

Rep. Ilhan Omar's residence searched as part of ongoing criminal investigation: DOJ

ABC News MAINSTREAM · *09:22 EDT*

A Department of Justice spokesperson said the search was part of an ongoing criminal investigation.

Trump claims Ilhan Omar, Tim Walz '100% guilty' of Minnesota fraud: 'They all knew'

New York Post RIGHT · *14:48 EDT*

"The governor is 100% guilty. He's 100% guilty. He's a fraud.

~~US federal agents raid home of Democratic congresswoman and Trump critic Ilhan Omar~~

Federal agents raided a congresswoman's home over paperwork her late father filed when she was a child

France 24 MAINSTREAM · *11:13 EDT*

US federal agents on Monday launched a raid on the Washington home of Democratic representative Ilhan Omar, an outspoken critic of US President Donald Trump, officials said. The raid followed a criminal fraud investigation into the Somali-born lawmaker's immigration paperwork submitted by her late father when she was a child, Fox...

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

Rep. Omar's D.C. home searched by DHS investigators

CBS News MAINSTREAM · *19:55 EDT*

Sources say the investigation centers on Rep. Ilhan Omar's immigration documents, involving paperwork filled out by her late father when she was a child.

· Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation involving Ilhan Omar, says he knows 'things are going on' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

· WATCH: Ilhan Omar denies feds have contacted her after border czar Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Could Trump revoke Ilhan Omar's citizenship for alleged brother marriage? Ex federal prosecutor breaks it down *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

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

· Russia's Lavrov blasts US, Western allies as "warmongers" in fiery UN tirade *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Russia and China unite against US over Iran and Cuba in UN speeches *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· U.S. military lays groundwork for potential action around Cuba *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· The United Nations Security Council has resoundingly rejected a United States bid to extend a global arms embargo on Iran. In a Security Council vote, United States only got support from the Dominican *from the morgue, 14 Aug 2020*

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

· In Defiant UN Speech, Iranian President Says US and Israel Are the Real Terrorists *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump slams reporting on removal of his endorsements from GOP candidate's website *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*

· Donalds removes several Trump mentions from campaign website *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

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

· Where Trump's 2026 endorsement record stands after primary season *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Trump invokes tariff law courts already ruled he exceeded, taxing Canada $20 billion again.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK

"Trump sued over Canadian tariffs in latest legal challenge", 20 October 2026
(PHOTO VIA BBC NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. An advocacy group and a New Jersey importer sued Trump Tuesday over his tariff on Canadian goods.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. Nothing slips here yet.

WHAT'S NEXT. There is no hearing date yet; the case goes next before a federal judge under the same law the Supreme Court already used to strike down an earlier round of tariffs.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The group that persuaded the Supreme Court to strike down a large share of President Trump's tariffs filed suit again Tuesday, this time over his 50 percent tariff on Canadian goods. Same statute, same lawyers, a different country.

Hours later, a New Jersey food importer filed its own suit over the identical levy, naming the identical Depression-era law. Two plaintiffs, one morning, one law a federal court has already ruled this president exceeded....

...(cont) The tariff itself traces to August. Trade talks with Ottawa collapsed on a Friday; by Saturday Washington had put a 50 percent tariff on roughly $20 billion worth of Canadian goods. Canada's response came within the week: $20 billion in retaliatory tariffs of its own, effective September 8, matched dollar for dollar.

That is the shape of the fight: $20 billion out, $20 billion back, and a law in the middle that courts have found does not reach this far. The administration invoked it a second time anyway. Tuesday's lawsuits argue the theory a court accepted once before, aimed now at a tariff imposed after that ruling came down.

These two suits do not stand alone. Bush put together.

None of that paperwork refunds a tariff paid before a court rules. The $20 billion figure sits on two ledgers at once: the $20 billion Canada collects in retaliation, and the $20 billion in Canadian goods taxed 50 percent at the American border while the newest suit works its way through the docket. A food importer in New Jersey does not get to wait for the Supreme Court.

So when the filing lands next to the ruling, the gap is not abstract. It is not Ottawa's column and it is not Washington's. It is the cost-of-goods line of a company that imports food for a living, charged twice under a law a court has already told this administration it cannot use.

"A court already told him this law doesn't stretch to Canada, so he used it again, full strength, fifty percent, twenty billion dollars. The people covering that bill aren't sitting in some Ottawa boardroom, they're the import outfit in Jersey paying it at the dock before any judge opens the file. Lose in court, do it again, and let the business eat the interest while the case crawls through for a year and a half."

— Sal

"The President has broad emergency authority to act fast on trade threats, that's the whole design of the statute — and sure, a court said he overstepped using it once, but fifty percent on Canada is a completely different number than last time. Completely different number, same law a court already rejected. Did I just say that out loud? That's — that's not where I was going with this."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Trump sued over Canadian tariffs in latest legal challenge

BBC News MAINSTREAM § *15:30 EDT*

The lawsuit argues the White House exceeded its authority in imposing the latest tariffs on the country and caused "immediate harm to American businesses".

~~AGs v. Trump: How an AWOL Congress made hundreds of lawsuits possible~~

Trump's administration has already drawn more state lawsuits than his entire first term.

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *08:21 EDT*

State attorneys general have filed at least 145 lawsuits against the Trump administration since Donald Trump returned to the White House in January 2025. That is already more than the 138 filed during Trump's entire first term. State AGs filed 78 multistate suits against the Obama administration and 76 against George W.

NJ food importer files lawsuit challenging Trump's 50% tariffs on Canadian goods

ABC News MAINSTREAM § *16:41 EDT*

A New Jersey food importer filed a lawsuit Tuesday challenging President Donald Trump's power to invoke a Depression-era law to levy a 50% tariff on $20 billion worth of Canadian goods

Trump administration sued over 50% tariffs on Canadian products

New York Post RIGHT § *17:22 EDT*

The Trump administration was sued over its Canadian tariffs Tuesday by the same group that successfully got the Supreme Court to overturn a large swath of the president's levies last year.

· "Most Stupid Trade Fight in History": U.S. & Canadian Workers Stand to Lose in Trump's New Tariff War *from the morgue, 24 Aug 2026*

· 'Canada Must Respond': Ottawa Slaps Retaliatory Tariffs on US Goods After Trump Trade War Escalation *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

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Ramaswamy ad asks Acton's estranged mother to call her a liar, unites her brother and McCain's daughter.

By SAL
STAFF WRITER



"Ohio gubernatorial candidate Amy Acton condemns ad featuring her estranged mother", 20 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NBC NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Vivek Ramaswamy's campaign aired an ad using Amy Acton's estranged mother to call her a liar.

WHO GETS PAID. Vivek Ramaswamy's campaign paid for the ad and stands to gain the governor's office if it works.

WHAT SLIPS. The voters' chance to judge this race on the job, not on a survivor's childhood, slips in the final two weeks.

WHAT'S NEXT. Ohio votes in two weeks, by early November; the receipts carry no case to project past that date, so the calendar is what comes next.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Donna Arthur appears on screen and tells Ohio her daughter is a liar. Donna Arthur is Amy Acton's estranged mother. The ad does not dispute the abuse. It puts the woman named inside that story on camera and lets her call her daughter a liar about a tent.

Acton's brother, Philip Stearns, answered with his own ad the same day. He did not take up the tent. He took up the method: campaigning on his sister's sexual abuse, he said, is "a despicable low." Acton answered separately, in her own words, and called what Ramaswamy's campaign had done a "lifelong pattern" of personal attacks. A brother on the method, a sister on the pattern — two different people, two different sentences, both aimed at the same sixty seconds of tape....

...(cont) Then the file widened past the family. Meghan McCain, a Republican senator's daughter, called the ad "dastardly" and said shame on whatever consultant firm made it. She is not on the Ohio ballot and owes nobody in this race an opinion. She gave one anyway. By Tuesday, a Democrat's brother, the Democrat herself, and a Republican senator's daughter were on record against the same ad inside the same week.

It landed on a tight race, not a settled one. A Bowling Green State University/YouGov poll from mid-September had Acton ahead of Ramaswamy, 48 percent to 45, with weeks still on the clock. Ten days before that poll, an armed individual lunged at Acton at the Canfield Fair near Youngstown and injured multiple people, her campaign said. The ad didn't do that. But it is the same three-point race, two weeks from closing, and this week the candidate's family is in the ad copy instead of at the fair.

Nobody in this file disputes that the abuse happened. Nobody in the ad disputes the tent story on the merits, either — they put a mother on camera next to the word liar and let the pairing do the work. Ohio votes in two weeks. Whatever the ad was built to move, what it has produced so far is agreement, left to right, that a campaign for governor should not be run through a survivor's childhood.

"They didn't need a poll to tell them this race is close; they could've just watched how many sides lined up against one ad. When a Democrat's brother, Amy Acton herself, and a Republican senator's daughter all call out the same sixty seconds in one week, that's not a coincidence, that's the floor showing through the carpet. The lesson keeps coming back the same way: a kid's worst year makes cheap ad copy if it's worth three points on a poll."

— Sal

"Nobody at the campaign cut that ad, her own mother said those words, we just — well, we did put it up, but that's not the same as writing it. Did I say "we put it up"? That's not what I meant. Look, voters deserve to hear every side of a family, even the side a campaign happens to air two weeks before an election."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Ohio gubernatorial candidate Amy Acton condemns ad featuring her estranged mother

NBC News MAINSTREAM § *16:43 EDT*

Ohio Democratic gubernatorial candidate Amy Acton is condemning a new ad circulating online featuring her estranged mother. NBC News national politics reporter Henry Gomez discusses how close the race between Acton and Republican candidate Vivek Ramaswamy has become in the campaign's final two weeks.

McCain decries 'dastardly' political ad with Acton's mother

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *16:17 EDT*

Meghan McCain, former Sen. John McCain's (R-Ariz.) daughter, decried what she called a "dastardly" political ad featuring Ohio gubernatorial candidate Amy Acton's (D) estranged mother.

'Pathetic Excuse for a Man': Ramaswamy Slammed Over Ad Featuring Acton's Estranged Mother in Ohio

Common Dreams § *15:47 EDT*

With just two weeks left until Election Day, Republican Ohio gubernatorial candidate Vivek Ramaswamy is drawing criticism from across the political spectrum over a vicious attack video featuring his Democratic opponent Amy Acton's estranged mother, whom she has accused of abandoning her after she was sexually abused as a child. The...

Acton's brother slams Ramaswamy in new ad: 'Not fit to lead'

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *17:20 EDT*

The brother of Amy Acton, the Democrat running in Ohio's gubernatorial race, denounced GOP nominee Vivek Ramaswamy after a new video circulated online featuring Acton's estranged mother calling her a liar and urging Ohioans to vote against her daughter. In a new ad for Actor, Philip Stearns blamed GOP candidate Vivek Ramaswamy for the...

Ohio Democrat's family criticizes Vivek Ramaswamy for bringing up estranged mother in gubernatorial ad

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *14:38 EDT*

Amy Acton's brother calls campaigning on his sister's sexual abuse from their mother's husband 'a despicable low' The family of Amy Acton, the Democratic candidate for governor of Ohio, is criticizing her Republican opponent Vivek Ramaswamy for using Acton's estranged mother in a recently released campaign ad. In the ad, which has...

Acton responds to ad, says personal attacks 'a lifelong pattern' for Ramaswamy

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *16:58 EDT*

Ohio gubernatorial candidate Amy Acton (D) accused Republican rival Vivek Ramaswamy of a "lifelong pattern" of personal attacks after a political ad surfaced online in which her estranged mother called her a "liar." Acton, who has publicly discussed suffering abuse as a child, suggested Ramaswamy's campaign was behind the video and...

· Amy Acton attacked by 'armed individual' at campaign stop in Ohio *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Acton ahead of Ramaswamy in latest Ohio gubernatorial polling *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Huckabee Sanders slammed for ad featuring white man on welfare *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

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Trump calls fired ambassador's work 'good,' says he 'didn't like what we were reading'

By **MORT**
THE RECORDS BUREAU



"Kimberly Guilfoyle's sacking drains a drop from Trump's overflowing swamp", 20 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The White House asked Ambassador Kimberly Guilfoyle to resign October 13 after a donor said her bill bought access.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The public does not get a vote on who becomes an ambassador, and here the only accountability that surfaced came from a donor's interview, not a watchdog or a hearing.

WHAT'S NEXT. No hearing, inquiry or replacement nomination has been scheduled; as of October 20, the ambassador's post to Greece sits open with no date set to fill it.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The ambassadorship of Kimberly Guilfoyle to the Hellenic Republic died this month, survived by a $100,000 credit card bill, a donor's on-the-record account, and her own denial of what he said. It is preceded in death by the fiction that the post was filled on credentials rather than on her four years engaged to Donald Trump Jr.

On October 8, Eric Deters, a former Republican congressional candidate and a donor to President Trump's campaign, told ABC's "Good Morning America" what Guilfoyle had offered him, he said: access to top officials in the administration, in trade for paying off her $100,000 card debt. "It was all quid pro quo," Deters said, on the record, under his own name....

...(cont) Five days later, on a Tuesday, the White House announced it had asked Guilfoyle to resign, ending what the Guardian called "the diplomatic career of one of Trump's longest-standing political allies." Reporters were told Trump and Secretary of State Rubio were furious over the reports. That same Tuesday, asked about the decision, Trump told the press Guilfoyle "was doing a good job" — and in the next breath explained he was removing her anyway because the administration "didn't like what we were reading." The relationship that helped get her the posting and the sentence that ended it arrived from the same mouth, on the same day.

Guilfoyle has denied the allegations. The denial survives her. It is, for now, traveling alone.

This week The Hill filed the posting's death notice under a headline about plumbing: Guilfoyle's sacking, it wrote, "drains a drop from Trump's overflowing swamp." Penny-ante, in the old word for it. The swamp the posting was supposedly draining is, by the paper's own account, still overflowing; one potato came out, and the water level did not move.

In lieu of flowers, the State Department is asked to publish, in writing, the standard by which an ambassador is chosen, so the next appointment can be checked against something sturdier than a family tree.

"Guilfoyle got the embassy because she used to date the boss's kid, and she nearly lost it trying to turn access to his administration into cash for her own credit card bill. Trump didn't fire her over the money; he fired her over the headlines about the money, and he said so himself in the same breath he called her work good. One small potato comes off the plate, and the rest of the swamp keeps eating."

— Sal

"This was a personnel matter, nothing more — the President said himself he just didn't like what he was reading, and reading habits aren't corruption, they're taste. Nobody's shown the money ever actually moved, so at most you've got an ambassador networking a little too creatively. Did I just call offering government access for a credit card payoff "networking"? That doesn't sound like me."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

But: The White House ballroom was announced at $200 million and now costs $400 million; the East Wing was demolished for it *Fortune, 6 April 2026*

Kimberly Guilfoyle's sacking drains a drop from Trump's overflowing swamp

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *08:30 EDT*

Guilfoyle is small potatoes.

~~Trump speaks on Kimberly Guilfoyle resignation: 'We didn't like what we were reading' – video~~

Trump's administration pushed out his ambassador over an alleged credit-card bribery scheme

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *14:12 EDT*

When asked about the decision to request US ambassador Kimberly Guilfoyle's resignation, Donald Trump told the press she 'was doing a good job' but that the administration 'didn't like what we were reading', referring to allegations that Guilfoyle had asked a Trump donor to pay her credit card bill. Guilfoyle, who was once engaged to...

Trump distances himself from Kimberly Guilfoyle as she denies allegations

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *09:10 EDT*

Kimberly Guilfoyle resigned as U.S. ambassador to Greece amid allegations she offered access to the Trump administration in return for help paying off her debt. President Trump is distancing himself from Guilfoyle, who was engaged to Donald Trump Jr.

~~'It Was All Quid Pro Quo': GOP Donor Goes on the Record to Accuse Kimberly Guilfoyle of Corruption~~

GOP donor: Guilfoyle offered Trump-world access for a $100,000 Amex payoff, texts show

Common Dreams § *10:51 EDT*

A former Republican congressional candidate and donor to President Donald Trump's campaign went on the record Thursday to level allegations of corruption against Kimberly Guilfoyle, the Trump-appointed US Ambassador to Greece. Appearing on ABC News' "Good Morning America," Eric Deters said that Guilfoyle offered him access to top...

Kimberly Guilfoyle ousted as US ambassador to Greece after alleged misconduct

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *14:16 EDT*

White House told Guilfoyle, who is alleged to have sought a bill payment from a Trump donor, to resign from post Kimberly Guilfoyle is stepping down as US ambassador to Greece after weeks of reports that she sought payment from a Trump donor in exchange for access to administration officials. The decision, announced by the White House on...

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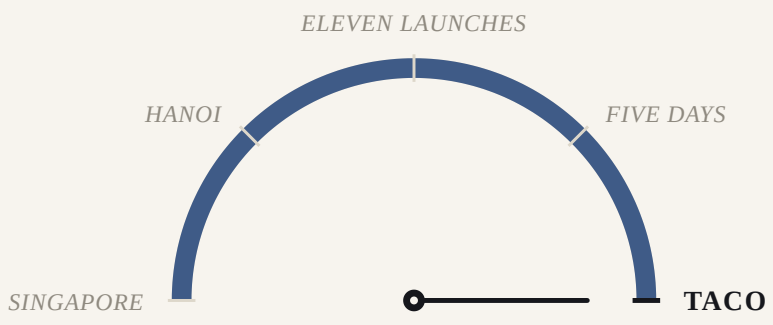
On fire and fury

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



TACO

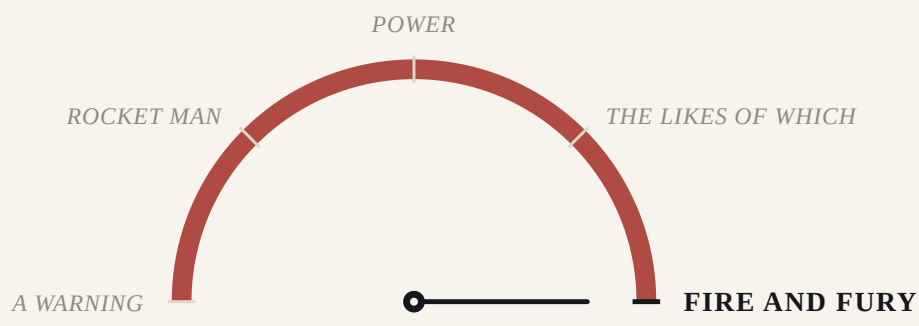
This year's fold came in capitals. August 16: "Based on the fact that it is too late to cancel, I have instructed Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to substantially reduce the Joint Military Exercises!" — the annual drills with South Korea, cut to please Pyongyang. Seoul's defense ministry said the same day the drills were "proceeding as planned" [1]. Three days later the two militaries announced the compromise: Ulchi Freedom Shield shortened from eleven days to five, August 17 to 21, its second phase canceled [2]. The ally ran the exercise, and ran less of it.

The north kept its own schedule. On August 11 it fired what the South's joint chiefs counted as the eleventh ballistic missile launch of 2026 [3]. On August 20, as the shortened drills ended, it fired more than ten short-range missiles in one salvo [4]. Fire and fury, nine years on: the drills are shorter, the launches are in double digits for the year, and the rockets that got reduced were ours.

SOURCES

1. "I have instructed Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to substantially reduce the Joint Military Exercises!"; Seoul's defense ministry: drills "proceeding as planned" — NBC News, 16 August 2026 ↑
2. Ulchi Freedom Shield cut from eleven days to five, 17–21 August, second phase canceled — Reuters via Military Times, 19 August 2026 ↑
3. The eleventh ballistic missile launch of 2026, per South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff — The Washington Post / AP, 11 August 2026 ↑
4. More than ten short-range ballistic missiles launched as the drills ended — Al Jazeera, 20 August 2026 ↑

REPUBLICAN



FIRE AND FURY

The sentence was delivered from a golf club in New Jersey on August 8, 2017, at a briefing about opioids, and it is worth having exactly: "North Korea best not make any more threats to the United States. They will be met with fire, fury and frankly power the likes of which this world has never seen before" [1]. I'll grant the theory, because it is an old one: a small nuclear state is deterred by a large one only if the large one sounds willing. The insults that followed — "Little Rocket Man" — were the same volume knob.

What followed the volume was Singapore in June 2018 and Hanoi in February 2019, where the president walked out with no agreement and no follow-on [2]. The far end of this dial is the sentence itself, nine years old now. The needle has sat on it since, and the other side of the page has what it has been reading in the meantime.

SOURCES

1. "They will be met with fire, fury and frankly power the likes of which this world has never seen before" — Bedminster, 8 August 2017 — NBC News ↑
2. The Singapore (June 2018) and Hanoi (February 2019) summits; Hanoi ended without a deal — Wikipedia, North Korea–United States summits ↑

"I brought the calendar. August 8, 2017 — fire and fury. June 2018 — Singapore. February 2019 — Hanoi, no deal, the plane leaves early. August 16, 2026 — "substantially reduce the Joint Military Exercises," his capitals. August 17 to 21 — the drills, five days instead of eleven. August 20 — more than ten missiles from the north, as the drills end. Excuse me, before you go — the fire and the fury, in nine years. Whose was it?" — Lou

🍺

"'Fire, fury and frankly power the likes of which this world has never seen before." What the world saw was two summits, a walkout in Hanoi, and nine years later an order to shrink our own drills to please the guy with the missiles. The ally cut the exercise from eleven days to five. Pyongyang answered the last day with ten rockets. Fire and fury turned out to be the drills."

— Sal

🚬

"The president reduced the exercises as a gesture of friendship, the ally ran them anyway as a gesture of alliance, and North Korea launched missiles as a gesture of consistency — everybody in the region gestured, which is what stability looks like."

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎