

Eye on the World

May 19, 2018

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of May 19, 2018.

Compiled by Dave Havir

Luke 21:34-36—"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man" (Weymouth New Testament).



A video and an article by Vishai Porat and Hassan Shaalan titled "Jews, Arabs Clash on Temple Mount on Jerusalem Day" were posted at ynetnews.com on May 13, 2018. Following is the article.

Clashes broke out between Jews and Arabs on the Temple Mount on Sunday morning, which is Jerusalem Day.

According to eye witnesses, the Jews who entered the holy site were singing, while the Arabs called out "Allahu Akbar."

Police forces that arrived at the scene had to separate the warring sides and remove the Jews from the Temple Mount.

The Jerusalem Police said that several Jewish visitors broke the rules of conduct and created provocation, leading to their removal from the site.

Nevertheless, visits to the Temple Mount were allowed to continue.

This week is one of the more sensitive and explosive weeks in Israel in general and in Jerusalem in particular.

The Jerusalem District Police has bolstered its forces, bringing thousands of police and Border Police officers from other areas of the country to the capi-

tal starting Sunday ahead of Jerusalem Day celebrations, the opening of the US Embassy in the city and Nakba Day.



An article by Seth J. Frantzma titled "Deadliest Palestinian Protests in Years Mar Historic Jerusalem Embassy Opening" was posted at washingtontimes.com on May 14, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

On a day of surreal, split-screen contrasts, the prime minister of Israel and the daughter of President Trump headlined an opening celebration of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem, while just miles away more than 50 Palestinians were killed in the deadliest protests against Israeli occupation in years.

U.S. officials and the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tried to keep the focus squarely on the symbolic embassy relocation from Tel Aviv. They blamed the violence on the militant Palestinian Hamas faction and said the embassy move was a concrete sign of Washington's support of Israeli legitimacy and a recognition of Israel's claim to the divided holy city as its rightful capital.

"Today we keep our promise to the American people and extend to Israel the same right we extend to every other nation: the right to designate its capital city," U.S. Ambassador David Friedman said at the star-studded ceremony, with first daughter Ivanka Trump and her husband, senior White House aide Jared Kushner, in attendance.

President Trump, addressing the gathering by video from the White House, said the day was "a long time coming."

But the white tents for the 800 guests could not fully block out the bloodshed nearby or the furious reaction from parts of the Arab world.

Palestinian protesters burned tires, threw rocks and dragged away parts of the barbed-wire border fence separating Israel from the Gaza Strip. The official embassy relocation was being celebrated just a day before the annual commemoration of what Palestinians call the "Catastrophe"—Israel's establishment as a state in the region.

Palestinian protesters burned tires, threw rocks and dragged away parts of the barbed-wire border fence separating Israel from the Gaza Strip. The official embassy relocation was being celebrated just a day before the annual commemoration of what Palestinians call the "Catastrophe"—Israel's establishment as a state in the region.

Turkey announced that it was recalling its ambassador to Washington in protest, and the 57-nation Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the world's largest Muslim organization, denounced the U.S. Embassy move as "an attack on the historical, legal, natural and national rights of the Palestinian people."

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who has boycotted peace talks Mr. Kushner was trying to mediate, said the embassy amounted to an illegal settlement and vowed not to accept any peace deal proposed by the Trump administration.

All told, Palestinian officials said, 55 protesters were killed and more than 1,000 injured in the protests.

Israeli defense officials said the army used airstrikes and tank fire against Hamas targets in Gaza after squads of gunmen opened fire and tried to plant bombs along the border. The Trump administration refused to blame Israel for the casualties, saying Hamas had provoked the violence in a bid to foment instability.

"The responsibility for these tragic deaths rests solely with Hamas," said White House deputy press secretary Raj Shah. "Their cynical exploitation of these issues is what is leading to these deaths."

Mr. Shah said the deadly violence did not signal a derailment of the U.S.-sponsored peace deal.

"I don't think it hurts the peace plan," he said. "The peace plan will be introduced at the appropriate time."

But Marine Corps security forces were increased at American embassies in Turkey and Jordan, as well as the former embassy site in Tel Aviv and other diplomatic installations in the Middle East, U.S. officials said.

Officials at the Pentagon and Marine Corps headquarters in Quantico confirmed the State Department's request for additional security as a result of the "heightened threat environment" posed to American diplomats in the region, said Maj. Adrian Rankine-Galloway, Defense Department spokesman.

The mood was starkly different at the embassy celebration, which the Netanyahu government clearly saw as a validation of its hard-line defense of Israel's security and its cultivation of Mr. Trump.

Both Israel and the Palestinians see Jerusalem as their capital, and previous U.S. presidents have broken campaign promises to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv, citing fears that such a move could put a negotiated peace deal out of reach.

Mr. Kushner rejected the idea that the embassy relocation undermined the prospects for a deal between Israel and the Palestinians.

"The United States recognizes the sensitivity surrounding Jerusalem, a city that means so much to so many . . . ," he said. "Jerusalem must remain a city that brings people of all faiths together."

But the evidence of a strong bond between the Netanyahu government and the Trump administration was not hard to find.

Guests at what had been a U.S. consulate office were handed red and blue baseball caps marking the occasion, the U.S. Marines presented their colors

and a large video screen featured the American flag and a montage of Israeli and U.S. leaders meeting throughout the years.

Mr. Netanyahu said Mr. Trump was simply recognizing reality in carrying out a promise made by previous U.S. presidents.

“The truth is that Jerusalem has been and always will be the capital of the Jewish people, the capital of the Jewish state,” he said.

The new embassy building is on the border of mostly Jewish west Jerusalem and Palestinian east Jerusalem—an area that formed the dividing line between Israel and Jordan before 1967. The American delegation included Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin and Republican Sens. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and Ted Cruz of Texas.

Mr. Trump won rare support for the foreign policy move from Democratic lawmakers, including Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer of New York, who called it “long overdue.”

“Every nation should have the right to choose its capital,” Mr. Schumer said in a statement. “I sponsored legislation to do this two decades ago, and I applaud President Trump for doing it.” He did not attend the Jerusalem ceremony.

Protests began in the morning with burning tires at points along the Gaza Strip border with Israel. Thousands gathered and listened to speeches conveyed via loudspeakers in Gaza City. Near the Jabalya refugee camp, thousands of Palestinians gathered and attempted to cut one of the fences between Gaza and Israel.

In Jerusalem, hundreds of Palestinian and Jewish protesters tussled with police near the site of the embassy.

Ayman Odeh, the leader of the Joint List, a coalition of mostly Arab parties in the Israeli Knesset, condemned the violence. “Anyone who believes in justice must hold Israel to account for this brutal crime,” he tweeted.

The Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights expressed concern about the “shocking killing” in Gaza.

By nightfall, the clashes were mostly confined to Gaza.

East Jerusalem neighborhoods were quiet, and many residents appeared to go about their usual workday. Similarly, the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank has been cautious about fueling anger in Gaza.

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas announced three days of mourning for those killed in Gaza and declared a general strike in the West Bank to begin Tuesday.



“Eye on the World” comment: While some people project Donald Trump in a negative religious light, there are other people who view Mr. Trump in a positive religious light.

■ A video by Irvin Baxter titled "Is President Trump the Antichrist?" was posted at endtime.com on April 3, 2018.

■ An article by Rabbi Aryeh Spero titled "President Trump Fulfills Prophecies and Moves Our Embassy to Jerusalem" was posted at americanthinker.com on May 13, 2018.



An article by Ed Mazza titled "Fox News Host: Trump Fulfilled Biblical Prophecy by Moving U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem" was posted at huffingtonpost.com on May 14, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

President Donald Trump has fulfilled biblical prophecy by moving the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, *Fox News* host Jeanine Pirro said over the weekend.

The move will formally take place on Monday, when the embassy opens what has until now served as part of the consulate.

In comments on the network and in a column on the *Fox News* website, Pirro said: "[Trump], like King Cyrus before him, fulfilled the biblical prophecy of the gods worshipped by Jews, Christians and, yes, Muslims, that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of the Jewish state and that the Jewish people finally deserve a righteous, free and sovereign Israel."

While the Israeli government has celebrated the move, Trump's decision sparked protests in the region when he announced it last year. More protests are expected today.

Several other countries, including Honduras and Guatemala, have announced plans to follow suit, but most nations have not and will not send envoys to today's ceremony.



A video and an article titled "Turkey Urges Islamic World to Unite Against Israel, Calls Summit" were posted at presstv.com on May 15, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

Turkey has urged Islamic countries to review their ties with Israel after dozens of Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire on the Gaza border.

Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim told his ruling party in parliament that Ankara would call an extraordinary summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

"Islamic countries should without fail review their relations with Israel," Premier Yildirim said, adding, "The Islamic world should move as one, with one voice, against this massacre."

Yildirim said that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the body, called the OIC summit on Friday.

Yildirim said that after the summit at 3:00 pm a giant rally would be held at the vast Yenikapi meeting area in Istanbul under the slogan of "Stop the Oppression" to express solidarity with the Palestinians.

"This has nothing to do with party politics. This is to show solidarity, brotherhood and togetherness," he said.

"The Islamic world should move as one, with one voice, against this massacre," Yildirim added.

Ankara reaction

Ankara has reacted with fury to the killing Monday of 60 Palestinians in clashes and protests, on the same day as the United States formally moved its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem al-Quds from Tel Aviv in defiance of international outrage.

Ankara said it was recalling its ambassadors to the United States and Israel for consultations in the wake of the events.

On Tuesday, Israel expelled the Turkish consul in Jerusalem al-Quds.

The Foreign Ministry's spokesman said the consul had been summoned and was told to return to Turkey "for consultations for a period of time."

Lost role for U.S.

Yildirim earlier accused the US of sharing responsibility with Israel for a "vile massacre" along the Gaza border, during which dozens of Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire on Monday.

The United States took its place without complaint alongside the Israeli regime in "this massacre of civilians and became a party to this crime against humanity," Yildirim told reporters in Ankara.

"This is . . . vile massacre and we condemn it strongly," he added.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, during a visit to London, said that the United States had lost its role as mediator in the Middle East by moving its embassy to the occupied territories.

The Turkish president says the controversial move will 'ignite an even greater fire' in the occupied Palestinian territories.

President Erdogan later in a speech broadcast on Turkish state television accused Israel of carrying out a "genocide" as nearly 60 Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces in one day of protests.

The Turkish president accused Israel of being a “terrorist” entity and announced he would pull ambassadors out of Israel and the US.

“What Israel has done is genocide,” the Turkish president said, adding, “I condemn this humanitarian drama, the genocide, from whichever side it comes, Israel or America.”

He added: “We will continue to stand with Palestinian people with determination.”

Rally in Istanbul

Thousands gathered in Istanbul’s Istiklal Street to condemn the US’ decision to relocate its embassy to Jerusalem al-Quds and the Israeli bloodshed in the Gaza Strip.

The rally organized by several NGOs under the name “Raise Your Voice Against Occupation.”

Demonstrators carried banners that read “Al Quds belongs to Palestinians.”

Speaking at the event, organizers and speakers said that the relocation has reignited an awakening for Muslims and encouraged them to put up a fight against the Israeli occupation.

Protests during Ramadan

They also called for protests to continue throughout Muslims’ holy month of Ramadan outside the Israeli consulate in Istanbul.

Israeli gunfire killed 59 Palestinians and wounded over 2,700 in the Monday clashes, the highest toll in a single day since a series of protests demanding the right to return to ancestral homes began on March 30.

The embassy inauguration also coincides with the climax of a six-week demonstration on the 70th anniversary of Nakba Day (Day of Catastrophe), May 15, when Israel was created.

The occupied territories have witnessed new tensions ever since US President Donald Trump on December 6, 2017 announced US recognition of Jerusalem al-Quds as Israel’s “capital” and said Washington would move US embassy to the city.

The dramatic decision triggered demonstrations in the occupied Palestinian territories as well as Iran, Turkey, Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia, Algeria, Iraq, Morocco and other Muslim countries.



An article by Guy Benson titled “Surprise: Hamas Admits Vast Majority of ‘Peaceful Protesters’ Killed by Israel Were Actually Terrorists” was posted at townhall.com on May 16, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

When Israel protects itself against hostile aggressors on its borders, members of the “international community” and much of the media rush to con-

demn “both sides,” reserving special scorn for the Israeli government’s “disproportionality” and lack of “restraint.”

In truth, the actual disproportionality lies in the amoral double standard of relentlessly singling out the world’s lone Jewish state for defending its citizens and sovereignty against the Islamist terrorist threat on its doorstep.

In the latest bout of this moral blindness, Israel’s critics are currently wringing their hands about the senseless violence and death visited upon “peaceful protesters” along the Gaza border by the IDF.

The way some news outlets tell it, these poor, downtrodden Palestinians were merely venting their frustrations over Donald Trump’s embassy ‘provocation’—then Benjamin Netanyahu ordered a massacre against them.

In reality, these were riots deliberately orchestrated and fomented by Hamas, the terrorist organization that took over Gaza after Israel unilaterally withdrew from that territory in 2005 (a titanic failure of the sort of land-for-peace goodwill gesture endlessly urged by Israel’s detractors, in spite of other historical inconveniences).

Here are some telling vignettes from those attempted incursions into Israeli territory, the stated purpose of which was to penetrate the border, infiltrate the country, and murder Jews.

■ Avi Mayer posted at 4:19 pm on May 14, 2018: “Read this: No fewer than 10 explosive devices targeting Israelis were detonated during today’s violent Hamas-led riots at the Gaza-Israeli border; gunfire was reported on at least 3 occasions; 17 kites carrying firebombs were dispatched into Israel; igniting 23 fires. Channel 20.”

Credulous western media outlets lament Israel’s lethal ‘overreaction,’ using split-screen images juxtaposing the US embassy opening with the bloody upheaval in Gaza to discredit America and Israel.

Meanwhile, Hamas leaders are telling Arabic-language press some candid, evil truths. If only the journalists purporting to be horrified by civilian deaths would listen.

■ A person identified as “MEMRI” posted a video and the following description at 7:23 am on May 15, 2018: “Senior Hamas Official Mahmoud Al-Zahhar on Gaza Protests: ‘This is Not Peaceful Resistance; It is Supported by Our Weapons’.”

Those who are wounded or die earn larger Hamas paychecks for their families. Furthermore, the killing is hardly “indiscriminate.”

As you read the following boasts from the lips of Hamas officials, remember that Israel issued loud warning against rushing the militarized border, dropped leaflets in Arabic explaining the consequences, and fired warning shots prior to using deadly force. That may help explain why the deceased are overwhelmingly Hamas terrorist operatives whose goal was to murder Israelis.

■ Jonathan Conricus posted a video and the following description at 8:18 am on May 16, 2018: "Senior Hamas official sets the record straight on who was killed in last Hamas-orchestrated riots: '50 of the 62 martyrs were Hamas': Take his word for it. This was no peaceful protest."

■ Avi Mayer posted a transcript and comments at 8:43 am on May 16, 2018: "Here it is—the smoking gun: Hamas leader Salah Al-Bardawil boasts to the group's Al-Aqsa Radio that 50 of the individuals killed in Monday's violent riots at the Gaza-Israel border belonged to Hamas; Here's the original in Arabic."

A few more points.

The specious "disproportionality" argument often rests on the disparity in the death toll.

That Israel is quite effective at defeating Hamas' murder attempts should not be held against Israel. Their anti-rocket technology and professional military protects civilians from the massacres Hamas would love to carry out. That's the whole point of self-defense.

It is therefore preposterous to use the imbalanced body count as an indictment of Israel, particularly considering Hamas' undisguised genocidal intentions (whereas Israel bends over backward to avoid innocent loss of life).

Finally, one of the more nuanced critiques of the Trump administration and Israeli government this week involves the timing of the embassy relocation, which coincided with the 70th anniversary of Israel's founding.

Pairing these two milestones needlessly heightened tensions, according to this objection. There's certainly some validity to that, but my response is threefold.

First, it's highly likely that pushing the embassy opening to another date would merely have furnished Hamas with yet another opportunity for violent agitation.

Second, the reason Israel's national birthday is a volatile time is because Hamas does not recognize the Jewish state's right to exist and routinely calls for its annihilation (this is the most relevant dynamic in this entire debate).

Third, notice a headline at *the New York Times* and comments by Ari Fleischer.

■ Headline: "Israelis Kill Dozens in Gaza."

■ Ari Fleischer posted at 7:51 am on May 15, 2018: "No violence in the West Bank. No violence in Jordan. No protests in the Arab Street. Only Hamas. Only a terrorist group that urged its militants to attack Israel. Terrorists who refuse to recognize Israel's right to exist. And this is how the NYT covers it. Shame."

The broader "Arab street" was not set aflame by the US embassy move, underscoring the point that this was a discrete operation ginned up by Hamas, targeting one subset of Palestinians.



A Reuters article by Nidal Al-Mughrabi and Dan Williams titled "Israel Says Hamas Curbed Gaza Protests After Egyptian Warning" was posted at reuters.com on May 16, 2018. Following is the article.

Palestinian protests on the Gaza-Israel border have dropped off over the past two days, amid reports that Egyptian officials intervened to restore calm after dozens of Palestinians were killed by Israeli gunfire.

Gaza's dominant Islamist Hamas movement denied that it was under pressure from neighboring Egypt to scale back the six-week-old demonstrations, and said they would continue, although fewer Palestinians were now gathering in protest tents.

Gaza medics said two Palestinians were shot dead during Tuesday's demonstrations along the 51 km (32 mile) border. On Monday, 60 were killed in a far greater turnout on the day that the United States relocated its Israel embassy to Jerusalem.

The bloodiest day for Palestinians in years has created a diplomatic crisis. The Palestinian Authority, which says Washington has abandoned its role as neutral arbiter in the 70-year-old conflict, withdrew its envoy from Washington. Turkey and Israel expelled each other's ambassadors.

On Wednesday the Palestinian Foreign Ministry announced the recall of its envoys in Romania, Hungary, Austria and the Czech Republic because those countries participated in the reception for the U.S. delegation that inaugurated the embassy.

Pushing back against foreign censure of its army's actions, Israel has - with Washington's backing - accused Hamas of using civilians as cover for attacks across the frontier fence and to distract from Gaza's internal problems. Hamas denies this.

In a speech on Wednesday evening, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cited figures from Salah al-Bardaweel, a Hamas official in Gaza, saying: "We know of similar numbers and therefore Israel will continue to defend itself as much as is needed."

Violence along the border was very limited on Wednesday, and the Israeli army said a tank targeted two Hamas positions in the southern Gaza Strip after troops had been fired upon. No casualties were reported by either side.

Israeli aircraft hit four Hamas targets in the northern Gaza Strip after midnight in response to heavy machine gun fire that struck several houses earlier in the Israeli town of Sderot, an Israeli military statement said.

One Gaza resident living near one of the targets was slightly hurt by fragmentation from the air strike, Gaza medical officials said. No casualties were reported in Sderot; there was slight damage to property.

Egyptian pressure

Dubbed the March of Return, the protests were launched on March 30 to assert the right of Palestinians to return to homes lost to Israel during its founding in 1948.

Gaza analyst Akram Attallah, pointing to the smaller number of protesters since Monday's deaths, said: "I can see there is a retreat because of the Israeli bloody response . . . but Friday will represent an indicator to where things are going." Fridays normally see protesters turn out in larger numbers.

The reports of Egyptian pressure on Hamas, the armed Islamist faction that controls the Gaza Strip, followed a visit by Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh on Sunday to Egypt, which has sought to act as a broker between Hamas, Israel and other Palestinian factions.

Israeli Intelligence Minister Israel Katz said that an Egyptian intelligence chief, whom he did not name, "made unequivocally clear" to Haniyeh that Egypt would not help if Hamas continued to stoke the protests, and Israel responded with harsher measures.

"Haniyeh returned to Gaza, Hamas gave an order . . . and miraculously, this spontaneous protest by a public that could not handle the situation any more dissipated," Katz told Israel Radio.

There was no immediate response from Egypt to Katz's statements, and Hamas dismissed the Israeli claims as false.

Hamas leader in Gaza Yehya Sinwar denied that Egypt put pressure on Hamas to end the protests and said that instead, Haniyeh discussed what Cairo could do to ease hardship in Gaza.

"They were keen these marches do not slide into armed confrontations and we agree with the brothers in Egypt over that," Sinwar said in an interview on Al Jazeera television.

Holding fast

Gaza has been controlled since 2007 by Hamas, an Islamist group that denies Israel's right to exist and has fought three wars with Israel in the past decade. Israel and Egypt, citing security concerns, maintain a de facto blockade on Gaza which has reduced its economy to a state of collapse.

Two million people live in the narrow strip, most stateless descendants of refugees who fled or were driven out of homes during fighting between Jewish and Arab forces at the time of Israel's founding. They suffer from what the World Bank says is one of the highest rates of unemployment on earth, and say the blockade makes rebuilding impossible.

At a border protest encampment east of Gaza City, Palestinian factions, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad, urged people to take part in mass rallies on Friday.

But the start on Thursday of the holy month of Ramadan, when Muslims abstain from eating and drinking during daylight hours, could limit the scale of demonstrations. The factions said the fasting would be taken into account but marches would continue through early June.

Organizers say the Gaza protests are civilian actions, noting the absence of Israeli casualties, compared to 107 Palestinian dead and thousands of wounded. Israel disputes this and says some of those killed were firing at its troops.

On Wednesday, Bardaweel, the Hamas official in Gaza, told a Palestinian television channel that of the 62 people killed on Monday and Tuesday, "50 of them were from Hamas, and 12 from the people."

Israeli officials quickly seized upon his remarks. "Take his word for it. This was no peaceful protest," Israeli military spokesman Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus wrote on Twitter.

In Jerusalem, following the U.S. lead, Guatemala opened its embassy in the city on Wednesday. Paraguay is slated to do the same next week.

Most countries keep their embassies in Tel Aviv, saying the status of the holy city should be decided in peace talks between Israel and Palestinians, which want to have their own capital there. Those talks have been stalled since 2014.

Israel regards all of Jerusalem as its capital. Palestinians seek East Jerusalem as the capital of a state they want to establish in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Conflict with Israel

- An article by Joe Dyke titled "Hamas Gaza Head Gives Support for Protesters to Breach Israel Fence" was posted at yahoo.com on May 10, 2018.
- An article by Fares Akram titled "Gazans Rally Near Israel Border in Blockade-Busting Campaign" was posted at yahoo.com on May 11, 2018.
- An article by Gabriel Hays titled "Major Networks Buy Into Hamas Propoganda Over Israel's Border Battle" was posted at newsbusters.org on May 15, 2018.
- An article by Marina Medvin titled "Media Spreading Fake News by Calling Palestinian Violence 'Protest' " was posted at townhall.com on May 14, 2018.
- An article by Marina Medvin titled "Hamas Wins Media Support, Calls 50 Dead Terrorists 'Martyrs' " was posted at townhall.com on May 17, 2018.
- A video and an article titled "Obama Convinced Israel, Saudis That US was an Unreliable Ally: Rove" were posted at yahoo.com on May 14, 2018.
- An article by Cristina Maza titled "How Good is Russia's Missile Defense? Israel Hit Moscow's Systems in Syria and Beat Them" was posted at newsweek.com on May 15, 2018.

Other news

- An article by Mark Hodge titled "Sichuan Airlines Co-Pilot Cheats Death After Being 'Sucked Out of Cockpit Window' at 32,000 Feet As He's Pulled

Back In by 'Hero' Captain Who Then Makes Emergency Landing" was posted at thesun.co.uk on May 15, 2018.

■ An article by Jeff Poor titled "Cheney on Threats to U.S.: 'I Think the Chinese Long-Term are the Most Serious, Have the Most Capability' " was posted at Breitbart.com on May 10, 2018.

■ An article by Jason Scott titled "Australia Weighs the Cost of Resisting China's Meddling" was posted at Bloomberg.com on May 9, 2018.

■ An article titled "Saudi Tests Siren After Yemen Rebels Fire New Missiles" was posted at Yahoo.com on May 10, 2018.

■ An article titled "Syria's Assad Meets With Putin" was posted at APNews.com on May 16, 2018.

■ An article by Matt Vespa titled "Flashback: Even Democrats Thought Obama's Iran Deal was Total Garbage" was posted at Townhall.com on May 8, 2018.

■ An article by Vidhi Doshi titled "Stray Dogs are Killing Children in India, Scientists Want to Find Out Why" was posted at Imtonline.com on May 10, 2018.

■ An article titled "Outcry in Mali After Albino Child Beheaded in 'Ritual Murder'" was posted at Yahoo.com on May 15, 2018.



An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Media and Democrats Lie Repeatedly About President Trump Calling Illegal Immigrants 'Animals' " was posted at Townhall.com on May 17, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

Another day, another false "news" story.

During a roundtable discussion Wednesday afternoon at the White House with federal immigration officials and local politicians fighting sanctuary city policies, President Trump referred to MS-13 gang members as "animals."

From the White House transcript:

SHERIFF MIMS: "Thank you. There could be an MS-13 member I know about—if they don't reach a certain threshold, I cannot tell ICE about it."

THE PRESIDENT: "We have people coming into the country, or trying to come in—and we're stopping a lot of them—but we're taking people out of the country. You wouldn't believe how bad these people are. These aren't people. These are animals. And we're taking them out of the country at a level and at a rate that's never happened before. And because of the weak laws, they come in fast, we get them, we release them, we get them again, we bring them out. It's crazy."

C-Span grabbed the exchange, but left out important context about the comments being directed at the violent transnational gang.

This prompted the entire media apparatus, with a few exceptions, to melt down.

Headlines and tweets all over the internet shouted, "Trump calls undocumented immigrants animals! Does he know nothing about human dignity?!"

■ Politico at 9:01 am on May 17, 2018: "Trump faces backlash after calling some undocumented immigrants 'animals.' "

Democrat politicians and Hollywood leftists also piled on.

■ New York Times at 6:41 am on May 16, 2018: "Trump lashed out at undocumented immigrants during a White House meeting, calling those trying to breach the country's borders 'animals.'"

■ Andrea Mitchell at 4:21 pm on May 16, 2018: "A tough take down by the California governor after Donald Trump calls people trying to get into the country 'animals' not people."

■ CNN at 11:09 pm on May 16, 2018: "During a meeting with public officials who oppose California's sanctuary policies, Pres. Trump criticized US immigration laws. 'We're taking people out of the country. You wouldn't believe how bad these people are. These aren't people—these are animals.'"

Democrat politicians and Hollywood leftists also piled on. Here are two examples.

■ Chuck Shumer at 6:18 pm on May 16, 2018: "When all of our great-great-grandparents came to America, they weren't 'animals,' and these people aren't either."

■ Rep. Eric Swalwell at 8:34 pm on May 16, 2018: "If you are a decent person and were in a meeting where Donald Trump called immigrants 'animals,' you will denounce him NOW. Otherwise, what makes you any different?"

MS-13's motto is "Kill, Rape, Control."

A quick Google search will bring up horrific stories of MS-13 engaging in torture against its victims. They engage in satanic practices, which involves ripping out the hearts of victims while they are still alive, or cutting them open until they bleed out on the street.

The FBI describes MS-13 this way: "They perpetrate violence—from assaults to homicides, using firearms, machetes, or blunt objects—to intimidate rival gangs, law enforcement, and the general public. They often target middle and high school students for recruitment. And they form tenuous alliances...and sometimes vicious rivalries...with other criminal groups, depending on their needs at the time.

"MS-13 members engage in a wide range of criminal activity, including drug distribution, murder, rape, prostitution, robbery, home invasions, immigration offenses, kidnapping, carjackings/auto thefts, and vandalism. Most of these crimes, you'll notice, have one thing in common—they are exceedingly violent. And while most of the violence is directed toward other MS-13 members or rival street gangs, innocent citizens often get caught in the crossfire."

Instead of checking the White House transcript before spinning into outrage, reporters ran with the out of context comments. Corrections to a number of stories have yet to be issued.

[The Associated Press issued a retraction at 10:35 am on May 17, 2018: "AP had deleted a tweet from late Wednesday on Trump's 'animal' comment about immigrants because it wasn't made clear that he was speaking after a comment about gang members."]



An article by Walter Williams titled "Before and After Welfare Handouts" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on May 9, 2018. Following is the article.

Before the massive growth of our welfare state, private charity was the sole option for an individual or family facing insurmountable financial difficulties or other challenges.

How do we know that?

There is no history of Americans dying on the streets because they could not find food or basic medical assistance. Respecting the biblical commandment to honor thy father and mother, children took care of their elderly or infirm parents. Family members and the local church also helped those who had fallen on hard times.

During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, charities started playing a major role. In 1887, religious leaders founded the Charity Organization Society, which became the first United Way organization.

In 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America started helping at-risk youths reach their full potential.

In 1913, the American Cancer Society, dedicated to curing and eliminating cancer, was formed. With their millions of dollars, industrial giants such as Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller created our nation's first philanthropic organizations.

Generosity has always been a part of the American genome.

Alexis de Tocqueville, a French civil servant, made a nine-month visit to our country in 1831 and 1832, ostensibly to study our prisons. Instead, his visit resulted in his writing "Democracy in America," one of the most influential books about our nation. Tocqueville didn't use the term "philanthropy," but he wrote extensively about how Americans love to form all kinds of nongovernmental associations to help one another. These associations include professional, social, civic and other volunteer organizations seeking to serve the public good and improve the quality of human lives.

The bottom line is that we Americans are the most generous people in the world, according to the new Almanac of American Philanthropy—something we should be proud of.

Before the welfare state, charity embodied both a sense of gratitude on the behalf of the recipient and magnanimity on the behalves of donors.

- There was a sense of civility by the recipients.
- They did not feel that they were owed, were entitled to or had a right to the largesse of the donor.
- Recipients probably felt that if they weren't civil and didn't express their gratitude, more assistance wouldn't be forthcoming.
- In other words, they were reluctant to bite the hand that helped them.
- With churches and other private agencies helping, people were much likelier to help themselves and less likely to engage in self-destructive behavior. Part of the message of charitable groups was: "We'll help you if you help yourself."

Enter the federal government. Civility and gratitude toward one's benefactors are no longer required in the welfare state. In fact, one can be arrogant and hostile toward the "donors" (taxpayers), as well as the civil servants who dish out the benefits.

- The handouts that recipients get are no longer called charity; they're called entitlements—as if what is received were earned.

There is virtually no material poverty in the U.S. Eighty percent of households the Census Bureau labels as poor have air conditioning; nearly three-quarters have a car or truck, and 31 percent have two or more.

Two-thirds have cable or satellite TV. Half have at least one computer. Forty-two percent own their homes.

What we have in our nation is not material poverty but dependency and poverty of the spirit, with people making unwise choices and leading pathological lives, aided and abetted by the welfare state.

Part of this pathological lifestyle is reflected in family structure. According to the 1938 Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences, that year 11 percent of black children and 3 percent of white children were born to unwed mothers. Today it's respectively 75 percent and 30 percent.

There are very little guts in the political arena to address the downside of the welfare state. To do so risks a politician's being labeled as racist, sexist, uncaring and insensitive. That means today's dependency is likely to become permanent.



An article by Walter Williams titled "Kanye and Democrats" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on May 15, 2018. Following is the article.

In the aftermath of the Kanye West dust-up, my heart goes out to the white people who control the Democratic Party.

My pity stems from the hip-hop megastar's November announcement to his packed concert audience that he did not vote in the presidential election but if he had, he would have voted for Donald Trump.

Then, on April 21, West took to his Twitter account, which has 28 million followers, to announce, "I love the way Candace Owens thinks." Owens is Turning Point USA's director of urban engagement and has said that former President Barack Obama caused "damage" to race relations in the United States during his two terms in office.

West's support for Trump, along with his criticism of the "plantation" mentality of the Democratic Party, has been met with vicious backlash from the left.

In one song, West raps, "See, that's the problem with this damn nation. All blacks gotta be Democrats. Man, we ain't made it off the plantation."

Rep. Maxine Waters said West "talks out of turn" and advised, "He should think twice about politics—and maybe not have so much to say."

- The bottom-line sin that West has committed is questioning the hegemony of the Democratic Party among black Americans.

- The backlash has been so bad that West had to hire personal security to protect him against threats made against his life.

Fortunately, the police are investigating those threats.

Kanye West is not saying anything different from what Dr. Thomas Sowell, Larry Elder, Jason Riley, I and other black libertarians/conservatives have been saying for decades.

In fact, West has tweeted quotations from Sowell, such as "Socialism in general has a record of failure so blatant that only an intellectual could ignore or evade it" and "The most basic question is not what is best but who shall decide what is best."

Tweeting those Sowell quotations represents the highest order of blasphemy in the eyes of leftists.

The big difference between black libertarians/conservatives and West is that he has 28 million Twitter followers and a huge audience of listeners whereas few blacks have even heard of libertarian/conservative blacks outside of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. (I might add in passing that Dr. Thomas Sowell is one of the nation's most distinguished and accomplished scholars alive today.)

The Kanye problem for the Democratic Party is that if the party doesn't keep blacks in line and it loses even 20 to 25 percent of the black vote, it can kiss any hope of winning any presidential and many congressional elections goodbye.

Democrats may have already seen that threat.

- That's why they support illegal immigration and voting rights for noncitizens.
- Immigrants from south of the border who are here illegally may be seen as either a replacement for or a guarantee against the disaster of losing the black vote.

Keeping blacks blind to the folly of unquestioned support for the Democratic Party by keeping blacks fearful, angry and resentful and painting the Republican Party as racist is vital. Democrats never want blacks to seriously ask questions about what the party has done for them.

Here are some facts. The nation's most troublesome and dangerous cities—Indianapolis, Stockton, Oakland, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Kansas City, Baltimore, Memphis, St. Louis and Detroit—have been run by Democrats, often black Democrats, for nearly a half-century. These and other Democratic-run cities are where blacks suffer the highest murder rates and their youngsters attend the poorest-performing and most unsafe schools.

Democrats could never afford for a large number of black people to observe, "We've been putting you in charge of our cities for decades. We even put a black Democrat in the White House. And what has it meant for us? Plus, the president you told us to hate has our unemployment rate near a record low."

It turns out that it's black votes that count more to black and white politicians than black well-being, black academic excellence and black lives.

As for black politicians and civil rights leaders, if they're going to sell their people down the river to keep Democrats in power, they ought to demand a higher price.



An article by Kimberly Fletcher titled "Setting the Record Straight on John McCain and Sarah Palin" was posted at townhall.com on May 17, 2018. Following is the article.

We have been very privileged of late to see real class from women in positions of leadership.

■ Dana Loesch, for instance, who had the courage to sit in an arena full of angry students and teachers fielding their anguished questions with competence, compassion and class.

■ Sarah Huckabee Sanders, who displayed the epitome of class at the White House Correspondence Dinner, where she was lampooned with vicious insults from a self-identified "nasty woman" posing as a comedian.

■ And most recently, Sarah Palin who has once again become the object of ridicule after John McCain announced he regretted choosing Sarah for his running mate. (With friends like that as they say.) But in quintessential Sarah Palin style, with ultimate class and dignity she refused to disparage the man she thought was her friend.

In the era of "nasty women" it is really nice, and quite refreshing, to see women display the best in us for a change. I would not disparage Senator McCain any more than Sarah would but I do think it's time to set the record straight about Sarah Palin, John McCain and the 2008 election.

I was one of the many moms who volunteered with the McCain/Palin Campaign. I served as the operations manager for the Victory Center in Dayton, Ohio—very different from the usual center. It was run almost completely by homeschool moms. The back room was reserved for our children to do their school work in between walks lists and shifts on the phone bank. The lobby looked like the front room of a cozy cottage complete with rocking chair, sofa and various Americana items sprinkled through the room. The hall across from the phone bank area housed a wide selection of snacks and moms from the community brought crockpots of food to feed the volunteers who were basically living at there. The uniqueness of the Victory Center wasn't just in the staff and the décor but why they were there.

As I wrote in 2008, I have never been a McCain fan. In fact, I couldn't believe he ended up being the nominee. I deeply respect and honor him for his service and sacrifice to our country but I've been incredibly disappointed with his Senate record. He has time and again shown an extreme lack of good judgment, poor leadership, and terrible, even sometimes disastrous, votes. In all honesty, I had determined to be one of those disgruntled voters staying home that election. Enter—Sarah Palin.

Prior to Sarah Palin taking the stage there was a literal flat line in the Republican voting base—a huge disadvantage to any candidate. Elections aren't won by parties, despite popular opinion among party leadership.

They are won by a myriad of dedicated grass roots volunteers, hardworking Americans who believe in something greater than themselves and are willing to fight for it. But 2008 left us with dismal choice of going to the polls and hold our noses—once again—or just stay home.

Up until the moment Sarah Palin walked out on that stage in Dayton, Ohio, I would have told you—as I repeatedly informed the McCain campaign—I didn't think there was anything in the world they could do to get me to vote for that man let alone work day and night for him.

But then, there was Sarah who shot a dose of energy into that campaign equivalent to a Hail Mary at a Huskers game. She walked onto the stage and right into our hearts.

Homemade pink glitter hats and signs displaying slogans like "Palin Power," "Mama Bears Unite," and "Read My Lipstick" began popping up all over the country.

I not only joined the campaign, I literally lived in the Victory Center for over a month, scheduling the phone bank, organizing walk lists, and personally walking neighborhoods, knocking on thousands of doors with my kids. Our children did math in the morning and civics all day long. It was amazing. Moms from all over the country came to join us, knowing how important the battleground state of Ohio was.

I remember the day the phone bank volunteers approached me with a dilemma. We kept getting people saying they were voting Republican in the election but answered, "no" when asked if they were voting for John McCain. I

puzzled over it for a few minutes and then it hit me. "We need the change the question," I said. "Ask them if they are voting for McCain/Palin." Suddenly all the answers began coming back yes. There were even some callers who emphatically said, "No, Ma'am, I've voting for Sarah!"

I have to admit, I gained a new sense of respect for John McCain in that election. Choosing Sarah was a remarkably brilliant move on his part. In just 10 minutes I went from being adamantly opposed to McCain to being ready to work night day for him—just so we can get her. McCain was finally using his Maverick status for something other than "crossing the aisle" and it was awesome! Suddenly there was something really worth fighting for and not just against. Because McCain chose Sarah, we began to believe in him.

I've worked on a lot of campaigns but what I saw at that Victory Center was something I just haven't seen on any other campaign. Every day held a little miracle that inspired me—mothers who came into the center with their nursing babies, the woman who came in every day for 6-8 hours calling volunteers to fill the phone bank, the young mother, seven months pregnant, who came in every morning with her three little children to walk neighborhoods and make phone calls. Her little family almost single handily walked every neighborhood in Huber Heights, Ohio.

I doubt Sarah Palin will ever truly know how much good she did for this country simply by having the courage to join the fight. Despite the outcome, what she did for this nation in that short time that she was willing to propel herself and her family in the National spotlight was phenomenal.

Maybe it is true John McCain regretted choosing Sarah, but the fact is, Sarah Palin was the energy that breathed life into that campaign.

Heck, she was the campaign. Choosing Sarah Palin was the smartest decision McCain made. It was the one thing that rallied a nation behind him and something he can truly be proud of. Regardless of his poor senate record or his disparaging remarks about the election, we can always be grateful for what we'll remember most about him—he gave us Sarah!



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Finances

- An article by Harriet Torry and Richard Rubin titled "Treasury: Federal Budget Surplus for April Largest on Record, Driven by Tax Deposits" was posted at wsj.com on May 10, 2018.
- An article by Jeffrey Bartash titled "Filling Up the Gas Tank Cost Americans An Extra \$4.4 Billion in April" was posted at marketwatch.com on May 15, 2018.

- A Reuters article by Alex Lawler and Rania El Gamal titled "OPEC Sees Oil Rally Towards \$80 As Short-Term Spike, Not Supply-Driven" was posted at reuters.com on May 16, 2018.

- An article by Betsy McCaughey titled "As Obamacare Premiums Soar, Dems Lie" was posted at townhall.com on May 16, 2018.

Illegal immigration

- A Reuters article titled "Trump Will Seek Full Funding Soon for Border Wall" was posted at reuters.com on May 16, 2018.

Comments about weapons

- An article by Declan McCullough titled "2 New Court Decisions are Quietly Eliminating Californians' Second Amendment Rights" was posted at reason.com on May 10, 2018.

Comments about Trump support

- An article by M. Joseph Sheppard titled "Black Support for Trump is Rising Into the Danger Zone for Democrats" was posted at thefederalist.com on May 11, 2018.

Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by Michael W. Chapman titled "Judicial Watch: Emails Show FBI Advised Comey to Consult With Mueller Before Senate Testimony" was posted at cnsnews.com on May 10, 2018.

- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Steve Scalise: Democrats Will Absolutely Impeach Trump If They Win the House in November" was posted at townhall.com on May 10, 2018.

- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Mad Maxine: Impeach Trump for Withdrawing From Iran Deal" was posted at townhall.com on May 11, 2018.

- An article by Rowan Scarborough titled "How Obama Loyalists Conspired to Undermine the Trump Transition Team" was posted at washingtontimes.com on May 13, 2018.

- An article by Nicole Rojas titled "'Daily Show' Host Trevor Noah on Trump: He 'Reminds Me of an African Dictator' " was posted at newsweek.com on May 13, 2018.

- An article by Thorn Geier titled "Spike Lee Denounces 'That Motherf—er' Trump, Explains Charlottesville Scenes in 'BlacKkKlansman' " was posted at thewrap.com on May 15, 2018.

- An article by Nicole Goodkind titled "Rex Tillerson Blasts Trump, Warns of Imminent End of American Democracy" was posted at newsweek.com on May 16, 2018.

News about the media

- An article by Nicholas Fondacara titled "ABC, NBC Suggest U.S., Israel are Ones Destabilizing Middle East, Not Iran" was posted at newsbusters.org on May 10, 2018.

- An article by Nicholas Fondacara titled "ABC, NBC Ignore U.S. and Iraqi Forces Capturing 5 Top ISIS Leaders" was posted at newsbusters.org on May 11, 2018.
- An article by Allen West titled "Liberal Media's Negative Coverage of Trump is a Losing Strategy [for Liberals]" was posted at cnsnews.com on May 14, 2018.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Dude, Really? CNN Editor Tweets Image of Trump in Sniper Crosshairs" was posted at townhall.com on May 15, 2018.
- An article by Bill Dagostino titled "Porn Star Lawyer Interviewed 147 Times in 10 Weeks" was posted at newsbusters.org on May 16, 2018.

General interest

- An article by Nicholas K. Geranios titled "Hawaii Volcano Raises Concerns of Eruptions Along West Coast" was posted at apnews.com on May 11, 2018.
- An article titled "Kilauea Volcano Erupts on Hawaii's Big Island" was posted at yahoo.com on May 14, 2018.
- An article by Sapna Maheshwari and John Koblin titled "Why Traditional TV is In Trouble" was posted at nytimes.com on May 13, 2018.



Isaiah 55:6-11—"Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."