FROM EACH

FIRST YEAR — SUNDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2026 — THE SUNDAY EDITION — FREE, FOREVER — EVERY CLAIM LINKED

Thirty-five percent of Venezuela's oil reserves entered the Pentagon's column with the acquisition line blank, and the public's share of them comes to one barrel in 105,000.

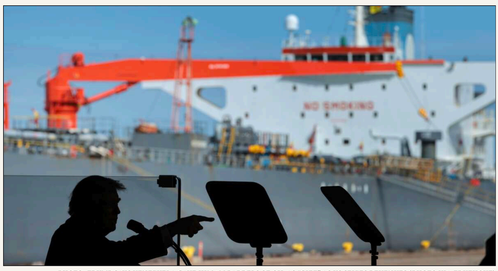


PHOTO: TRUMP SAYS VENEZUELA GAVE HIM 1M BARRELS OF OIL AS "GIFT" AS US SEIZES REVENUES (PHOTO VIA TRUTHOUT)

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

Start with the entry, because the entry is dated. On August 30 the president posted that he intended to "fill up the Strategic National Reserves," called the process "topping out," and described the arrangement, capital letter included, as "a Gift from Venezuela to the People of the United States." That is a donation line. Donations run net zero: the asset comes in, no cash goes out, and the acquisition cost stays blank. The Pentagon's column now carries 35 percent of Venezuela's oil reserves, and no price is printed beside them.

So I ran the filing against the table.

The table is Energy Secretary Chris Wright, on Fox News on Friday, September 11, putting Venezuela's reserves at 300 billion barrels and saying the administration is tapping them to grow supply and cut prices. …

… Continued on Page F137

The Week

1 – 7 NOVEMBER 2026 · RANKED BY THE WIRE

STORY	OUTLETS	VERSIONS	ITEMS
The arch with no budget line *Sunday chair: Mort*	24	3	180
The aide promoted after the losses *Sunday chair: Chip*	23	24	237
Twelve days for a student ID *Sunday chair: Lou*	21	5	94
Florida State's $50.3 million buyout *Sunday chair: Gus*	20	4	85
A $20 million price on Iran *Sunday chair: Mitch*	20	1	88
The 100 mph cap on Ukraine *Sunday chair: The Wrecking Crew*	20	1	80
Thirty-five percent of Venezuela's oil *Sunday chair: Ruth*	20	1	58
The hunt for nonexistent ballots *in the ledger, off the front*	19	17	168

Outlets are distinct sources across the house's receipts; versions are how many times the house wrote it. The desks divide the list; a story the house runs straight is counted and not joked.

THE WEEK'S WORDS

Concepts Of A Plan · Entitled · The Document · Loser · Spanked · Mandate · Concede

THE WORD

$86 — 08 NOVEMBER 2026

On covfefe

DEMOCRAT — REPUBLICAN



"I keep a dictionary by the phone, the big one, my wife's mother left it to us. It goes from 'covey' to 'cow.' There's no page for it. So I went to the press secretary, and he says the president and a small group of people know exactly what he means. Well fine. That is a source. Sorry, one thing before you go. That was more than nine years ago, and I'm sure they've clarified it since then. — Clarification Page 94

❦ ASK VIVIAN · THE LETTER OF THE WEEK ❦

Dear Vivian,

Sister, I love you to pieces, but isn't Iran calling the shots now, and Trump is just wishing he had an inside joke like Michael Scott on The Office?

— Regional Manager in Reading

Dear Regional Manager,

Sugar, who calls the shots is a bookkeeping question, so let us count who has set what. Iran set the closure: after the strikes began on February 28 it shut the Strait of Hormuz, where a fifth of the world's oil used to pass, and by September about thirteen ships a day were getting through.

The rest of her answer, and the working papers, on E5 ❦

A panel of Trump appointees approved his 250-foot arch for drones and snipers with no appropriation behind it, and a federal judge halted work before midnight.



PHOTO: TRUMP'S 250-FOOT TRIUMPHAL ARCH GETS GREEN LIGHT FROM KEY FEDERAL PANEL — BUT JUDGE BLOCKS CONSTRUCTION FOR AT LEAST 14 DAYS (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST)

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

Independent federal design review of the national capital died on Friday, in Washington. It was born by statute, in a century that assumed what gets built across the Potomac from the Lincoln Memorial is a question with more than one person in it. The cause of death was a vote in its favor.

The file opens, as these files do, with an approval. In April the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts signed off on a 250-foot triumphal arch for the traffic circle between Arlington National Cemetery

… Continued on Page B53

Three weeks after saying there was 'zero chance' he would remove his chief of staff, Trump gave the job to the aide who pledged 'total devotion.'



PHOTO: STEPHEN MILLER NAMED WHITE HOUSE CHIEF OF STAFF (PHOTO VIA FRANCE 24)

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

Let me do the frame first, because the frame is where people lose the thread.

The President lost both chambers of Congress on

… Continued on Page F137

Supreme Court spent twelve days barring student IDs while warning of voter confusion too close to an election, and answered the president's own midterm request in hours.



PHOTO: WHY A MERCILESS SUPREME COURT REBUKE ON ELECTION EVE MATTERS (PHOTO VIA THE NEW YORK TIMES)

BY LOU
One More Question

My wife said leave the clock alone and come to bed, so I came to bed, and then at

… Continued on Page B54

A Pentagon-funded satellite program capped Ukraine's air defense at 100 miles an hour for ten days, and the order was admitted on the day it was lifted.

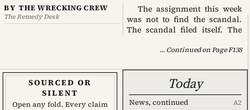


PHOTO: US APPROVES $2.1 BILLION PATRIOT MISSILE SALE TO UKRAINE (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST)

BY THE WRECKING CREW
The Remedy Desk

The assignment this week was not to find the scandal. The scandal filed itself. The

… Continued on Page F138

Two votes at the Federal Communications Commission ended the decades-old limit on television consolidation; $22 billion goes to the next merger a month later.



PHOTO: FOX COMPLETES $22B ACQUISITION OF STREAMING GIANT ROKU (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST)

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

You will have seen the word repeal and pictured a vote in Congress. Put that

… Continued on Page F138

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

EIGHTY-ONE DEGREES

Chapter 3: The Handset Timer

Pick up your telephone. The landline, if you still have one, the beige thing on the kitchen wall. Lift the handset and put it back. You have just done the most important thing in a patent filed with the United States Patent Office in November 1974, and you did it without knowing there was a box in the wall listening for it. I want to tell you about the box, because it is the first machine anyone built to do what the chef in Pensacola

… Continued on the Investigative Reporting page

SOURCED OR SILENT

Open any fold. Every claim linked, every link dated.

Today

News, continued	A2
The Wire	A3
The Word	W16
Finance	F1
The Ledger	F2
The Business Desk	F3
The Money Pages, continued	F4
The Record	B1
Legal	B2
The Service	B3
Obituaries	B4
Entertainment	D1
The Marquee	D2
Food	K1
The Kitchen	K2
Health	H1
The Outbreak Ledger	H2
The Exodus	H3
The Withdrawn Formulary	H4
The Premium	H5
The Tonic Counter	H6
Travel	T1
The Travel Desk	T2
Sports	S1
Investigative Reporting	I1
Classifieds	C1

Florida State will pay Mike Norvell $50.3 million to stop coaching, three years after the 63-3 Orange Bowl loss CBS Sports says broke the program.

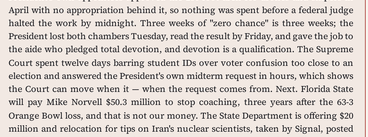


PHOTO: WHERE DID IT ALL GO WRONG FOR MIKE NORVELL AT FLORIDA STATE? WE BEGIN WITH THE DISASTROUS 2023 ORANGE BOWL (PHOTO VIA CBS SPORTS)

BY GUS
The Sports Desk

HOT MIC MOMENT

Put me on the political desk. A board of trustees found $50.3 million in a weekend to pay a man to stop working, and the Washington Examiner spent November 2nd complaining in print that we won World War II faster than we can plug in a power plant. That same day the Guardian reported what the bill looks like from the other

… Continued on Page S21

The State Department is offering $20 million and relocation for tips on Iran's nuclear scientists, taken by Signal, announced on X.

PHOTO: TOP GULF OFFICIAL OFFERS GLIMMER OF HOPE ON TRUMP-IRAN NUCLEAR TALKS AS THREAT OF WAR HANGS OVER REGION (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS)

BY MITCH
Investigations

The posting went up on X on Saturday, November 7, over Central Command's name, and it reads like a

… Continued on Page F137

THE WIRE

Every right or mainstream headline answered before it renders.

— this paper

> *Joe Biden became mentally impaired. Lying Kamala Harris, honestly, I believe she was born that way.*
>
> — DONALD TRUMP, ERIE RALLY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2024

SAL READS THE FRONT

"Put the eight on one page. The Pentagon's column takes 35 percent of Venezuela's oil reserves with the acquisition line blank, which is what a gift looks like on a ledger, and the public's share comes to one barrel in 105,000. A panel of the president's appointees approves a 250-foot arch for drones and snipers with no appropriation behind it, and a federal judge halts the work before midnight: the money that isn't there is always available for the thing nobody asked for. Three weeks after "zero chance," the chief of staff's job goes to the aide who pledged total devotion, which is now a qualification. The Supreme Court spent twelve days barring student IDs, warning that a change too close to an election confuses voters, and answered the president's own midterm request in hours. Florida State pays Mike Norvell $50.3 million to stop coaching, three years after a 63-3 Orange Bowl loss. The State Department offers $20 million and relocation for tips on Iran's nuclear scientists, taken by Signal, announced on X. A Pentagon-funded satellite program caps Ukraine's air defense at 100 miles an hour for ten days and admits the order on the day it lifts it. Two votes at the Federal Communications Commission end the decades-old limit on television consolidation, and $22 billion moves to the next merger a month later. Not one of these institutions was slow, and not one was short of money. There is money. One barrel in 105,000 of it is yours."

— *Sal*

CHIP READS THE FRONT

"Point by point. The Pentagon's column carries 35 percent of Venezuela's oil reserves with the acquisition line blank, which is the best price in government, and the public's share comes to one barrel in 105,000, which is — that is not a share, strike that, and we printed the blank anyway, which is transparency. A panel of the President's own appointees approved the 250-foot arch for drones and snipers in April with no appropriation behind it, so nothing was spent before a federal judge halted the work by midnight. Three weeks of "zero chance" is three weeks; the President lost both chambers Tuesday, read the result by Friday, and gave the job to the aide who pledged total devotion, and devotion is a qualification. The Supreme Court spent twelve days barring student IDs over voter confusion too close to an election and answered the President's own midterm request in hours, which shows the Court can move when it — when the request comes from. Next. Florida State will pay Mike Norvell $50.3 million to stop coaching, three years after the 63-3 Orange Bowl loss, and that is not our money. The State Department is offering $20 million and relocation for tips on Iran's nuclear scientists, taken by Signal, posted on X, because we meet the public where it is. A Pentagon-funded satellite program capped Ukraine's air defense at 100 miles an hour for ten days and admitted the order the day it was lifted — admitted, which is accountability. Two votes at the FCC ended the limit on television consolidation, and $22 billion goes to the next merger a month later. Nobody made us say any of it."

— *Chip*

LOST Measles, eliminated in the year 2000, since recovered. *Reward for its re-loss. Ask a Kindergarten.* **— Classifieds**

LOST $1.17 billion in Secret Service funds. Last seen heading toward a ballroom. *Finder's fee negotiable, out of your taxes.* **— Classifieds**

LOST The starter home. Median new owner now 40 years old. *If found, please hold it another fifteen years.* **— Classifieds**

THE WEEK, FROM ENOCH

The second winter, a man watched the pass. Salt came, and no cart brought it.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

The Sunday edition · 1 – 7 November 2026

A panel of Trump appointees approved his 250-foot arch for drones and snipers with no appropriation behind it, and a federal judge halted work before midnight.

By MORT
THE RECORDS BUREAU

"Trump's 250-foot triumphal arch gets green light from key federal panel — but judge blocks construction for at least 14 days", 6 November 2026
(PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Independent federal design review of the national capital died on Friday, in Washington. It was born by statute, in a century that assumed what gets built across the Potomac from the Lincoln Memorial is a question with more than one person in it. Because of death was a vote in its favor.

The file opens, as these files do, with an approval. In April the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts signed off on a 250-foot triumphal arch for the traffic circle between Arlington National Cemetery and Arlington Memorial Bridge, directly across the water from the Lincoln Memorial....

...(cont) Then the drawing grew a purpose. On September 20th the president said the arch would now double as a military complex, built to house drones and snipers. The next day, Monday the 21st, Representative Mike Simpson of Idaho, a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee, said he opposed paying for the project out of the defense budget, and that other military needs should come first — a Republican appropriator, on the record, saying the money his own committee hands the Pentagon has better places to be.

That Wednesday the rivalry declined to show up. Asked about the president's claim that the new arch would blow the Paris monument away "in every way," President Emmanuel Macron said, "Monuments are bigger than ourselves."

The review itself went the Thursday before September 28. Travis Voyles, the Trump-appointed vice chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, sent civil society and preservation groups a letter informing them the federal review was over, because addressing their concerns and those of the general public would require deviating from the president's vision for the project. One preservation group said it was "gobsmacked." That letter is the death certificate, and it is unusually honest for one: the consultation was not closed because it found nothing. It was closed because of what it would have required. A review is a nuisance by design. It is the shit that gets in the way of a man in a hurry, and that is the whole of its job description.

So Friday arrived with the outcome already assembled. A panel stacked with the president's own appointees voted yes, and before midnight the same day a federal judge blocked all work on it. There lawsuits stand between the drawings and the ground. No appropriation for a triumphal arch has ever cleared Congress; the ledger line simply does not exist.

A review runs on facts both sides concede, which is the other thing that got retired this autumn. In a September 2nd piece, Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick was quoted as having once said data centers "suck water" — plainly, in quotation marks, as a man stands behind a claim. The same file has him calling the water question propaganda, which is a longer way of saying hogwash. A procedure cannot survive in a government where last year's sentence can be reclassified as somebody else's lie.

Independent federal design review is survived by the panel that voted to approve, by the two defense secretaries attached to the project, by three lawsuits, and by one federal judge, who did late on a Friday night what a commission is supposed to do at a Thursday meeting. It is preceded in death by the budget line that was never written, and by the consultation that was closed in September rather than answered.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you look for the appropriation that pays for this arch, and, when you cannot find it, ask the member of Congress whose name is on your ballot how the drawings got this close to the ground without one.

THE RECEIPTS

Trump's 250 foot triumphal arch gets green light from key federal panel — but judge blocks construction for at least 14 days
New York Post [ESCORT] — *01:18 EST*

In an 8-4 vote, the commission approved plans to build the 250-foot-high arch just across the Potomac River from the Lincoln Memorial, on a traffic circle between Arlington National Cemetery and Arlington Memorial Bridge.

Approved Judge Blocks Work on Trump's Triumphal Arch After It's Approved

Panel approved the arch over dozens of objectors. Hours later, a judge halted it.
The Guardian | MAGISTERIAL | *09:56 EST*

US Judge issues 14-day block on construction on DC monument after it was approved by planning commission A federal judge in the early hours of Friday blocked any construction work from beginning on Donald Trump 's towering triumphal arch for 14 days, a major setback for one of the president's most prominent projects in his vision to...

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

Judge Promptly Blocks Work on Trump's Triumphal Arch After It's Approved
The New York Times | MAGISTERIAL | *10:44 EST*

The judge acted swiftly after a federal planning board led by the president's allies approved Trump's 250-foot arch project on Thursday.

NATION Appointees Approve Trump's Triumphal Arch Project

Panel approves Trump's arch 8-4 after nine hours of public opposition
The Hill | MAGISTERIAL | *22:34 EST*

The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) on Thursday voted to approve plans to build a triumphal arch championed by President Trump between the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery. The motion to approve the project passed by an 8-4 vote after listening to over 100 public remarks largely against the project after a...

- Virginia and DC sue to stop Trump's arch as government looks to start construction *from the morgue, 31 Oct 2026*
- Arlington County sues to block Trump arch after project gets key approval *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*
- DC, Virginia sue to block Trump's triumphal arch *from the morgue, 31 Oct 2026*
- Preservation Group 'Gobsmacked' as Trump Admin Dismisses Public Concern Over Triumphal Arch *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*
- Trumph former campaign manager on GOP ahead of midterms: 'It's ugly' *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*
- France on edge: nearly 800 protests as police clash with demonstrators *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*
- More than 1,000 arrested in France as protesters and police clash *from the morgue, 26 Oct 2026*
- 135 people arrested across France as police find potential weapons on protestors, official says *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*
- Nearly 1,000 arrested across France as police find potential weapons on protestors: officials *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*
- French CEO warns 'purely chaotic' riots prove the country has reached the 'dead end of socialism' *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*
- Trump tells France 'close your borders' as police arrest 1,800 in violent protests *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*
- Trump exploits France riots to push false immigration claims ahead of midterms *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*
- French police arrest 1,800 after clashes and looting *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*
- 'The Government Is Trembling': Protests Erupt in France, Spreading to 140 Cities *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Mass protests challenge Macron as French police use tear gas and water cannons *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*
- BROADCAST BIAS: Networks show France burning but highlight 'peaceful' protesters *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*
- Police fire tear gas at barricaded high school in Paris as protests spread to Belgium *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*
- Police and masked protesters clash in Brussels as anti-austerity rally of thousands *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*
- BBC calls France protests 'mostly peaceful' as footage shows rioters torching cars, battling police *from the morgue, 19 Oct 2026*
- 'This Is Going Global': Anti-Austerity Protests Spread From Spain and France to Chile, Belgium, and Beyond *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*
- Macron slams Trump for 'stupid' comments about French riots and warns public of 'foreign manipulation' *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*
- France has fallen. America can't be next *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*
- Anarchy in France: Behind the riots and violent protests *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*
- How Trump's camp is exploiting France's riots to energize the MAGA base ahead of US midterms *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*
- Macron scoffs at Trump arch rivalry: 'Monuments are bigger than ourselves' *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- French student riots spill across Europe as Belgian minister attributes violence to antifa *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*
- Macron says violent rioters will be 'prosecuted and punished' as buildings burn in France *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- 'The Bastille Has Been Retaken,' Declares Mélenchon as Student-Led Protests Hit New Heights in France *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*
- Trump finds ominous campaign message in French riots *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- Trump returns to Washington amid midterms campaign blitz as new polls reveal voters's concern about US economy – live *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*
- Trump attacks 'migrants and communists' as he tries to exploit France unrest *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- The Movement: Paris is burning. The American right is watching. *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- Torched cars, ransacked businesses: Anti-Sharia crusader warns France 'civil war' could be imported to US *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- The Anti-French Revolt in France *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- France in Flames *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- Bo Khanna thinks torching Jewish businesses is an 'inspiring' youth movement *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- 'Page one of repressive playbook': critics warn of Trump's conspiratorial attacks *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*
- Trump threads needle between communist attacks against Democrats and warm embrace of Xi *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- France's insane student protests are really about a growing radical Muslim population that wants to get rid of democracy *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- The Big Beautiful Bill Is Starting to Bite Before the Election *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- 'Sickening and Unacceptable': Anger Mounts as Trump and Vance Gleefully Rip Healthcare From 750,000 *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- Many Americans are relying on multiple forms of credit to cover expenses. When is it a warning sign? *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- Trump gave 'the red meat,' Vance was playing for independents: Bob Cusack *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Fox News's Baier presses Vance on Trump's $5K dividend promise *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Pritzker: Vance is Trump's 'chief bootlicker' *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- Bessent Defends Faltering Bond Market Intervention *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Bessent says Treasury is 'examining' ability to cut $5,000 checks without Congress *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Bessent's move to tamp down rising rates backfires as bond yields jump, stocks tumble *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- The bond market is revolting — and your mortgage is the first casualty *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*
- Fiscal hawks skeptical of Bessent's claim that US can 'grow our way out' of $40 trillion debt *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*
- Bessent blasts Warren's 'sciolistic' letter about yen policy *from the morgue, 29 Aug 2026*
- Soros-funded Philadelphia district attorney insinuates Trump is a '35-time felon,' calling $5,000 dividend a bribe *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Soros-funded Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner's terrible, horrible, no good, very bad Thursday *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*
- Voters have a blunt message for Trump about his idea to dole out $5,000 checks *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Why Donald Trump has a Joe Biden problem *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Does Trump have a 'Biden problem' on the economy? *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Trump's $5,000 dividend falls flat with GOP senators *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Trump sees backlash over $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump plan to raise debt limit on shaky ground *from the morgue, 26 Aug 2026*
- 5 things to know about Trump's $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Vance strikes back at concern $5,000 Trump dividend will stoke debt: 'Wealth will go back to the people' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Marshall backtracks on support for $5,000 Trump dividend in Kansas Senate debate *from the morgue, 12 Sep 2026*
- Vance and MAGA Inc. work to defend Roger Marshall in redder Kansas *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Roger Marshall Sued 700 Patients for Debts; 81 Were Arrested. Now He's a Senator. *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Conservatives would scream 'bloody murder' if Democratic president offered dividend to maintain power: Guy Benson *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Will Trump's payout promises boost Republican appeal to white women? *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Republicans need a Reagan-style vision to win the battle over America's future *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Trump's promised $5,000 'dividend' checks: What to know *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump's Reckless $5,000 'Dividend' *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Republicans bet the House on Trump *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Axelrod dismisses the idea of the proposed $5000 "Trump dividend" *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump pledges $5K 'Trump dividend' if Republicans hold onto Congress *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump says $5K dividend checks to Americans will 'happen 100 percent' *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Lawler deflects on supporting Trump's $5K dividend pledge: 'How do you pay for it?' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- GOP rep says priority 'needs to be the military,' not $5K checks *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Susan Collins calls Trump's $5,000 dividend proposal with no cap 'extraordinarily costly' *from the morgue, 11 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.

Three weeks after saying there was 'zero chance' he would remove his chief of staff, Trump gave the job to the aide who pledged 'total devotion.'

By GREG HUNTER
STAFF WRITER



"Ethel Thrashes Willow, Trump's worst chief of staff. I'd binge it in bursts" | Screenshot, 2026 (Illustrative mockup)

EDITOR'S NOTE ON THIS PIECE

Let me do the frame first, because the frame is where people lose the thread.

The President lost both chambers of Congress on Tuesday, in what CBS News called "a dismal midterm performance for Republicans," and by Friday he had read the result and acted on it. That is responsiveness. The voters asked for change. On Friday the President got it. Whether the change they got changes to his team, and he named the change on Truth Social the same day. You can access this White House at a great many things, but Siemens is not among them. 998—

…Anyway! Susie Wiles is out. She was the first woman to hold the job, and the history books keep that whatever else they say, Stephen Miller is in. He has been with the President, in The Hill's words, "since he launched his first campaign," which in this town is the highest recommendation, no roll call. The chambers the voters just flipped have exactly the job he was often huddling that they had on Thursday.

On the way, the record is clean. The Pentagon has fully accounted for the Iran war. I have the accounting right here. In July the Congressional Budget Office priced it at nearly forty billion dollars and called it the number conservative. On August 13 the Pentagon gave Congress just over forty-two billion. In September every Senate Democrat but one signed a letter to the Secretary of Defense asking for a cost breakdown. It was not issued. With the Pentagon's figure stood at forty-seven point one billion dollars — five billion more in under three months, with no line items. So the request was answered, a request for an itemization does not itself oblige an items— no. Let me take that again. They asked what the war cost. We sent a bigger number and no list.

The promise that the war was over within sixty days of last Saturday, with no details added to it. Seventy-one percent in a Fox News poll think this administration lacks a plan to end it. We don't govern by poll. It was Fox.

And the pump is in full effect. Inflation is exactly why I am not going back to my desk and connect — gas did to ward four dollars a gallon on Friday and the January crash bar the same day Iran claimed new attacks on ships. In August, for the first time, AAA logged a gallon that cost more than the day of the month, averaging four-oh-eight, thirty cents over the year before. Social Security goes up about seventy-five dollars a month in January. That is the figure I would lead with, if the arithmetic ran the other way.

So the voters instructed, the President promoted, the war costs five billion more than it did in August, and the devotion is total. I stand behind all of it. I would like the record to show which parts I said.

THE RECEIPTS

But The US torture rapporteur found ICE's planned electric shock gloves 'incompatible with the absolute prohibition of torture'; ICE plans to spend up to $20 million on them Jeff Hoy, "U.S. Special Rapporteur Finds Anti-Torture Gaps, Says ICE Shock Gloves Violate Treaty," June 27th

Meet Stephen Miller, Trump's new chief of staff. 5 things to know

The Hill · MASTHEAD · 10:45 AM

President Trump announced Friday that longtime White House aide Stephen Miller would be his next chief of staff, replacing Susie Wiles — who has served in the role since Trump returned to office. Miller is an immigration hardliner and Trump-loyalist who has been with the president since he launched his first campaign. The promotion...

Iran unveils 'We will Lift Trump' banner – but US president may now be tempted to resume bombing

The Guardian · MASTHEAD · 09:07 BST

Iran celebrates its claimed role in 'regime change' amid pressure on Trump to 'finish the job' with attack US midterms fire – latest updates Iran this week unveiled a huge billboard showing Donald Trump and Benjamin Netanyahu fleeing Tehran in a helicopter in English. "We will kill Trump" – elevating the degree of personal animus with...

But Trump promised to settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours · CNN counted 53 separate sack promises CNN Jeff Zeleny & Jeff Liebermann, April 30th

Jeff Liebermann

Trump drops major bombshell about ending the US war with Iran

New York Post · EXPERT · 1 min ago

President Trump stated that Iran is seeking a deal to end its eight-month war with the U.S., noting an agreement "could happen." Tehran confirmed ongoing diplomatic contacts through Qatari mediators, but Iranian officials publicly modified proposals without a formal breakthrough. Meanwhile, as global economic repercussions mount, Trump...

But Trump promised to settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours — on 53 separate occasions, CNN counted CNN Jeff Zeleny & Jeff Liebermann, April 30th

Jeff Liebermann

U.S. launches task force to disrupt Iranian ground shipping routes

CBS News · MASTHEAD · 10:10 EDT

The U.S. did not say whether any military action would be involved in preventing weapons technology or sanctioned items from entering Iran.

Stephen Miller Is Now Trump's Chief of Staff

After historic midterm losses, Trump installs immigration crackdown's architect as chief of staff

Fresno 24 · MASTHEAD · 07:14 PDT

Following historic Republican losses in the midterm elections, Donald Trump has replaced his chief of staff, Susie Wiles, with her deputy Stephen Miller, the architect of his administration's immigration crackdown. Wiles had been seen by some as a stabilizing force in the White House, but with Democrats now controlling both chambers of...

Iran

US and Israel are plotting an Iran escalation. The region is scrambling to stop it.

Truthout · 11:10 EDT

Saudi, Pakistani, and Turkish leaders met with Israeli officials in Tehran, signaling their reticence to renew the war.

But Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department NPR Nov. 4th, 2026

Trump's elevation of Stephen Miller a middle finger to millions of Voters

The Guardian · MASTHEAD · 08:00 EST

Architect of Trump's far-right immigration agenda is now most powerful unelected figure in government – it suggests White House is moving to a new footing Donald Trump just got a message to millions of American voters. Any other president who suffered the kind of drubbing at the polls that Trump did this week might have felt at...

But ICE plans to spend up to $20 million on electric shock gloves a UN torture rapporteur found incompatible with the absolute prohibition of torture Jeff Hoy, "U.S. Special Rapporteur Finds Anti-Torture Gaps, Says ICE Shock Gloves Violate Treaty," June 27th

Per Stephen Miller, Election Defeat Is No Reason to Back Down on Immigration Crackdowns

The New York Times · MASTHEAD · 10:29 EST

The president's new chief of staff has already demonstrated his intention to forge ahead with an agenda that many voters rejected.

CENTCOM announces task force to blockade Iranian ground transit routes

Washington Examiner · EXPERT · 1 min ago

U.S. Central Command announced on Saturday a new task force designed to blockade Iranian ground transit routes used to transport illegal shipments. Task Force Iron Gate will work with U.S.

But Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department NPR Nov. 4th, 2026

Stephen Miller, Trump's incoming chief of staff, gets total devotion' in the president

The Guardian · MASTHEAD · 09:05 BST

Hardline aide offers unwavering commitment' to president amid fears White House will double down on far-right immigration agenda Stephen Miller, Donald Trump 's most controversial aide and the architect of his sweeping immigration crackdown, has lavished praise on the president after his appointment as White House chief of staff. In his...

Trump's Chief of Staff Is Stephen Miller. You Should Be Afraid.

The architect of Trump's toughest immigration policies now runs the White House

NYT · MASTHEAD · 09:43 EST

US President Donald Trump has promoted Stephen Miller, the architect of some of his toughest policies on immigration and other domestic issues, to run his White House, but who is the he?

Iran live updates: US doubles another ship trying to breach the Iran naval blockade

ABC News · MASTHEAD · 17:23 EST

President Donald Trump announced "major combat operations" against Iran on Feb. 28.

But The Pentagon has failed its audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one Hilma Tara, PI Monday AM

Pentagon Trump: Forget the midterms and finish the job in Iran

The Hill · MASTHEAD · 5:00 PDT

The war will only end by returning to the first objective Trump dropped from his list: the collapse of the fanatical, barbaric Tehran regime.

But Democrats are running an average of 11.5 points ahead of their 2024 baseline across 2026 special elections Mathew Haines, 26th and Constitution

Trump replaces Susie Wiles with Stephen Miller

CBS News · MASTHEAD · 11:10 EST

President Trump picked Stephen Miller to replace Susie Wiles as his new White House chief of staff after a dismal midterm performance for Republicans.

Democrats plan to defend Trump's illegal Iran war – now they're in power, not year

Common Dreams · 01:23 EST

Democratic Senate Leader Chuck Schumer on Wednesday indicated that his party will defund President Donald Trump's illegal war with Iran when it takes over as the majority next year. While speaking with reporters, Schumer (D-NY) was asked how Democrats planned to end the war, which Trump launched without congressional authorization in...

But The US torture rapporteur found direct-contact electric shock gloves 'incompatible with the absolute prohibition of torture' · ICE plans to spend up to $20 million on them Jeff Hoy, "U.S. Special Rapporteur Finds Anti-Torture Gaps, Says ICE Shock Gloves Violate Treaty," June 27th

Is Morning Stephen Miller Trump Double Down on Hard-Line Agenda

The New York Times · MASTHEAD · 10:29 EST

The new White House chief of staff is responsible for some of the most provocative policies of President Trump's second term, as well as an aggressive approach to executive power.

- Stephen Miller, Who Wants Immigration Deported Over Paperwork, Has Glaring Inconsistencies' in His Disclosures *from the storyline, 30 Oct 2026*
- Former Trump aide: Prospect of replacing Wiles with Stephen Miller 'terrifying' *from the storyline, 2 Nov 2026*
- Trump throws cold water on report Wiles is on thin ice *from the storyline, 13 Oct 2026*
- Centcom commander says naval blockade cost Iran $25B in oil revenue *from the storyline, 16 Oct 2026*
- US military disables ship attempting to bypass Strait of Hormuz blockade *from the storyline, 11 Oct 2026*
- Trump hints at post-midterm strikes on Iran: 'You'll see Iran in a couple of weeks' *from the storyline, 28 Oct 2026*
- If Iran war erupts, Israel may be plotting another 'Operation Grim Reaper' style attack: sources *from the storyline, 31 Oct 2026*
- Trump says Iran war will be put away very soon: "One way or the other" *from the storyline, 2 Nov 2026*
- Iranian supreme leader vows 'unrestricted response' to new US or Israeli strikes *from the storyline, 31 Oct 2026*
- US, Iran race to revive Qatar talks as Trump weighs new strikes after midterms *from the storyline, 31 Oct 2026*
- Iran's president says Iran would return to ceasefire deal if the US does *from the storyline, 1 Sep 2026*
- Trump admin threatens Iran with 'consequences' as allies convene amid threats of post-election escalation *from the storyline, 31 Oct 2026*
- Trump and Netanyahu Need to Choose Victory on Iran *from the storyline, 31 Oct 2026*
- Trump Issues New Mass Murder Threat, Warning Iran of 'Biggest Attack of Them All' *from the storyline, 1 Sep 2026*
- Trump denies Axios report that he offered Iran sanctions relief *from the storyline, 29 Sep 2026*
- Trump says Iran war will end 'soon' *from the storyline, 31 Oct 2026*
- Trump says Iran war will end "soon" as Qatar pushes for U.S.-Iran deal *from the storyline, 30 Oct 2026*
- Donald Trump claims Iran war will end very soon' as midterm rallies heat up – US politics live *from the storyline, 13 Oct 2026*
- Iranian dissident reacts to Trump's promise to either annihilate Iran or make a post-election deal *from the storyline, 13 Sep 2026*
- Trump floats 'big decision' at US ex whether he'll 'annihilate' Iran or make deal *from the storyline, 23 Sep 2026*
- Russia's Lavrov blasts US, Western allies as "warmongers" in fiery UN tirade *from the storyline, 26 Sep 2026*
- Russia and China unite against US over Iran and Cuba in UN speeches *from the storyline, 26 Sep 2026*
- U.S. military lays groundwork for potential action around Cuba *from the storyline, 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 storyline, 29 Aug 2026*
- U.S. Threatens New Economic War on Iran by Targeting China & Tehran's Other Top Trading Partners *from the storyline, 23 Aug 2026*
- In Defiant UN Speech, Iranian President Says US and Israel Are the Real Terrorists *from the storyline, 23 Sep 2026*
- Trump slams reporting on removal of his endorsements from GOP candidate's website *from the storyline, 27 Sep 2026*
- Donalds removes several Trump mentions from campaign website *from the storyline, 22 Sep 2026*
- GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat *from the storyline, 23 Sep 2026*
- Where Trump's 2026 endorsement record stands after primary season *from the storyline, 1 Oct 2026*
- U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the storyline, 22 Sep 2026*
- Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the storyline, 18 Sep 2026*
- Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the storyline, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump admin Iran war will not end before midterms *from the storyline, 10 Sep 2026*
- Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the storyline, 28 Aug 2026*
- CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the storyline, 13 Sep 2026*
- Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the storyline, 18 Sep 2026*
- Massie Flies Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Beat Murders *from the storyline, 13 Sep 2026*
- Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the storyline, 11 Sep 2026*
- Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the storyline, 2 Sep 2026*
- Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the storyline, 2 Sep 2026*
- Farmer who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" *from the storyline, 18 Sep 2026*
- Farmer who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs *from the storyline, 18 Sep 2026*
- Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein files legislation *from the storyline, 18 Sep 2026*
- Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation *from the storyline, 1 Sep 2026*
- Read Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth *from the storyline, 11 Sep 2026*
- Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files *from the storyline, 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 storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- Fox News Poll: 71% think Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and New Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the storyline, 27 Aug 2026*
- Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as US, Iran trade strikes *from the storyline, 4 Sep 2026*
- U.S. Strike on Iranian School May Have Been War Crime, U.N. Report Says *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- UN Inquiry Finds US Strike on Minab, Iran That Killed 123 Children Was War Crime *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- UN investigators conclude 'reasonable grounds' to believe certain US strikes in Iran were war crimes *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- UN Suspects US War Crimes in Iran *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- US Condemned for War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran *from the storyline, 1 Sep 2026*
- US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 *from the storyline, 4 Sep 2026*
- Trump says he has a 'big decision coming up' on Iran *from the storyline, 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 storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- Human rights experts: 'Reasonable grounds' to believe US committed war crimes with Iran strikes *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*
- US Energy Consumers Have Spent $121 Billion Extra Since Trump Launched Iran War: Moody's *from the storyline, 17 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, errata and all. 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.

Supreme Court spent twelve days barring student IDs while warning of voter confusion too close to an election, and answered the president's own midterm request in hours.

By Lily Ashworth
Our News Desk



"Why a Merciless Supreme Court Rebuke on Election Eve Matters", 3 November 2026. PHOTO VIA THE NEW YORK TIMES — SEE EDITORIAL REPORT

GO BACK ON THE STORY

My wife said leave the clock alone and come to bed, so I came to bed, and then at two in the morning I was out on the porch with the notebook and the dog, who has opinions about that.

I had written down two dates and one figure. Let me find the figure. It's in here somewhere. Hold on. Okay...

(...cont) September twenty-fifth: six to three, the Supreme Court lifted a lower court's order that had kept the Department of Homeland Security from using and expanding a database called SAVE — the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements — to screen state voter rolls while the case runs on appeal. The database was built to check whether noncitizens qualified for government benefits. Common Dreams reports it is known for flagging naturalized citizens, and that eligible voters may have their registrations wrongfully canceled weeks before the midterms. Fox's write-up of the same order says states may use the program, for now, in their efforts to verify the eligibility of voters on their rolls.

Verify. I underlined that, and then I underlined the figure sitting under it: the database cannot confirm four in ten of the names it matches belong to registered voters.

I keep a ring of ten keys in the glovebox. Six of them I can place — the house, the back door we rehung, the padlock on the garage, the toolbox, the chain on the side gate, my brother-in-law's shed. Four I cannot place at all. That is not modesty; I don't know what they open, and I've carried some of them eleven years. Now suppose a fellow comes up the driveway and tells me he has been through that ring and can tell me which houses on my street have the wrong people living behind the doors. Before I let him start, I'd want to ask him the question the paper already answers: out of ten names the screen matches, how many does it say it cannot confirm belong to registered voters?

Because on November first, two days before the polls closed, James Percival, general counsel at the Department of Homeland Security, vowed to find, charge and deport any noncitizen caught casting an illegal ballot in the midterms. That vow sits right on top of the four.

Twelve went looking for a second number, and I found Springfield. September fifth, at a roundtable in Cincinnati, Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin announced that Immigration and Customs Enforcement had arrested 380 Haitian citizens in Springfield. One count, with the names there for it. How many counts has Washington published since? It isn't a trick question. Ask it and the answer is on the page: Washington has not issued a second number.

Then the other date, the one that actually got me up. October twenty-second, the Court let New Hampshire refuse student IDs at the polls, reversing a federal judge's order. Fox's write-up says the warning was of voter confusion too close to an election. The Washington Examiner's lead calls the ruling New Hampshire wanted lifted a last-minute block, and the state's petition was an emergency one, filed by Secretary of State David Scanlan. Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson wrote a short dissent saying she would have left the lower court's decision in place.

Twelve days between the cases. Hours on the president's own midterm request. Those are their two numbers, not mine; I only copied them onto the same page, one under the other, which is how I ended up on the porch.

Excuse me — I see the coals on, I'll be quick. One thing. Twelve days of thinking about a university card, and the stated worry was confusion too close to an election. Of the two applications in front of that same bench, which one came back in hours? Don't answer me, it's printed. Ask your clock.

THE RECEIPTS

Why a Merciless Supreme Court Rebuke on Election Eve Matters

Supreme Court took hours to reject Trump's bid to meddle in the election

The New York Times · MAGGIE HABERMAN · 17:55 EST

The Justices took just hours to reject Trump's bid to meddle in the election.

- US supreme court sides with Republicans on rejecting student IDs in New Hampshire midterms *from the morning, 23 Oct 2026*
- Days Before Midterms, US Supreme Court Lets New Hampshire Bar Student IDs for Voting *from the morning, 23 Oct 2026*
- Missouri asks Supreme Court to overturn block of new congressional map before election *from the morning, 5 Sep 2026*
- AIPAC Is Spending Millions — Just Not Under Its Own Name *from the morning, 24 Oct 2026*
- Elon Musk's 'Absolutely Insane' $276 Million Midterm Spending Exposed in New Report *from the morning, 12 Oct 2026*
- 'Take the Open Shot': Democrats Rebuked for Refusing to Target Elon Musk Over $100 Million Midterm Spending Spree *from the morning, 22 Sep 2026*
- Ketanji Brown Jackson issues public dissent in New Hampshire voting case *from the morning, 23 Oct 2026*
- 'Major Win' for Democracy as Supreme Court Rejects Trump Attack on Mail-In Voting *from the morning, 15 Sep 2026*
- Supreme Court slams brakes on Trump's mail-in voting plan *from the morning, 15 Sep 2026*
- Supreme Court blocks use of student IDs as voter identification in New Hampshire *from the morning, 23 Oct 2026*
- Supreme Court rules New Hampshire can ban use of student IDs for voters *from the morning, 22 Oct 2026*
- Supreme Court allows New Hampshire to bar student IDs for voting *from the morning, 22 Oct 2026*
- SCOTUS Says New Hampshire Can Close Student ID 'Loophole' In Elections *from the morning, 22 Oct 2026*
- US Citizens 'Could Lose Their Right to Vote' After Supreme Court Gives Green Light to Trump's Voter Purge Database *from the morning, 25 Sep 2026*
- New Hampshire urges Supreme Court to reinstate student ID voting ban ahead of election *from the morning, 20 Oct 2026*
- Supreme Court allows Trump admin to use federal voter eligibility database during appeal *from the morning, 25 Sep 2026*
- After airport strike, Trump considering whether to join fight against Houthis *from the morning, 11 Oct 2026*
- Saudi Arabia promises response to Houthi attacks *from the morning, 8 Sep 2026*
- Is Yemen Heading Back to All-Out War? Saudis Launch Strikes as Houthis Take Control of Red Sea Coast *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- US Backs Major Saudi-Led Offensive as Yemen Slides Back Toward All-Out War *from the morning, 4 Oct 2026*
- F-Lead Iran must stop arming Yemen's Houthi forces, say the G7 *from the morning, 22 Sep 2026*
- Blasts Rattle Riyadh as Saudi Arabia Hit by Deadliest Houthi Attacks So Far *from the morning, 8 Oct 2026*
- Saudi Arabia sees disruptions at Riyadh airport amid ballistic missile attacks from Houthis *from the morning, 8 Oct 2026*
- Houthis claim they struck Riyadh's main airport in Saudi Arabia *from the morning, 8 Oct 2026*
- The Royal Saudi Air Defense intercepts a ballistic missile fired from Yemen over the Saudi capital Riyadh that caused panic among residents. Houthis say they fired several Burkan-2 missiles at targets *from the morning, 11 Apr 2018*
- The Houthis say that they have struck Saudi Arabia's Abha International Airport and King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah with drones. A Houthi spokesman said on Twitter that the attacks halt *from the morning, 15 Feb 2021*
- Houthis tried to hit Saudi capital with ballistic missile, Riyadh confirms *from the morning, 20 Sep 2026*
- Riyadh airport explosion prompts Saudi Arabia to issue air raid alerts as Houthi fighting escalates *from the morning, 19 Sep 2026*
- Markey Urges Congress to Block Trump-Saudi Deal, a 'Starting Gun for a Middle East Nuclear Arms Race' *from the morning, 26 Aug 2026*
- Trump admin's list of US-designated 'foreign terrorist' groups in Latin America expands to 21 *from the morning, 11 Sep 2026*
- Top Trump official reveals how 30-minute military op unlocked Venezuela oil windfall for US buyers *from the morning, 11 Sep 2026*
- Ex-Venezuelan first lady Cilia Flores seeks release from NYC jail, citing heart ailment *from the morning, 11 Sep 2026*
- New York City protest once again demands release of Maduro and Flores *from the morning, 11 Sep 2026*
- Trump Official Denies Stealing Venezuela's Oil One Hour After Boasting Country is 'Forced to Work' With US *from the morning, 6 Sep 2026*
- Mobster Language': Trump Says Venezuelan Oil Will Replenish US Reserves *from the morning, 30 Aug 2026*
- 'Yet Another Trump Grift': Congress Called to Stop US Takeover of Venezuelan Oil Fields *from the morning, 28 Aug 2026*
- The Biggest Oil Deal or Theft at Gunpoint? U.S. Claims Majority Control of Venezuela's Oil Reserves *from the morning, 1 Sep 2026*
- Tehran threatens attacks after U.S. strikes Iranian tankers *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- US forces take out 3 Iranian oil tankers in retaliation *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- Oil prices up as Iran says it will expand control over Strait of Hormuz *from the morning, 8 Sep 2026*
- Iran live updates: Trump speaks to MBS, says everything will 'work out fine' *from the morning, 13 Sep 2026*
- Iran threatens retaliation against U.S. tanker strikes *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- U.S. gas prices hit record high for Labor Day *from the morning, 2 Sep 2026*
- Ship-tracking websites, including Kpler, MarineTraffic, and TankerTrackers, show that three Iranian oil tankers, including two from the National Iranian Tanker Company, have escaped the blockade that *from the morning, 17 Jun 2026*
- Iranian state media reports that the United States Navy attempted to capture an Iranian oil tanker. The oil tanker was boarded, commandeered and then returned by Iranian NEDSA marines in a helicopter *from the morning, 3 Nov 2021*
- US strikes Iranian rocket launchers in first attack since late July *from the morning, 30 Aug 2026*
- An Iranian Navy commander claims on state television that the Iranian Navy forced a U.S. submarine to surface as it transited the Strait of Hormuz and that the submarine violated Iranian territorial w *from the morning, 26 Apr 2023*
- Trump Threatens to Rename Strait of Hormuz for Himself as War Pushes Diesel Prices Toward Record High *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- Trump floats renaming Strait of Hormuz after himself *from the morning, 2 Sep 2026*
- U.S. strikes targets in Iran near Strait of Hormuz as Iran says it is retaliating *from the morning, 1 Sep 2026*
- Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever *from the morning, 31 Aug 2026*
- 'Trump Did It!': At $5.85 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- Price of diesel in U.S. hits record as Vance downplays Iran war impact *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- Diesel prices hit record high as wars disrupt supply *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- Trump vows response to Iran's retaliatory strikes: 'We're going to hit them hard' *from the morning, 31 Aug 2026*
- Trump threatens Iran against retaliation for latest U.S. strikes *from the morning, 1 Sep 2026*
- Live updates: US, Iran ramp up strikes; incumbents hold on in Massachusetts *from the morning, 2 Sep 2026*
- Trump calls Iran conflict "small potatoes" *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- Labor Day gas prices are highest ever for holiday *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- How 'Hypermilers' Are Trying to Beat High Gas Prices *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- Fuel prices at record Labor Day high in US thanks to Iran War and refinery issues *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- Oil Prices Rise Slightly After U.S. and Iran Trade Strikes *from the morning, 6 Sep 2026*
- USS Lincoln heads home as war with Iran escalates *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- Lawler disagrees with Trump on Iran war: 'It is certainly not small potatoes' *from the morning, 6 Sep 2026*
- OPEC Plus to Keep Oil Production Steady *from the morning, 6 Sep 2026*
- Iran War Has Cost the Average American More Than $1,200 Over Six Months, Economist Estimates *from the morning, 1 Sep 2026*
- Trump says military conflict in Iran is 'small potatoes for us' *from the morning, 6 Sep 2026*
- Wright: US has 'a lot of leverage' in Venezuela after oil deal reached *from the morning, 6 Sep 2026*
- White House unveils new details of Venezuela agreement *from the morning, 1 Sep 2026*
- Chris Wright explains how Venezuelan crude will 'fill' the Strategic Petroleum Reserve *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- Energy Secretary Wright says Venezuela oil deal will bring down gas prices in a year or two *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- Chevron to expand in Venezuela, days after the U.S. and Venezuela strike oil deal *from the morning, 2 Sep 2026*
- Venezuelan oil flows will lower gas prices in 12-24 months, Wright says in Caracas *from the morning, 2 Sep 2026*
- Trump says Venezuelan oil will replenish Strategic Petroleum Reserves *from the morning, 31 Aug 2026*
- US, Russia explore gas sale to Europe amid Ukraine war: Report *from the morning, 6 Oct 2026*
- Countries across Europe report reductions in gas supplies after Russia disconnected supplies to Ukraine yesterday. Russia accuses Ukraine of stealing cubic metres of gas yesterday from pipelines trans *from the morning, 2 Jan 2006*
- AI safety group outlines demands for legislation, warns lawmakers *from the morning, 7 Oct 2026*
- AI-generated child sexual abuse images cause real-life harm *from the morning, 7 Oct 2026*
- OpenAI fires researchers for sharing data with AI safety advocacy group: Report *from the morning, 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.

A Pentagon-funded satellite program capped Ukraine's air defense at 100 miles an hour for ten days, and the order was admitted on the day it was lifted.

By THE WRECKING CREW
THE REMEDY DESK

AS IT HAS ON THE FRONT

The assignment this week was not to find the scandal. The scandal filed itself. The job was to look at what was sitting beside it on the bench.

Tuesday evening, Ukraine's military lost access to Starlink terminals, and the Guardian reported the specific fixture struck terminals travelling at high speeds. By Wednesday the fourteenth, presidential adviser Serhiy Beskrestnov had written on Telegram that the limits came without warning; The Hill carried it, citing Reuters. The threshold was 100 miles an hour. A speed cap is a number typed into a field by somebody with an account…

…(cont) That same Wednesday, Musk said decisions to restrict the speed or usage of Starshield are made by the U.S. military and, ultimately, the president, The Hill reported. Senator Thom Tillis asked him publicly to explain, and said he hoped the overnight disruptions were an error rather than a deliberate decision. That same Wednesday, a Russian attack cut power to 600,000 people in Kyiv, and CBS News reported the administration may have withheld intelligence warnings about strikes that killed six. Zelensky, that Wednesday: "It's a pity that we are losing a strong partner."

On Thursday the fifteenth, the BBC reported Musk saying the U.S. government may be behind the slowdown, while Ukraine said access had improved but speed limits were still disrupting its battlefield "missions." Le Monde reported Zelensky saying he felt "betrayed." Ten days of pointing at Washington followed. Then the order was admitted and the cap was lifted the same day.

What those ten days cost was itemized by other people. On Tuesday 20 October the Morning Star reported seven killed in a new wave of missile and drone attacks, outages in 12 regions, and Zelensky saying Ukraine had nearly run out of Patriot interceptors while the Pentagon delayed delivery of missiles other countries had purchased for Ukraine. On Monday the twenty-sixth: "We have been waiting for nearly a month for Mr Hegseth to sign off on missiles for Patriots and NASAMS." On Friday the thirtieth, the State Department approved a possible $2.1 billion sale of 500 Patriot interceptors, funded entirely by U.S. partners and allies.

Now the parts.

Part one, the invoice. The New York Times called Starshield a Pentagon-funded satellite internet program. The customer is the Department of Defense, which means the terms are written by people who answer to a committee. A contract line barring changes to speed or usage settings without written notice to the user is not exotic; it is the sort of clause that governs a leased copier.

Part two, the company's own position, which is the cheap part, because it is already said out loud. If restricting Starshield is a decision of the U.S. military and ultimately the president, as The Hill reported Musk saying, then put that sentence where a lawyer can read it and a clerk can file it. Nobody has to be persuaded of a thing everybody has already announced.

Part three, the hearing room. The Tillis question exists. It was merely tweet, under oath, with the contract on the table and the speed setting printed as an exhibit.

Part four, the chassis, which just drove past. Friday showed the route: allies pay, the State Department approves, the hardware moves. Terminals are hardware.

Before any of it bolts on, wreck the thing underneath. Common Dreams reported critics questioning the wisdom of depending on any company owned by Elon Musk; the ten days are the argument. One account, one switch, one war.

That is the build. Whether it holds is not ours to promise. The next cap arrives the way the last one did, without warning, unless the warning is a clause with a contract number on it.

▸ THE FORK AT ¶

SpaceX limited Ukraine's military satellite terminals above 100 miles an hour, and Ukraine said on 14 October that the limits came without warning. Musk said the same day that restricting Starshield's speed or usage is a decision of the U.S. military and, ultimately, the president.

Congress may hold no vote at all on who sets that speed. The Senate may leave the question a social-media post, the Pentagon may keep paying for a network whose limits one company types in, and the next cap may land in the middle of an air raid with scarcely no one a committee can subpoena.

↦ LAW: Congress, 16 April to 2 May 2018: the vote held, the override failed 53 to 45, and nobody continued 21 more months.

Suppressed once. Ask Congress, 2019.

Fig.: △
More of Earl's calls, and the score, on E2

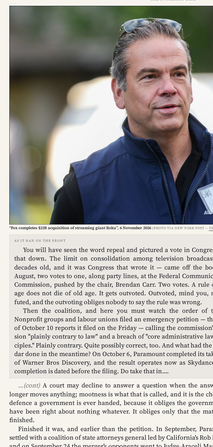
THE RECEIPTS

- https://www.cbsnews.com/news/ukraine-patriot-missiles-us-lockheed-martin-sale-zelenskyy/ *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/10/31/us-news/us-approves-2-1-billion-patriot-missile-sale-to-ukraine/ *the receipt*
- https://thehill.com/newsletters/defense-national-security/6185817-us-approves-ukraine-patriot-missiles/ *the receipt*
- https://www.nbcnews.com/world/ukraine/us-approves-21-billion-sale-patriot-interceptors-ukraine-rcna406641 *the receipt*
- Zelensky calls out Hegseth for 'nearly a month' Patriot missile delay *from the morgue, 26 Oct 2026*
- US gave us no warning of Russian strikes on Kyiv power plants, Zelenskyy says *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- Seven killed in Ukraine as Zelensky meets US and European officials in Norway *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine runs out of US Patriot missile interceptors as Russia pummels cities: report *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine's Exposure Grows as Satellite Use Is Restricted and Russia Escalates *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*
- Musk says US government may be behind slowdown of Ukraine drone speeds *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine faces loss of key satellite support amid tensions between Trump and Zelenskyy *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*
- U.S. may have withheld warnings to Ukraine on deadly Kyiv strikes *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Ukrainian officials accuse U.S. of withholding intelligence, leading to Russian missile attack *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine reports Starlink missile tracker shut down as Russia launched new air strikes *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- U.S. Continues to Provide Intelligence to Ukraine, Officials Say *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Elon Musk points to Trump for Starshield throttling in Ukraine that Zelensky warns will cost lives *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Musk says US govt responsible for any Starshield restrictions affecting Ukraine *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Washington limits its support to Kyiv amidst increased Russian attacks on energy infrastructure *from the morgue, 13 Oct 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 in *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*
- Zelenskyy vows to retaliate if Russian strikes on Ukraine's power grid continue *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*
- Musk blames Trump and US military for Ukraine's Starshield restrictions *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Amid Ukraine uproar, Musk says decisions to restrict Starshield up to president *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Zelensky laments Ukraine is 'losing America' as Congress cries foul over intel and Starlink reports *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- GOP Sen. Tillis asks Musk to explain Ukraine losing access to Starlink *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- 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*
- What Is Starshield, SpaceX's Military-Grade Satellite Internet Service Ukraine Relies On? *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine slams SpaceX for cutting Starlink internet access while Russians launch brutal attacks *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Throttling of Ukraine's Starlink Access Heightens Concerns Over Government Reliance on Elon Musk *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Ukrainian soldiers in combat have access to Starlink satellite internet restricted *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine says SpaceX limiting Starlink operations, impacting air defense *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine says SpaceX's Starshield throttling hampers defense against Russian strikes on energy sites *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine says new Starlink restrictions disrupt military as it reels from intel gaps and Trump clash *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- 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 2023*
- With Elon Musk's Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*
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- READ IN FULL: Trump and tech leaders' White House Accord on Super Intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*
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- 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*
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- 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*
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- 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*
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- 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*
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- 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*

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.

Two votes at the Federal Communications Commission ended the decades-old limit on television consolidation; $22 billion goes to the next merger a month later.

By STERLING
THE ORTHOGRAPH DESK



"You complete $22B acquisition of streaming giant Roku" 6 November 2026 [INSERTS TO KEEP YOUR POST] — THE ORIGINAL REPORT

AS IT HAS ON THE FRONT

You will have seen the word repeal and pictured a vote in Congress. Put that down. The limit on consolidation among television broadcasters — decades old, and it was Congress that wrote it — came off the books in August, two votes to one, along party lines, at the Federal Communications Commission, pushed by the chair, Brendan Carr. Two votes. A rule that age does not die of old age. It gets outvoted. Outvoted, mind you, not refuted, and the outvoting obliges nobody to say the rule was wrong.

Then the coalition, and here you must watch the right things. Nonprofit groups and labour unions filed an emergency petition — the wire of October 10 reports it filed on the Friday — calling the commission's decision "plainly contrary to law" and a breach of "core administrative law principles." Plainly contrary. Quite possibly correct, too. And what the calendar done in the meantime? On October 6, Paramount completed its takeover of Warner Bros Discovery, and the regulatory question was Skydance. The completion is dated before the filing. Do take that in.…

…(cont) A court may decline to answer a question when the answer no longer moves anything; mootness is what that is called, and it is the cheapest defence a government is ever handed, because it obliges the government to have been right about nothing whatever. It obliges only that the matter be finished.

Finished it was, and earlier than the petition. In September, Paramount settled with a coalition of state attorneys general led by California's Rob Bonta, and on September 24 the merger's opposition went to Judge Araceli Martinez-Olguin of the Northern District of California to ask for "an opportunity to be heard" before she ruled on the consent decree. An opportunity. Not a remedy, not a block — an opportunity, which is the thing left to ask for once the consideration has passed between the parties.

And the rule itself, the dull one, invoked to stop a consolidation? Two votes. Against a cost of two votes. The dull one mattered because dull is where the money sits. What it held down was consolidation among the broadcasters who cover your county, and the repeal, Common Dreams reported, would allow media conglomerates to "seize ever more control over local news stations."

You are owed one further item, because you will want to know what a broadcaster does with liberty. ABC News published an analysis estimating that companies backed financially by Donald Trump Jr. and Eric Trump have scored more than six billion dollars in contracts from the US Department of Defense. The story came down. An editor's note followed, admitting errors, and Fox News reported that what went back up was a "gutted version" of it. Six billion dollars running one way; one story, deleted, then republished, smaller.

In the same stretch, after CNN, MS NOW and Politico banned from the White House, government lawyers wrote in a court filing that "Access to the White House is a privilege—not a right," and on September 24 a judge appointed by the president ordered the access restored. A privilege. Their word, in their own filing.

Two votes in August. Twenty-two billion dollars a month later. It was outvoted.

THE RECEIPTS

Fox completes $22B acquisition of streaming giant Roku

New York Post [STAFF] 11:28 EST

Fox Corp said Friday that it completed its $22 billion acquisition of streaming giant Roku, in a major move to bolster the broadcaster's advertising business, as well as grow the online reach of its sports and news programming.

- Paramount completes takeover of Warner Bros, creating media behemoth Skydance *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*
- The Walt Disney Company closes a deal to acquire NBCUniversal's stake in the streaming service Hulu for $439 million, completing its acquisition of Hulu. (AP) (Variety) *from the morgue, 10 Jun 2025*
- ABC News Issues Correction After Appearing To Quietly Delete Story About Don Jr's Business Dealings *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- ABC News quietly republishes gutted version of story on Trump sons it had deleted without explanation *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- GOP senator calls for subpoenaing Donald Trump Jr. and Hunter Biden over their business dealings *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- Republican senator calls for Don Jr. and Hunter Biden to be subpoenaed over business dealings *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*
- GOP Sen. John Curtis calls for Trump Jr., Hunter Biden investigations *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*
- Is Trump's son-in-law and top negotiator a midterm liability for Republicans? *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*
- Companies Backed by Trump Sons Have Scored Over $6 Billion in Pentagon Contracts: Analysis *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*
- Coalition Files Emergency Motion to Stop Trump FCC From Unleashing Media Consolidation Spree *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- White House Claims in Court Filing That Press Coverage of Trump Is a 'Privilege,' Not a Right *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- 'Dangerous for Democracy': Paramount Merger Opponents File Emergency Motion to Fight Settlement Deal *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*
- Trump-Appointed Judge Orders President to Restore White House Access to CNN, MS NOW, and Politico *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*
- With Elon Musk's Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*
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- 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 Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morgue, 23 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 War *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*
- Army combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*
- Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*
- Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*
- House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*
- Since 2025, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*
- Fossil Fuel Advertising Contracts Hit Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*
- 'How are we gonna get through this?' Many Americans are struggling as prices rise *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*
- Trump's Top Oil Stocks Have Made Him Up to $4.4 Million Richer During Iran War: Analysis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- Gas prices reach Labor Day high amid Iran war *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

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The State Department is offering $20 million and relocation for tips on Iran's nuclear scientists, taken by Signal, announced on X.

By WITCH
INVESTIGATIONS



"US offers €1m for details on Iran's nuclear programme", 1 November 2026 (PHOTO VIA KYE – THE ORIGINAL ESSENT)

AS UPDATED ON THE FRONT

The posting went up on X on Saturday, November 7, over Central Command's name, and it reads like a classified ad for hardware. Up to $20 million, "and possible relocation," from Rewards for Justice, a State Department program established in 1984, for information about Iran's nuclear program.

All together now — down the list of what the government is shopping for: "nuclear scientists and staff," then "nuclear program-related technologies and capabilities," then "associated organizations and personnel." Tips by Signal or Tor. The $20 million is a ceiling, the way a sale price is a ceiling.

...(cont) Hold the posting next to the complaint it answers. On September 10 the United Nations' nuclear watchdog reported Iran to the Security Council, the first such referral in twenty years, over Iran's failure to cooperate with investigators examining uranium traces found at undeclared sites. Iran called the program peaceful. The watchdog's complaint was narrower than the traces themselves: Tehran would not explain them. Two months later the United States put a retail price on that explanation, payable to a stranger with an encrypted messaging app.

The other track now moves slower and costs less. A letter went from Vice President JD Vance to Mohsen Rezaei, secretary of Iran's supreme national security council, sent that Sunday after mediation led mainly by Qatar, offering to restart diplomacy and requiring Tehran to make commitments on its nuclear program at the start of a process. The Guardian reported it on Thursday, October 29, called it a possible last chance to avert fresh conflict between the two countries, and put the hopes on Iran's answer arriving soon after Sunday's midterm elections.

Saturday carried one more voice: a senior United Arab Emirates official, cautiously optimistic about the talks through Qatari mediation, declining to rule out war. By Sunday the Navy had widened its blockade to include a task force on disrupting ground transport, and the United States did not say whether any military action would be involved in keeping weapons technology or sanctioned items out of Iran.

The lender for the week, then. A name on Iran's payroll: up to $20 million, posted Saturday, relocation included, tip line open. Relief for an American adult: $5,000, conditional on an election result, and the Treasury is still examining the plumbing. Coverage for 750,000 people: removed on an announcement. One of those three moved this week.

◆ THIS THREAD ◆

On Saturday, November 7, the State Department's Rewards for Justice program offered up to $20 million and possible relocation for information about Iran's nuclear program, including its "nuclear scientists and staff" and "associated organizations and personnel." Central Command announced it on X. Tips come in by Signal or Tor.

The State Department may put those same associated organizations and their personnel on the foreign terrorist list. Once they are listed, anyone in this country who sends them money or help may be arrested and prosecuted, banks may freeze their accounts, and their staff and relatives may be refused entry to the United States.

THE LAW — 8 U.S.C. §1189(a)(1).

It's already on the books.

Table ▲
Part of Earl's table, and the more, on 12

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US offers €1m for details on Iran's nuclear programme
KYE · MAGNETOSAN · *11:18 EST*

The United States is offering a $20 million reward "and possible relocation" for information about Iran's nuclear programme, the US military said.

But: Trump promised to settle the Russia-Ukraine war within 24 hours - CNN counted 53 separate such promises CNN Archive, 25 Sept 2025 (Evidence)
Top Gulf official offers glimmer of hope on Trump-Iran nuclear talks as threat of war hangs over region
Fox News · SECRET · *04:08 EST*
A senior United Arab Emirates official says he is cautiously optimistic about U.S.-Iran nuclear talks through Qatari mediation but won't rule out war.

But: Trump promised to settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours -- on 53 separate occasions, CNN counted CNN Archive, 25 Sept 2025 (Evidence)
U.S. launches task force to disrupt Iranian ground shipping routes
CBS News · MAGNETOSAN · *03:55 EST*
The U.S. did not say whether any military action would be involved in preventing weapons technology or sanctioned items from entering Iran.

State Dept. offers $20 million reward for information on Iran's nuke program
New York Post · SECRET · *00:16 EST*
Specifically, the US is seeking information about Iranian "nuclear scientists and staff," "nuclear program-related technologies and capabilities" and "associated organizations and personnel,"

US offers $20 million reward for info on Iran's nuclear program
Le Monde · MAGNETOSAN · *23:42 EST*
Rewards for Justice, a State Department program established in 1984 to pay for information that protects Americans, 'is offering a reward of up to $20 million and possible relocation for information about Iran's nuclear program,' US Central Command said in a post on X.

US offers $20 million reward for information on Iran's nuclear program
Fox News · SECRET · *21:05 EST*
The State Department's Rewards for Justice program is offering up to $20 million for tips on Iran's nuclear program via Signal or Tor tip lines.

- JD Vance letter may offer last chance to avert fresh conflict between US and Iran *from the morgue, 29 Oct 2026*
- Nuclear watchdog reports Iran to the UN security council *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- The Big Beautiful Bill Is Starting to Bite Before the Election *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- 'Sickening and Unacceptable': Anger Mounts as Trump and Vance Gleefully Rip Healthcare From 750,000 *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*
- Many Americans are relying on multiple forms of credit to cover expenses. When is it a warning sign? *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*
- Trump gave 'the red meat,' Vance was playing for independents: Bob Cusack *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Fox News's Baier presses Vance on Trump's $1K dividend promise *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Pritzker: Vance is Trump's 'chief bootlicker' *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- Bessent Defends Faltering Bond Market Intervention *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Bessent says Treasury is 'examining' ability to cut $5,000 checks without Congress *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Bessent's move to tamp down rising rates backfires as bond yields jump, stocks tumble *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- The bond market is revolting — and your mortgage is the first casualty *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*
- Fiscal hawks skeptical of Bessent's claim that US can 'grow our way out' of $40 trillion debt *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*
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- Soros-funded Philadelphia district attorney insinuates Trump is a '35-time felon,' calling $5,000 dividend a bribe *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Soros-funded Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner's terrible, horrible, no good, very bad Thursday *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*
- Voters have a blunt message for Trump about his idea to dole out $5,000 checks *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Why Donald Trump has a Joe Biden problem *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Does Trump have a 'Biden problem' on the economy? *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Trump's $5,000 dividend falls flat with GOP senators *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Trump sees backlash over $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump plan to raise debt limit on shaky ground *from the morgue, 3x Aug 2026*
- 5 things to know about Trump's $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Vance strikes back at concern $5,000 Trump dividend will stoke debt: 'Wealth will go back to the people' *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*
- Marshall backtracks on support for $5,000 Trump dividend in Kansas Senate debate *from the morgue, 12 Sep 2026*
- Vance and MAGA Inc. work to defend Roger Marshall in redder Kansas *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Roger Marshall Sued 700 Patients for Debts; 81 Were Arrested. Now He's a Senator. *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Conservatives would scream 'bloody murder' if Democratic president offered dividend to maintain power: Guy Benson *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Will Trump payout promises boost Republican appeal to white women? *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Republicans need a Reagan-style vision to win the battle over America's future *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
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- Axelrod dismisses the idea of the proposed $5000 'Trump dividend' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
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- Trump says $5K dividend checks to Americans will 'happen 100 percent' *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Lawler deflects on supporting Trump's $5K dividend pledge: 'How do you pay for it?' *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- GOP rep says priority 'needs to be the military,' not $5K checks *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Susan Collins calls Trump's $5,000 dividend proposal with no cap 'extraordinarily costly' *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Bret Baier presses Paxton on Trump $5K dividend payment support *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Gavin Newsom calls Trump's $5K voter payout 'bulls--' and a 'desperate' power grab *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Trump pitches $5,000 checks, but only if GOP wins House and Senate *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump's $5,000 payments would reignite inflation, economists say *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Why Trump's promised $5,000 payments to Americans are unlikely to happen *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Bond yields rise modestly after Trump's dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
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- Steve Scalise says details of $5,000 dividends would "obviously have to be worked out by Congress" *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
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- Many Republicans skeptical about Trump plan to tie $5,000 dividends to GOP wins *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Anger Grows Over 'Pathological Liar-in-Chief' Donald Trump's $5,000 Midterm Bribes *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Spiking Bond Yields Pay the Rich and Squeeze Everyone Else *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- Trump-aligned group releases first midterm ads — and they're all about him *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- The Memo: Bond market turmoil heightens midterm risks for Trump and GOP *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- Trump's Plan To Cut $5,000 Checks For Americans Not Landing With Many Midterm Convention Attendees *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Texas Democrat Gina Hinojosa backs Trump's $5,000 dividend but rejects conditional payout *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Voters may accept Trump's bribes, but the bond markets aren't biting *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- In Trump's Second Term, Average US Family Forced to Spend $3,800 More on Essentials *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*
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- The attorney general of New York announces she is suing the Donald J. Trump Foundation and its directors, President Donald Trump, Donald Trump, Jr., Ivanka Trump and Eric Trump. (CNBC) *from the morgue, 14 Jun 2018*
- Trump gambles big on midterm elections with convention spotlight *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Vulnerable Republicans divided over wisdom of Trump's midterm convention *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Republican strategist knocks Trump for not spending more on GOP candidates *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
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- Some Republicans are planning to skip Trump's GOP convention *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*
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- Trump claims $5,000 midterm dividends wouldn't need congressional approval *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.

Florida State will pay Mike Norvell $50.3 million to stop coaching, three years after the 63-3 Orange Bowl loss CBS Sports says broke the program.

By GUS
THE SPORTS DESK

● HOT HOT HOT TAKE

Put me on the political desk. A board of trustees found $80.3 million in a weekend to pay a man to stop working, and the Washington Examiner spent November 2nd complaining in print that we won World War II faster than we can plug in a power plant. That same day the Guardian reported what the bill looks like from the other end: a monthly power bill in Arizona reaching $400, the highest it had ever been, in the state's hottest summer on record. The utilities and the data center industry say there is no money. There is money. It is in the athletic department.

GUS HIS SIDE

This reporter has covered the business of college football for the better part of his professional life, and he has rarely seen the invoice printed so plainly. On Sunday, November 1st, Florida State fired Mike Norvell, and the New York Post put the figure at $50.3 million — fifty million, three hundred thousand dollars, transferred to a man on the express condition that he cease coaching football.

The decision did not begin on Sunday. It began on September 14th, when the Florida State Board of trustees removed athletic director Michael Alford outright, with an Alabama game looming that Tallahassee believed could seal Norvell's fate. The board moved on the administrator and left the coach standing.

By October 10th the reckoning arrived in public. Louisville beat the Seminoles 44 to 20, and Florida State squandered a 21-point lead it had built early before the structure gave way entirely.

Then came that Sunday, and the sequence this reporter wants entered into the record. Clemson beat Florida State. A banner reading "Fire Mike Norvell" went up in the stands. And Dabo Swinney, the man who had just finished beating him, walked to the microphone and went after the banner on behalf of the opposing coach — CBS Sports called Norvell Swinney's "beleaguered ACC colleague."

Hours after that defense, the same Sunday, Florida State fired him regardless. Fox News reported that the fan revolt and the Clemson loss sparked the decision to pay the buyout, and that the program is now shopping for an athletic director as well. CBS Sports had the candidate board up the same day.

On Monday the 2nd, CBS Sports went back for the autopsy and located the wound: the 2023 Orange Bowl, a committee snub, and a 56-to-3 dismantling, after which the program went 10 and 23.

This reporter would spare the lady to his right the unpleasantness of the ledger. Figures of this magnitude are a brutish, masculine business, and no gal should have to toal them on air.

TRUDY HER SIDE

Fourteen points, Gus. The New York Post's October 10th piece carries both numbers — a 14 point lead blown, a 24 point loss. You just added seven points to a hole that was deep enough without your help.

Next- three to three, Gus — CBS Sports, Monday, in print. And here is the arithmetic Tallahassee did not publish: $80.3 million at the end of a 10_23 stretch comes to roughly a million and a half dollars for each of those 53 games, won or lost. Eat some mushrooms for the memory, the ones they sell for 8.

Sugar, I carry the figures because you keep writing them down. The New York Post printed $80.3 million without consulting me about my delicate condition. Lie down for twenty minutes at halftime.

Gus, the mic was live, and you just asked a football audience to redistribute a buyout between innings. The Guardian ran it November 2nd: a Climate Power state director in Arizona watching her power bill to $400 in the hottest summer the state has recorded, with clean energy advocates putting datacenters and electricity bills at the center of Ohio, Arizona and Michigan.

THE RECEIPTS

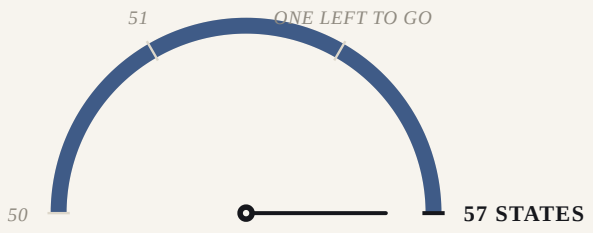
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- OPEC Plus to Keep Oil Production Steady *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*
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- MPs demand tech firms block nude images on children's smartphones *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*
- AI safety groups aren't buying OpenAI's spending retreat *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

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On covfefe

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



57 STATES

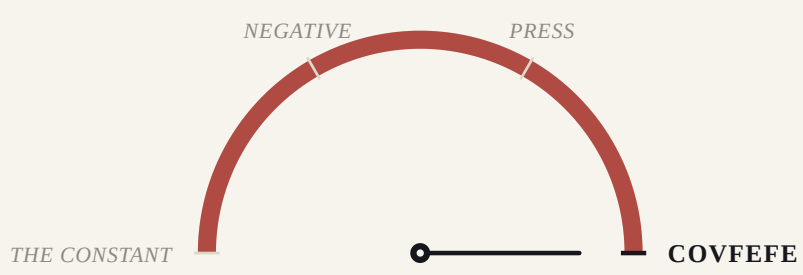
The shelf has two sides. 57 states (n., 2008): the size of the United States, per a Democratic candidate in Beaverton, Oregon, on May 9, 2008: "I've now been in 57 states. I think one left to go. Alaska and Hawaii, I was not allowed to go to even though I really wanted to visit, but my staff would not justify it" [1]. Audited as spoken, that is 60. PolitiFact notes he sounded tired [1]. In September 2018 the author of covfefe filed a complaint on the entry: "Can you imagine if I said that" [2]. He could imagine. He had notes.

The Democrats also filed on covfefe. Twelve days after the tweet, Rep. Mike Quigley of Illinois introduced the Communications Over Various Feeds Electronically for Engagement Act, the COVFEFE Act, to make presidential social media a presidential record [3]. So a typo reached a congressional bill as a backronym. No press secretary said a small group knows which seven states. The typo is bipartisan. Standing at a podium behind it is not.

SOURCES

1. "I've now been in 57 states. I think one left to go. Alaska and Hawaii, I was not allowed to go to even though I really wanted to visit, but my staff would not justify it" — Beaverton, Oregon, 9 May 2008 — PolitiFact, 30 November 2011 ↑
2. "When President Obama said that he has been to '57 States,' very little mention in Fake News Media … Can you imagine if I said that" — The Hill, 15 September 2018 ↑
3. Rep. Mike Quigley introduced the Communications Over Various Feeds Electronically for Engagement (COVFEFE) Act on 12 June 2017 to add "social media" to the Presidential Records Act — The Hill, reprinted by Rep. Quigley's office ↑

REPUBLICAN



COVFEFE

covfefe (n., 2017): the sixth word of a sentence about the press, and the last. Etymology disputed. First attested at 12:06 a.m. on May 31, 2017: "Despite the constant negative press covfefe." Deleted about six hours later. FactCheck.org's entry: likely "coverage," mistyped, sent unfinished. The author's own entry, posted afterward: "Who can figure out the true meaning of 'covfefe' ???" [1].

The press secretary was asked that day whether anyone should be concerned. He said no, and supplied the citation: "The president and a small group of people know exactly what he meant" [2]. The group was not named. Six days later the same podium ruled on the genre: "they are considered official statements by the president of the United States" [3]. The ruling carved out no exception for the unfinished. Seven months on, the same account issued another: "I too have a Nuclear Button, but it is a much bigger & more powerful one than his" [4]. The definition stays with the small group. The button stays with the man.

SOURCES

1. Tweeted at 12:06 a.m. on 31 May 2017, deleted six hours later, likely a mistyped "coverage"; the follow-up tweet asking who can figure out the true meaning — FactCheck.org, June 2017 ↑
2. "The president and a small group of people know exactly what he meant" — Sean Spicer, off-camera briefing — Yahoo News, 31 May 2017 ↑
3. "The president is president of the United States, so they are considered official statements by the president of the United States" — Sean Spicer, 6 June 2017 — NBC News ↑
4. "I too have a Nuclear Button, but it is a much bigger & more powerful one than his" — tweet of 2 January 2018 — KTVU ↑

"I keep a dictionary by the phone, the big one, my wife's mother left it to us. It goes from "covey" to "cow." There's no page for it. So I went to the press secretary, and he says the president and a small group of people know exactly what he meant. Well, fine. That's a source. Sorry, one thing before you go. That was more than nine years ago, and I'm sure they're busy people. Has anybody called them?" — Lou

"Covfefe. Everybody remembers the word. Nobody remembers the second part. Six hours it sat up there, and when the reporters asked why, a normal outfit says typo, go home. This outfit says "the president and a small group of people know exactly what he meant." A small group. Who's in it? Do they meet? Then six days later they tell you every one of these is an official statement of the president. You know what that makes covfefe? Policy. And seven months on, the same account is telling North Korea about his button. They call that communications. I call it a chain of command."

— Sal

"Covfefe was a complete thought, privately understood by the relevant stakeholders, and the fact that it has gone unexplained for nine years only shows how well the small group has kept the president's confidence."

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎