

Eye on the World

Sept. 15, 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 Sept. 15, 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).



An article by Marc Morano titled “USA Is Now the Largest Global Crude Oil Producer—Surpasses Russia and Saudi Arabia” was posted at climatedepot.com on Sept. 12, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

The United States likely surpassed Russia and Saudi Arabia to become the world’s largest crude oil producer earlier this year, based on preliminary estimates in EIA’s Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO).

In February, U.S. crude oil production exceeded that of Saudi Arabia for the first time in more than two decades. In June and August, the United States surpassed Russia in crude oil production for the first time since February 1999.

Although EIA does not publish crude oil production forecasts for Russia and Saudi Arabia in STEO, EIA expects that U.S. crude oil production will continue to exceed Russian and Saudi Arabian crude oil production for the remaining months of 2018 and through 2019.

U.S. crude oil production, particularly from light sweet crude oil grades, has rapidly increased since 2011. Much of the recent growth has occurred in areas such as the Permian Basin in western Texas and eastern New Mexico, the Federal Offshore Gulf of Mexico, and the Bakken region in North Dakota and Montana.

Following the oil price decline in mid-2014, U.S. producers reduced their costs by temporarily scaling back crude oil production. However, after crude oil

prices increased in early 2016, investment and production began increasing later that year. By comparison, Russia and Saudi Arabia have maintained relatively steady crude oil production growth in recent years.



An article by Benjamin R. Dierker titled "U.K. Police Urge Citizens to Report Neighbors for 'Offensive Or Insulting Speech'" was posted at thefederalist.com on Sept. 11, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

English police are now calling on citizens to report hate incidents. Reporting friends and neighbors to the police has terrible historical connotation, and for good reason.

It is legitimate fascism. Timid citizenries are easy to control—fear that even a coworker could file a report to the police can keep people in check.

The latest call for action in England is from the South Yorkshire Police on Twitter. Similar reporting requests are posted on the United Kingdom government website. Two tweets from the South Yorkshire Police over the weekend requesting citizens to report hate matters to police should grab our attention.

■ The first calls out any hate "incident or crime." There is a meaningful distinction there. The tweet defines hate incidents as "motivated by prejudice or hostility (or perceived to be so)."

The tweet ends with, "Report it and put a stop to it."

To be clear, reportable incidents under this scheme have as low a bar as non-crime incidents merely perceived to be hostile. This would be hilarious if it was not so serious. Law enforcement is now soliciting people to turn others in for being offensive. Freedom from criminal investigation and arrest may now be subject to someone else's feelings or perceptions in England.

■ The second tweet explicitly calls on citizens to "please report non-crime hate incidents, which can include things like offensive or insulting comments, online, in person, or in writing."

Reporting non-crimes to the police already seems like a waste of time and resources, but reporting people to the police for being offensive crosses the line into fascist territory.

Of course, hate crimes and legitimate hate incidents are wrong, and the perpetrators should face justice. But there can be no freedom when perceived victims' subjective feelings can bring down the power of the state on citizens. Jokes, comments taken out of context, or simple misunderstandings can easily be conflated with legitimate hate.

The overbroad definition of hate incidents virtually guarantees that people will report frivolous complaints, which could drown real problems. It could also lead to government invasion of privacy for regular law-abiding citizens.

There is also no sense of proportionality here. A dumb comment online is subject to arrest by force because someone's feelings are hurt?

The over-broad definition also means there is likely no consequence for bad faith and frivolous reports. No limiting principle exists to discourage false or careless reports, further damaging the reputation of innocent people and wasting law enforcement time and resources.

This grotesque power dynamic and attack on personal freedom should be condemned and rejected. Calling on citizens to report one another is unnecessary. Certainly a free people should be able to report crimes to the police, but police encouraging such a low bar for reporting will gin up controversy, suppress free speech and expression, and damage trust between the people.

When people say they want to make America like the rest of the world, keep this in mind. America stands alone in the preservation of individual liberty.

Hate speech laws that give false empowerment to illegitimate, self-declared victims have no place in America. England has not only embraced this, but advanced it, and now calls on its citizens to act on it.



A Reuters article titled "New Italian Government Plans to Curb Sunday Shopping; [Deputy Prime Minister Luigi] Di Maio" was posted at reuters.com on Sept. 9, 2018. Following is the article.

The new Italian government will introduce a ban on Sunday shopping in large commercial centres before the end of the year as it seeks to defend family traditions, Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio said on Sunday.

In a bid to spur economic growth, the then Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti liberalised Sunday trading in 2012, despite pressure from the Roman Catholic Church and unions who said the country needed to keep its traditional day of rest.

"This liberalisation is in fact destroying Italian families," said Di Maio, who is head of the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement. "We need to start limiting opening and closing times again," he told reporters.

Earlier this year, Poland restricted Sunday shopping as the conservative government in Warsaw pushed ahead with what it said was a return to Roman Catholic values.

The Italian and Polish initiatives run against a slow liberalisation of Sunday shopping hours throughout Europe, where retailers face pressure from a boom in online shopping.

Small shopkeepers in Italy have long sought to overturn Monti's reform, saying their businesses face unfair competition from the big malls.

Di Maio said that larger stores would also have to close on national holidays.



An article by Eric J. Lyman titled "'Civil War' Divides World's Catholics Amid Allegations of Sex Abuse, Cover-Up" was posted at usatoday.com on Sept. 13, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

The latest—and most serious—wave of pedophilia and cover-up allegations to hit the Vatican is shining a new light on the gap dividing the world's 1.2 billion Catholics.

Dozens of commentators and Vatican watchers have pointed to the wide gap between the views of conservative, traditional Catholics in the mold of Pope Benedict XVI and those of reform-minded Catholics like Pope Francis. Many media have referred to what is happening as a kind of "civil war."

Though he is widely popular among non-Catholics, Francis has been a polarizing figure among the faithful since he was first elected five years ago.

The latest sex-abuse allegations, specifically those raised by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, former nuncio to the United States, have only increased public pressure on Francis to resign in order to save the church.

Viganò named more than two dozen current and former Vatican and U.S. officials and accused them of knowing about and covering up for ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, who is accused of sexually molesting and harassing minors as well as adults.

He accused Francis of rehabilitating McCarrick from canonical sanctions imposed on him by Benedict in 2009 or 2010. The Vatican has known since at least 2000 that McCarrick slept with seminarians.

Adding to the crisis within the Vatican was a grand jury report in Pennsylvania that detailed the specter of more than 1,000 alleged underage victims of abuse by more than 300 priests over the span of seven decades.

On Thursday, Pope Francis accepted the resignation of a U.S. bishop and authorized an investigation into allegations he sexually harassed adults, adding awkward drama to an audience with U.S. church leaders over the abuse and cover-up scandal roiling the Catholic Church.

The resignation of West Virginia Bishop Michael Bransfield was announced just as the four-member U.S. delegation was sitting down with Francis in his private study in the Apostolic Palace.

Robert Mickens, a veteran Vatican analyst who is now the editor of La Croix International, said the sex-abuse scandal masks a major rift in the church about its direction under the current pope.

"The trouble calling what is happening with these scandals and the church a 'civil war' is that these two camps have existed since the start of Francis' papacy, plus the fact that the situation has very little to do with the sex scandals," he said.

Many traditional Catholics may have wished the cardinals selected someone else even early on. In the weeks and months after his election, critics opined that Francis was not scholarly enough, too eager to reach out to non-Catholics, too willing to take on the status quo in the church, willing to embrace secular figures on issues like alleviating poverty and confronting cli-

mate change, and far too forgiving to groups including homosexuals, divorcees and women who have had abortions.



“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.

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- A Reuters article titled “Spain Will Go Ahead With Sale of 400 Bombs to Saudi Arabia” was posted at reuters.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
 - An article by Arne Delfs titled “Merkel Confronts a Defining Moment As the Global Order Realigns” was posted at bloomberg.com on Sept. 10, 2018.
 - An article by James Carstensen titled “Fresh Debate As Germany Mulls Joining Airstrikes in the Event of Another Chemical Attack in Syria” was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
 - An article by Faycal Benhassain titled “France Grapples With Proposals to Counter Radical Influences Among French Muslims” was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
 - A Reuters article titled “Kremlin Confirms Preparations for Putin, Erdogan Meeting on Monday” was posted at reuters.com on Sept. 14, 2018.
 - An article by Natasha Turak titled “Lira Jumps After Turkish Central Bank Hikes Rates [to 24 Percent] in a Bid to Save Tumbling Currency” was posted at cnbc.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
 - An article titled “Maduro Looks to China to Bolster Venezuela’s Collapsing Economy” was posted at france24.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
 - An article by Aaron Mehta titled “How a Potential Chinese-Built Airport in Greenland Could Be Risky for a Vital US Air Force Base” was posted at defensenews.com on Sept. 7, 2018.
 - An article by Lucas Tomlinson titled “Russian Bombers Flew Near Alaska, Intercepted by Air Force Jets, US Military Says” was posted at foxnews.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
 - An article by Henry Holloway titled “Bible Prophecy Fulfilled As First ‘Red Heifer Born in 2,000 Years’ Signaling End of Days” was posted at dailystar.co.uk on Sept. 8, 2018.



An article by John Murawski and Tammy Grubb titled “More Than 500,000 in NC Without Power As Massive Storm Florence Makes Landfall” was posted at newsobserver.com (Raleigh, NC) on Sept. 14, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

Hurricane Florence rumbled ashore Friday morning, knocking out electricity to more than a half-million customers throughout eastern North Carolina and the state's midsection.

Utility crews have stopped stringing power lines during dangerous conditions and will not resume restoring power until wind speeds subside and flood waters recede, which could take several areas in the hardest-hit areas.

Power outages had been reported as early as Wednesday afternoon, with the first gusts of Florence, and the numbers mounted sharply as the Category 2 hurricane approached land.

U.S. Rep. George Holding, of Raleigh, told FOX Business Channel on Thursday that Florence could leave parts of North Carolina without power into October.

"You need to be prepared to be without power for weeks," Holding said, pointing out that Hurricane Fran knocked out power for two weeks and Hurricane Matthew left him without power for five days. "Be prepared to be without power for a month. That's serious."

Charlotte-based Duke [Energy] had posted more than 300,000 outages in eastern and central counties, while rural electric cooperatives reported about 185,000 outages in the same general area.

Duke crews stop making repairs to downed power lines when winds speeds reach 35 miles per hour because in those conditions it is unsafe for linemen to work in bucket trucks.

Several million people could lose power by the time Florence sloshes its way through the state. The storm was a dangerous Category 4 hurricane Wednesday but was downgraded Thursday night to a Category 1 storm. It was still considered dangerous with potential for strong winds and hazardous flooding.

Duke has said it could take several weeks to fully restore power in areas that are inaccessible due to flooding. The company said as many as three-fourths of its 4 million customers in North Carolina and South Carolina could lose power.

Florence could prove more destructive than Matthew in 2016, Duke officials said. After Matthew soaked the state, the Duke Energy Progress restoration effort involved restringing nearly 300 miles of downed wire and replacing 5,500 utility poles.



An article by Carla Herreria titled "Ruth Bader Ginsberg Slams Senate Hearings As a 'Highly Partisan Show' " was posted at huffpost.com on Sept. 13, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg has a problem with the way this Congress handles Supreme Court confirmation hearings.

The 85-year-old justice was asked Wednesday how the hearings of Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh compared with her own during an event at George Washington University Law School.

President Bill Clinton nominated Ginsburg to the Supreme Court in June 1993, and the U.S. Senate voted 96-3 to confirm her two months later.

"The way it was was right. The way it is is wrong," Ginsburg said.

During Kavanaugh's hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Democrats have pushed back hard against President Donald Trump's nominee in an attempt to stop the Supreme Court from leaning even further to the conservative right.

Democrats are worried about how Kavanaugh, who would replace retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy, would rule on issues relating to the investigation into Trump's campaign and Russian interference in the U.S. election. Also a point of contention: Democrats warn that Kavanaugh may threaten the *Roe v. Wade* ruling that established the right to abortion.

Adding to the drama surrounding the hearing, Sens. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) and Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii) released Kavanaugh's previously confidential emails on the third day, giving Democrats even more fuel to scrutinize the judge.

Ginsburg said Wednesday that the "atmosphere" surrounding Supreme Court hearings were "truly bipartisan" when she was nominated in 1993, noting that she won the votes of nearly all the Republican senators despite her work with the American Civil Liberties Union.

Ginsburg also pointed out that all the Democrats in the Senate in 1986 voted to confirm Justice Antonin Scalia, who was famous for his conservatism.

"Think of Justice Scalia, who's certainly a known character. The vote was unanimous," Ginsburg said.

"That's the way it should be, instead of what it's become, which is a highly partisan show. The Republicans move in lockstep, and so do the Democrats. I wish I could wave a magic wand and have it go back."

This isn't the first time Ginsburg has criticized divisiveness in politics.

In April, the Justice said that members of Congress are lacking camaraderie.

"You don't see that kind of friendship existing in Congress anymore," she said at a Duke University event.

Ginsburg, who reportedly is committed to a serious workout regimen, also took some time Wednesday to flex a little muscle on her fellow Supreme Court justices.

Asked who on the court could do more pushups than her, Ginsburg replied, "Maybe Justice Neil Gorsuch," her 51-year-old colleague, who she said rides his bike to work every day.

Ginsburg also added Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts, 63, to the list: "I think our chief is also a possibility," she said.



An article by Walter Williams titled "It's Our Constitution—Not Kavanaugh" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Sept. 12, 2018. Following is the article.

One of the best statements of how the Framers saw the role of the federal government is found in Federalist Paper 45, written by James Madison, who is known as the "Father of the Constitution."

He wrote: "The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. The former will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation, and foreign commerce . . . The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people."

Today's reality is the polar opposite of that vision. The powers of the federal government are numerous and indefinite, and those of state governments are few and defined.

If confirmed, Brett Kavanaugh will bring to the U.S. Supreme Court a vision closer to that of the Framers than the vision of those who believe that the Constitution is a "living document."

Those Americans rallying against Kavanaugh's confirmation are really against the U.S. Constitution rather than the man—Judge Kavanaugh—whom I believe would take seriously his oath of office to uphold and defend the Constitution.

Was Madison misinformed or just plain ignorant about the powers delegated to Congress?

Before we answer, let's examine statements of other possibly "misinformed" Americans.

In 1796, on the floor of the House of Representatives, William Giles of Virginia condemned a relief measure for fire victims, saying the purpose and the right of Congress is to attend to not what generosity and humanity require but instead what their duty requires.

In 1854, President Franklin Pierce vetoed a bill intended to help the mentally ill, writing to the Senate, "I can not find any authority in the Constitution for making the Federal Government the great almoner of public charity." He added that to approve such spending would "be contrary to the letter and spirit of the Constitution and subversive of the whole theory upon which the Union of these States is founded."

President Grover Cleveland out-vetoed his predecessors by vetoing 584 acts of Congress, including many congressional spending bills, during his two terms as president in the late 1800s. His often-given veto message was, "I

can find no warrant for such an appropriation in the Constitution.” By the way, President Cleveland was a Democrat.

Were the Founding Fathers, previous congressmen and previous presidents who could not find constitutional authority for today’s massive federal government intervention just plain stupid, ignorant, callous and uncaring?

Article 1 of the Constitution defines the role of Congress. Its Section 8 lists powers delegated to Congress.

I examined our Constitution, looking to see whether an Article 5 amendment had been enacted authorizing Congress to spend money for business bailouts, prescription drugs, education, Social Security and thousands of other spending measures in today’s federal budget.

I found no such amendment. Contrary to what our Constitution permits, Congress taxes and spends for anything upon which it can muster a majority vote.

But I found a constitutional loophole that many congressmen use as a blank check, as well as justification to control most aspects of our lives—namely, the general welfare clause.

The Constitution’s preamble contains the phrase “promote the general Welfare,” and Article 1, Section 8 contains the phrase “provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.”

What did the Framers mean by “general Welfare”?

- In 1817, Thomas Jefferson wrote, “Congress had not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare, but were restrained to those specifically enumerated.”
- Madison wrote: “With respect to the words ‘general welfare,’ I have always regarded them as qualified by the detail of powers connected with them. To take them in a literal and unlimited sense would be a metamorphosis of the Constitution into a character which there is a host of proofs was not contemplated by its creators.”

Case closed: It’s our Constitution that’s the problem for leftist interventionists—not Brett Kavanaugh.



An article by Michelle Malkin titled “9/11 Flashback: Spitting on Their Graves” was posted at michellemalkin.com on Sept. 11, 2018. Following is the article. (She wrote the following in an editor’s note: “I wrote this column ten years ago on the 2nd anniversary of the 9/11 jihadi attacks. What has changed?”)

Across the nation, public officials will strike somber poses and shed television-friendly tears and bow their blow-dried heads in memory of the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

They'll hold hands, light candles, and pass around a plateful of platitudes: "Never forget," they'll intone. "Let's roll," they'll thunder. "God bless America," they'll warble in perfect harmony.

They'll assure us that they are committed to fighting terror and securing our borders and doing whatever it takes to protect the homeland from another horrific mass murder at the hands of freedom-hating fanatics. And then?

And then, from Washington state to Washington, D.C., they'll go back to work, roll up their sleeves, and spit on the graves of the 9/11 dead.

Your pious city councilwoman will return to the office to draft a resolution condemning the common-sense detention and deportation of Middle Eastern illegal aliens suspected of terrorism.

Your politically correct police chief will refuse to cooperate with federal authorities in criminal investigations of illegal visa overstayers and border-crossers and ship-jumpers.

Your pandering mayor will stealthily renew his policy of preventing city employees from reporting illegal aliens.

Your indignant local librarian will promote fear-mongering and misinformation about the Patriot Act.

Your regional Chamber of Commerce president will join forces with Canadian and Mexican government representatives to put business interests ahead of border enforcement.

Your tuition-thirsty university president will lobby behind closed doors against federal efforts to track foreign students and ensure that they go home when required. Your vote-hungry governor will encourage document fraud through his support of insecure foreign-issued identification cards and driver's licenses for "undocumented workers."

Your race card-fearing congressman will court Arab and Muslim special interest groups and donors who have coddled Islamists on college campuses, in prisons, and in the U.S. military in the name of "diversity."

Your grandstanding senator will block funding for long-delayed homeland defense measures—such as a national entry-exit system to monitor temporary foreign visitors—even as he whines about the need for more money to ensure our safety.

Your incompetent Transportation Security Administration will stonewall pilots who want training to be armed, squander tens of millions of taxpayer dollars on lucrative contracts for weapons-detection equipment that doesn't work or get used, and continue to ban racial profiling.

Your indifferent Interior Department will look the other way as underequipped and understaffed park rangers along the southwestern border remain vulnerable to drug smugglers and terrorists.

Your bloated Homeland Security Department will keep Clinton-era holdovers in pivotal positions, reduce routine inspections at seaports in the name of efficiency, and continue to shortchange interior enforcement against deportation fugitives and asylum con artists in favor of duct tape tipsheets and cosmetic color-coded alerts.

Your corrupted State Department will appease Saudi terror-backers, reward butt-covering managers, assuage European travel industry tycoons, and continue to defend lax visa screening policies.

Your Democratic presidential candidates will unanimously endorse the very kind of amnesty policies that allowed several al Qaeda operatives to infiltrate this country and hatch terrorist plots.

And your Republican Party elites will continue to spurn immigration enforcement reformers within their own ranks for fear of alienating ethnic constituencies that will never vote for them anyway.

To those who lost their lives on Sept. 11 because their government failed to enforce its borders, laws, and sovereignty, the politicians and bureaucrats and civic leaders will ostentatiously offer one measly day a year of dedication in rhetoric—and 364 days of desecration in deed.



An article by Michelle Malkin titled “The Post-9/11 Cycle of Cynicism: Remember, Forget, Repeat” was posted at michellemalkin.com on Sept. 13, 2018. Following is the article.

Remember. Forget. Repeat.

For 17 years, America has engaged in a collective ritual every Sept. 11: Hang flags, light candles, bow heads and make vows to “Never forget.”

Then, every Sept. 12, it’s back to business as usual: See something, do nothing.

Did you remember that five of the 9/11 hijackers—Mohamed Atta, Marwan al-Shehhi, Hani Hanjour, Nawaf al-Hazmi and Satam al-Suqami—carried out their killer plot after overstaying their visas, evading detection and avoiding deportation?

Did you remember that other radical Muslim members of the Terrorist Visa Overstayers Club?

They include 1997 New York subway bomber Lafi Khalil; 1993 World Trade Center bombers Mahmud Abouhalima, Mohammed Salameh and Eyad Ismoil; 1993 New York landmark bombing plot conspirator Fadil Abdelgani; convicted Times Square bomb plotter Faisal Shahzad; and U.S. Capitol bomb plotter Amine El Khalifi, whose visa expired in 1999 and who escaped Homeland Security’s notice for 12 years before he was arrested in 2012—just blocks from the Capitol building donning what he thought was a suicide bomb vest.

Did you remember that a year after the jihadist attacks that stole nearly 3,000 innocent lives, the 9/11 Commission urged our government to build a

biometric entry-exit program to track and remove visa overstayers—who comprise an estimated 40 percent of the total illegal immigrant population?

Did you remember that Congress had already mandated exactly such a system for all ports of entry—land, sea and air—in 1996 as part of the Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act?

Janice Kephart, former border counsel on the 9/11 Commission, testified five years ago that “tracking the arrival and departure of foreign visitors to the United States is an essential part of immigration control, with collateral effects on law enforcement and national security.” Without both arrival controls and departure records, she warned, “there is no way to know whether travelers have left when they were supposed to.”

At least eight separate federal statutes, passed with bipartisan support, have established the parameters and appropriated funds for a foreign visa holder entry-exit system over the past two decades.

But as I reported in my book “Invasion” 16 years ago, lobbyists for the travel and tourism industries, airlines, universities, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and illegal immigrant amnesty banded together to undermine the implementation of this most basic national security program, which every sovereign country needs to defend its borders.

On the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, GOP House Homeland Security Chairwoman Candice Miller reported on the federal backlog of more than 750,000 unvetted visa overstay records: “If we are serious about controlling who comes into the nation and preventing another 9/11 attack, we need to get serious about an exit program,” she testified.

Spoiler alert: The swamp creatures in Washington are not serious.

Now, the Department of Homeland Security reports a whopping 700,000 foreigners overstayed their temporary tourist, business or student visas in fiscal 2017. Most alarming, among the countries with the highest overstay rates are the terrorist breeding grounds of Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen and Libya.

An estimated 40 percent of the 700,000 student/exchange visa overstays on record last year came from four countries: China, India, South Korea and Saudi Arabia. (In case you’d forgotten, Saudi Arabia sent 15 of the 19 hijackers to America 17 years ago this week.)

Jessica Vaughan of the Center for Immigration Studies analyzed the data and flagged five “countries where we need to critically examine visa issuance processes” because of overstay rates of more than 30 percent: Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Liberia and the Solomon Islands.

Last year, a DHS inspector general’s audit concluded that Immigration and Customs Enforcement cannot account for all visa overstays because its 27 different databases are a stove-piped mess.

ICE arrested a measly 0.4 percent of visa overstays (3,402 out of 500,000) it could account for—in part because investigators couldn't access information or weren't even aware of available national security databases.

President Donald Trump called on Congress to expedite completion of the long-delayed biometric exit program, and several pilot programs at airports are now in place.

But Trump faces the same open borders/big business roadblocks that have stymied the system ever since the Twin Towers came crashing down.

If Congress wanted to, it could immediately pass measures to make overstaying a visa a felony, to impose re-entry bars on visa violators and to require bonds for foreigners entering through the highest-risk temporary visa programs or from countries of concern.

But annual pretension is so much easier than actual prevention. All remembrance and no action dishonors the 3,000 who died 17 years ago—and endangers us all.



An article by Rick Hayes titled "Why the Swamp Has Little to Fear" was posted at americanthinker.com on Sept. 13, 2018. Following is the article.

The midterm elections will either halt or hasten the current soft coup whose aim is to overthrow a legally elected President now being conducted by the swamp.

And if the history of Washington, D.C. corruption is any indication of what will happen after the midterms, the swamp will survive regardless of its coup's success or failure.

But the efforts to expose the treasonous plot will fade away into the dustbin of political history after being seen as just another waste of time and taxpayer money. The seemingly endless parade of corruption scandals and mind-numbing criminal activity will go on unabated and continue to escalate to unimaginable heights because of an inescapable fact of human nature.

In a Forbes 2015 article entitled "The Big Bank Bailout," author Mike Collins mentioned several ways to prevent another housing bubble crisis from destroying the world economy.

He wrote: "But perhaps the best solution is to make the CEOs and top managers of the banks criminally liable for breaking these rules so that they fear going to jail. These people are not afraid to do it again so if you can't put some real fear in their heads, they will do it again."

What Collins has honed in on is accountability and punishment, the very things lacking in today's dealings with the swamp.

Just as the major banking institutions will soon, if not already, re-enter into risky, corrupt, and illegal lending practices because there was not a

“smidgen” of accountability for the trillions of dollars they lost in the housing bubble catastrophe, so too will the past and presently unknown criminals within the IRS, FBI, and DOJ continue to thumb their noses at the law.

What the American people have been subjected to over the past 18 months since President Trump took office is a series of crimes that have been painstakingly unearthed but little else.

“Earth-shattering,” “bombshell,” and “constitutional crisis” are just some of the words and phrases used by media outlets to describe the newest update regarding the many ongoing investigations. These words are meant to shock the audience but no longer have the impact they once did because of their overuse and because of the likely lack of any substantive outcome.

What Americans have seen are trials without consequences, clear proof of guilt with no punishment.

Draining the swamp without any repercussions to the swamp creatures inside is like going on a diet but eating the same foods.

Americans witnessed no accountability on a number of fronts.

- There were exhaustive investigations into the deadly circumstances surrounding the swamp’s gun-walking campaign named Fast and Furious, a program where U.S. Border Patrol agent Brian Terry and hundreds of innocent Mexican citizens were killed with guns the government sold to criminals.
- The swamp continued on its power mission and attempted the deceitful confiscation of America’s health care with Obamacare, whose real aim was a redistribution of the nation’s wealth. After little pushback and the passage of Obamacare.
- Americans witnessed Benghazi in 2012.
- When nothing was accomplished over the investigations of that tragedy, the swamp trampled on the rights of conservatives in what became known as the IRS scandal of 2013.

Nothing was done about that. And on and on, with the swamp committing one bigger and bolder crime after the next with impunity.

So we have arrived at the doorstep of the Russian collusion investigation farce by first traveling through the swamp of unsolved crimes perpetrated inside the Obama administration.

With the passage of time, swamp-dwellers like Eric Holder and Lois Lerner, knee-deep in the mud with congressional contempt charges, continue to be financially enriched and will slowly be forgotten, while more recognizable swamp royalty like Hillary Clinton get to run for president.

Until Americans see guilty members within the United States government wearing orange jumpsuits and serving time, the investigations and congressional hearings are mere sideshow spectacles to appease the masses.



An article by Ann Coulter titled "Everyone's Urinating on the Dossier Now" was posted at anncoulter.com on Sept. 12, 2018. Following is the article.

I was minding my own business reading about Bob Woodward, the GREAT-EST INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER IN THE HISTORY OF OUR REPUBLIC (as he will be the first to tell you), and came across this bit of genius from his book.

According to *The New York Times*, Woodward is flabbergasted that former FBI Director James Comey released the Russian dossier, when he had the "air-tight" report of 17 INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES.

Woodward writes: "It would be as if I had reported and written one of the most serious, complex stories for *The Washington Post* that I had ever done, and then provided an appendix of unverified allegations. Oh, by the way, here is a to-do list for further reporting and we're publishing it."

You will know, if you have read a much better book* about the Trump hysteria, *Resistance Is Futile!: How the Trump-Hating Left Lost Its Collective Mind*, that, eventually, this is what the Resistance says about every part of the Russian collusion story. Oh, that old yarn? Yeah, we hysterically oversold that one, but maybe you'd be interested in this other scandal we tried pushing a few months ago!

(*Thus, according to the *Times*: "Woodward has never been a graceful writer, but the prose here is unusually wooden.")

The Russian collusion story isn't a story at all, but a constantly changing kaleidoscope with the same glass panes appearing, disappearing and then reappearing under the same headline: RUSSIAN COLLUSION PROVED!

Each time, we're supposed to pretend it's an all-new "breaking news" story that hasn't been disproved six times already.

Among the kaleidoscope panes are:

The Russia dossier!

Roger Stone tweeted something mean about John Podesta!

Jeff Sessions met with the Russian ambassador!

Carter Page went to Russia! (But unlike Bernie Sanders, NOT on his honeymoon—ed.)

George Papadopoulos talked about Hillary's emails!

The GOP platform on Ukraine was changed!

Seventeen intelligence agencies say Russia hacked the DNC's emails to help Trump!

Of all these, it was the dossier that dominated the news for most of Trump's first year in office. Here was the proof that Trump was owned by the Russians. The dossier had to be true—it just had to be!

Then, suddenly, 10 months later, that kaleidoscope pane completely disappeared. The dossier was an irrelevancy, a red herring, a conspiracy theory, a misnomer. Why do Republicans keep talking about the dossier?

Extra credit if you remember why the dossier got dropped like a hot potato in October 2017.

ANSWER: After lying to the public all year about the dossier being funded by a "Republican donor"—just a random concerned citizen!—a judge finally forced the media to cough up the truth: The dossier was bought and paid for by Hillary Clinton—deviously, of course, using a law firm to pimp for her.

- The Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee had paid \$12 million for that dossier.
- But during the 10 glorious months before we found out that the Russian dossier was nothing but Hillary's oppo research, the media stamped their feet and demanded that we all swear to believe the dossier.
- They deny this now, but I have Nexis.

With every other proof of Russian collusion discredited (except the actual collusion by both Hillary and the FBI), now they're apparently going back to the 17 INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES!

The 17 INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES gag is what liberals do whenever they have no evidence, no facts and no argument. They cite a surprisingly large, but meaningless, number.

Three thousand scientists agree there is man-made global warming! (On closer examination, most of the "scientists" are ACLU lawyers.)

President Trump has made 4,713 false or misleading claims! (Actually, only two: That bombing Syria was in America's "national security interest" and "we've already started building the wall!")

The allegedly "airtight" report of 17 INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES was not what anyone would call "airtight." In fact, it was kind of the opposite of "airtight." Scratch the part about "airtight." It could more accurately be described as a "complete joke."

Russian scholars scoffed at it, cyber-security experts said it was impossible to know who hacked the DNC, and intelligence veterans churlishly pointed out that the report contained not a speck of evidence. Until Trump won the election, even the media laughed at Hillary's claim that Russia hacked the DNC to help Trump.

President Obama took the claim that Russia had hacked the DNC so seriously that he boldly told Vladimir Putin to—I quote—"cut it out."

In lieu of evidence, the report merely asserts conclusions. It reads like a stiffly worded, bureaucratic version of Hillary's talking points:

We assess that president-elect Donald J. Trump has said degrading things about women in the past.

We further assess that president-elect Trump will continue to develop capabilities to fat-shame women in the United States, judging from past practice and current efforts.

All three agencies agree with this judgment. CIA and FBI have high confidence in this judgment; NSA has moderate confidence.

Maybe it's time for the Resistance to wheel out the one about Sessions meeting the Russian ambassador again.



"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 John Binder titled "Trump's Tight Labor Market Wins U.S. Construction Workers Higher Wages" was posted at breitbart.com on Sept. 6, 2018.
- An article by Jeffry Bartash titled "U.S. Adds 201,000 Jobs As Worker Wages Accelerate to Nine-Year High" was posted at marketwatch.com on Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "6.3%: African-American Unemployment Rate Second-Lowest Ever (6.3%)" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by John Kartch and Abigail Marone titled "Thanks to GOP Tax Cuts, Utilities Are Lowering Rates" was posted at atr.com (Americans for Tax Reform) on Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by Ron Capshaw titled "Jim Carrey Urges Democrats to Embrace the Socialist Label" was posted at thefederalist.com on Sept. 11, 2018.
- An article by Michael Morris titled "Kevin Sorbo Calls Out Jim Carrey on Socialism: 'Socialism Didn't Create Hollywood; Capitalism Did'" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 11, 2018.
- An article by Heather Long and Jeff Stein titled "Middle-Class Income Rose Above \$61,000 for the First Time Last Year, U.S. Census Bureau Says" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
- An article by Leah Barkoukis titled "Senate Passes Bipartisan [92 to 5] 'Minibus' Spending Package [\$146 Billion to Avert a Government Shutdown at the End of the Month]" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 13, 2018.

Illegal immigration

- An article by Melanie Arter titled "Atlanta Mayor [Keisha Lance Bottoms] Ends City's Relationship With ICE" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by Stephen Dinan titled "Assaults on ICE, Border Patrol Surge As Illegal Immigrants Get More Violent" was posted at washingtontimes.com on Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by Michael W. Chapman titled "5 Aliens Charged With Illegal Entry to U.S. Previously Deported 11 Times Total" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 11, 2018.
- An article by Elliot Spagat titled "Family Arrivals Surge at US-Mexico Border in August" was posted at yahoo.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "12,774 Family Units Apprehended at Border in August; Up 38.1% From July" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
- An article by Victor Skinner titled "Twitter Blocks Posts That Use Phrase 'Illegal Alien' As 'Hateful Content' " was posted at theamericanmirror.com on Sept. 12, 2018.

Comments about weapons

- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Nothing to See Here: Networks Silent on Attempted Stabbing of GOP Candidate by Anti-Trump Attacker" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 12, 2018.

Comments about Trump support

- An article by Michael W. Chapman titled "Gingrich: 'Trump is Most Effective Anti-Liberal President in My Lifetime' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
- An article by Alexander Bolton titled "Rand Paul Ramps Up His Alliance With Trump" was posted at thehill.com on Sept. 13, 2018.

Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by Adam Kredo titled "Kerry Meeting With Iran [Three or Four Times in Recent Months] to Salvage Nuke Deal With Rogue Diplomacy" was posted at freebeacon.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
- An article by Peter Hasson titled "Scalise Warns: 'Some on the Left' Are 'Inciting' Violence" was posted at dailycaller.com Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by Cal Thomas titled "Obama Goes on Attack, But Arguments Fall Flat Against Trump Successes" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 11, 2018.
- An article by Hugh Son titled "Jamie Dimon [Chief Executive of J.P. Morgan Chase] Says He Could Beat Trump in an Election: 'I'm Smarter Than He Is' " was posted at cnbc.com on Sept. 12, 2018.

- An article by Brian Stelter titled "Bob Woodward's 'Fear' is the Fastest Selling Book Since 'Go Set a Watchman' " was posted at cnn.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Collusion: New Texts Show FBI Officials Had Media Leak Strategy to Hurt Trump During Russia Probe" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 10, 2018.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "New Strzok-Page Texts Show FBI/DOJ Coordinated 'Media Leak Strategy' to Hurt Trump" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 11, 2018.

News about the media

- An article by Matthew Boyle titled " 'Silent Donation': Corporate Emails Reveal Google Executives' Effort to Turn Out Latino Votes Who They Thought Would Vote for Clinton" was posted at Breitbart.com on Sept. 10, 2018.
- An article by Ken Oliver titled "New Revelations of Pro-Hillary Collusion at Google, Univision, Voto Latino in 2016" was posted at newsbusters.org on Sept. 11, 2018.
- A video and an article by Allum Bokhari titled "Leaked Video: Google Leadership's Dismayed Reaction to Trump Election" were posted at Breitbart.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Unhinged: MSNBC Host [Joe Scarborough] Says Trump is Doing More Damage to the Country Than the 9/11 Terror Attacks" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 11, 2018.
- An article by Corinne Weaver titled "Twitter Bows to CNN and Bans Alex Jones Permanently" was posted at newsbusters.org on Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by Corinne Weaver titled "Benghazi Hero Suspended From Twitter After Criticizing Obama" was posted at newsbusters.org on Sept. 10, 2018.
- An article by Corinne Weaver titled "Liberal Media Whine After Facebook Fact Checks Them: 'Censorship!' " was posted at newsbusters.org on Sept. 12, 2018.

General interest

- An article by Bre Payton titled "Report: Aborted Baby Body Part Traffickers May Be Raking in U.S. Tax Dollars" was posted at thefederalist.com on Sept. 11, 2018.
- An article by Michael New titled "Sorry, Chelsea Clinton; Research Does Not Show Abortion is Economically Beneficial to Women" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by Laretta Brown titled "Chelsea Clinton: 'As a Deeply Religious Person' I Believe It's 'Unchristian' to End Legal Abortion" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
- An article by Ben Shapiro titled "Nike's Colin Kaepernick Ad Is Ridiculous; He Has Sacrificed Nothing" was posted at newsweek.com on Sept. 4, 2018.

- An article by Britt McHenry titled “Colin Kaepernick Doesn’t Have a Clue About What ‘Sacrificing Everything’ Really Means” was posted at foxnews.com on Sept. 4, 2018.
- An article by Benny Johnson titled “Taya Kyle [Widow of Navy SEAL Chris Kyle] Has a Brutal Message for Colin Kaepernick on What Real ‘Sacrifice’ Means” was posted at dailycaller.com on Sept. 4, 2018.
- An article by Jena Greene titled “Nike’s Stock Hits Shocking Amount [Record \$83.47] After Colin Kaepernick Campaign” was posted at smoke-room.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
- An article by Lydia Mulvany titled “Americans Are Gobbling Up Fake Meat and [Fake] Milk Faster Than Ever” was posted at bloomberg.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
- An article by Sabrina Tavernise titled “Share of U.S. Population Born Abroad Hits a 108-Year Peak” was posted at wral.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
- An article by Janet Levy titled “The Once ‘Golden State’ is Badly Tarnished” was posted at americanthinker.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
- An article by Michael Finch II titled “California’s Poverty Rate is Still the Highest in the Nation, Despite State Efforts” was posted at sacbee.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
- An article by Aryssa Damron titled “More Yale Freshmen Identify As LGBTQ Than Conservative, Survey Finds” was posted at thecollegefix.com on Sept. 12, 2018.
- An article by Jack Hellner titled “Whose Party’s Agenda is Actually Radical and Un-American?” was posted at americanthinker.com on Sept. 13, 2018.
- An article by Donna-Claire Chesman titled “Jay-Z Tops Forbes Hip-Hop’s Highest Earners List With \$76.5 Million” was posted at djbooth.net on Sept. 12, 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.”