

Washington State Fusion Center  
**INFOCUS**

MONDAY – 2 OCT 2017



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## Event Calendar

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Date	Event	Location/Time	Other Information
9-13 Apr 2018	LEIU/IALEIA Training Event	Marriott Hotel, 700 West Convention Way Anaheim, CA 92801 (714) 750-8000	<a href="http://www.ialeia.org/2018_conference.php">http://www.ialeia.org/2018_conference.php</a>
<a href="#">Return to Top</a>	**indicates new event/new information added during reporting week		

## Events, Opportunities

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HEADLINE	09/28 Standing Rock tribal leader voted out
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/sep/28/standing-rock-tribe-votes-out-pipeline-protest-lea/">http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/sep/28/standing-rock-tribe-votes-out-pipeline-protest-lea/</a>
GIST	<p>Dave Archambault II, the tribal chairman who urged activists to “stand with Standing Rock” against the Dakota Access pipeline, has been overwhelmingly defeated in his reelection bid to lead the protest-weary tribe.</p> <p>Mike Faith, a Standing Rock Sioux tribal council member and wildlife official, won the Wednesday election by 63 to 37 percent versus Mr. Archambault in a race that saw about 1,700 votes cast, according to results released Thursday.</p> <p>Mr. Archambault became an international figure in the anti-pipeline movement during the tumultuous 2016 protest against the 1,172-mile, four-state project, which drew thousands of protesters to the remote North Dakota prairie.</p> <p>Mr. Faith, who has served on the tribal council for 18 years, isn’t a pipeline fan—he opposes the project running underneath Lake Oahe about a half-mile from the reservation—but said that the issue drew attention from other pressing tribal needs.</p> <p>“We kind of neglected our own,” Mr. Faith told the Associated Press. “We did what we had to do, but we didn’t realize we were going to hurt our economy that much.”</p> <p>The protest, which kicked into high gear in August 2016 and ended with a massive federal clean-up that wrapped up in March, was aimed at blocking the \$3.8 billion oil pipeline over concerns about water quality and historic relics.</p> <p>It didn’t work—the pipeline went into service in June—but the sometimes violent rolling protests and clashes with law enforcement forced the closure of a nearby highway and bridge, scaring off tourists and making it difficult to reach the tribal casino, a key revenue source for the tribe.</p> <p>“People want to see how we can fix ourselves,” Mr. Faith said. “We have to look at not depending on the casino so much. We have to look at enticing companies to come down here.”</p>

	In a Thursday statement, Mr. Archambault said he would remain active in tribal affairs. He was elected chairman in 2013.
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Damp weather brings relief to wildfires</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/770930/cool-damp-weather-brings-relief-to-us-wildfire-outlook/">http://mynorthwest.com/770930/cool-damp-weather-brings-relief-to-us-wildfire-outlook/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Cool, damp weather has brought relief from wildfires in the northwestern U.S., northern Idaho and western Montana, but the fall fire season is getting underway in Southern California, forecasters said Sunday.</p> <p>The risk of big wildfires will be above average for Southern California through December, the National Interagency Fire Center said in its monthly forecast.</p> <p>The risk is also elevated in central and northeastern Montana through the end of October because of a severe and prolonged drought.</p> <p>The forecast calls for average risk of big wildfires over much of the nation through the end of the year, although parts of the Midwest and South could face elevated danger.</p> <p>Wildfires have burned more than 13,200 square miles (34,000 square kilometers) nationwide this year, putting 2017 on pace to be one of the worst in a decade.</p> <p>The U.S. Forest Service, the nation's primary wildfire-fighting agency, has spent more than \$2 billion on fire suppression this year, a record.</p> <p>The West has been vulnerable because a wet winter produced a dense crop of grass and small trees and a hot spring dried them out, fire managers said. Summer storms brought fire-starting lightning but little rain or even humidity.</p> <p>By Sunday, 13 large fires were burning on 980 square miles (2,500 square kilometers). Oregon had seven large fires, California four, and Idaho and Montana had one each.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Las Vegas mass shooting: 50+ dead</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/las-vegas-strip-shooting-20-dead-100-injured/story?id=50223240&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_takeover_2_column_live_headlines">http://abcnews.go.com/US/las-vegas-strip-shooting-20-dead-100-injured/story?id=50223240&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_takeover_2_column_live_headlines</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>More than 50 people were killed and 200 injured when what appears to be a lone gunman opened fire from a perch high up in the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas Sunday night, police said.</p> <p>The "nonstop gunfire," according to one witness, sent bystanders outside the resort on the Vegas strip ducking for cover and scrambling for their lives. Tourists hid in their hotel rooms and flights headed into the McCarran International Airport were held elsewhere.</p> <p>Bystanders sprang into action, caring for the wounded and at least one described someone dying in their arms.</p> <p>One video showed the terrifying aftermath as the injured lay on stretchers or on the ground with responders and bystanders surrounding them to give aid. Bystanders made makeshift stretchers out of police barricades, plugged wounds with their hands and used their clothing to try to stanch the bleeding from the wounded.</p> <p>Videos filmed by onlookers gave a window into the chaos that ensued, with some thinking that fireworks</p>

were going off. The final night of the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival was taking place across the street from Mandalay Bay. Jason Aldean was the night's headliner; other performers included country stars Jake Owen, Big & Rich, Luke Combs and Dylan Scott.

In the wake of the shooting, the Las Vegas Police Department said the suspected gunman, who was believed to be a local resident, was on 32nd floor of Mandalay Bay hotel. Police responded to the scene, engaged him and he is now dead. Law enforcement officials identified the suspect as 64-year-old Stephen Paddock.

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**HEADLINE** 10/01 Bellevue holds Accessible CERT training

**SOURCE** <http://q13fox.com/2017/10/01/in-a-wheelchair-deaf-no-problem-people-with-disabilities-learning-emergency-response-training-in-bellevue/>

**GIST** BELLEVUE, Wash. – The City of Bellevue, along with other agencies, held an Accessible Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training designed for assisting people with disabilities during emergencies.

On Sunday, an emergency drill was held outdoors putting the training into practice with mock situations involving vulnerable populations.

It looks like a real disaster, people screaming for help, bodies trapped under beds and first responders in hallways, but this disaster drill is helping train people with all abilities that they can help in emergencies.

“You don’t care if you’re rescued by someone in a wheelchair, you just care if you’re rescued. So, everyone whether you’re hard of hearing or low vision, everyone can learn basic skills like putting out a fire with a fire extinguisher, some light search and rescue and triage of someone who is injured,” said Curry Mayer, emergency manager with the City of Bellevue.

Curry says they do CERT trainings annually, but this is the first year they expanded to tailor a few days specifically to people with disabilities.

“It’s really empowering,” said Mayer.

Dozens of people took part in learning skills, all with a wide range of abilities. Carol Butterfield and her training partner Karen worked together to take care of a mock burn victim. Karen is deaf and Carol does not understand sign language. Both of them worked to communicate and assist the person in need.

“The deaf community actually brings in skills that we don’t have. They tend to be better about communication, they are alert to some things that we are sometimes not. They can be very helpful about things that are slipping our mind,” said Butterfield.

Butterfield added one important thing she noted was the masks she was wearing made it impossible for Karen to read her lips. She suggested updating gear to transparent masks.

Firefighters taught this group the basics of putting out small fires and first responders also tested new equipment like drones that can airlift up to three pounds of supplies and drop them to a person in need who can survive with emergency supplies like a walkie-talkie, feminine hygiene products, flashlight, heated blankets and a small amount of water before first responders can reach them.

Curry says everyone has to be prepared to last for two weeks before help arrives. She says this training adds the number of people who can help when disaster strikes.

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HEADLINE	10/01 Puerto Ricans plunge into survival mode
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-puertorico-survival/in-puerto-rico-acute-shortages-plunge-the-masses-into-survival-struggle-idUSKCN1C61SZ">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-puertorico-survival/in-puerto-rico-acute-shortages-plunge-the-masses-into-survival-struggle-idUSKCN1C61SZ</a>
GIST	<p>FAJARDO, Puerto Rico (Reuters) - Brian Jimenez had burned through dwindling supplies of scarce gasoline on a 45-minute drive in search of somewhere to fill his grandmother's blood thinner prescription. He ended up in Fajardo, a scruffy town of strip malls on Puerto Rico's northeastern tip, where a line of 400 waited outside a Walmart.</p> <p>The store had drawn desperate crowds of storm victims who had heard it took credit or debit cards and offered customers \$20 cash back – a lifeline in an increasingly cashless society. Store employees allowed customers in, one by one, for rationed shopping trips of 15 minutes each.</p> <p>Then, at noon, the store closed after its generator croaked and before Jimenez could get inside to buy his grandmother's medicine.</p> <p>“Every day we say, ‘What’s the thing that we need the most today?’ and then we wait in a line for that,” said Jimenez, a 24-year-old medical student from Ponce, on the island’s southern coast.</p> <p>By Saturday, 11 days after Hurricane Maria crippled this impoverished U.S. territory, residents scrambled for all the staples of modern society – food, water, fuel, medicine, currency – in a grinding survival struggle that has gripped Puerto Ricans across social classes.</p> <p>For days now, residents have awoken each morning to decide which lifeline they should pursue: gasoline at the few open stations, food and bottled water at the few grocery stores with fuel for generators, or scarce cash at the few operating banks or ATMs. The pursuit of just one of these essentials can consume an entire day – if the mission succeeds at all – as hordes of increasingly desperate residents wait in 12-hour lines.</p> <p>As criticism mounts about a slow disaster response by President Donald Trump’s administration, residents here in Fajardo said that had seen little if any presence from the federal government. Across the island, the sporadic presence of the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the U.S. military stood in sharp contrast to their comparatively ubiquitous presence after hurricanes Harvey and Irma recently hit Texas and Florida.</p> <p>The severe shortages have thrown even relatively affluent Puerto Ricans into the same plight as the hundreds of thousands of poor residents here. The broad humanitarian crisis highlights the extreme difficulty of getting local or federal disaster relief to a remote U.S. island territory with an already fragile infrastructure and deeply indebted government.</p> <p>Even those here with money to spend now cannot often access it or find places open and supplied to spend it as stores are shuttered for lack of electric power, diesel for generators, supplies or employees.</p> <p>Jimenez’s failed trip to Walmart came after chasing groceries at a store near Yabucoa, near where his grandmother lived. He planned to spend the next day in one of the miles-long gas lines that snake from stations onto highways and up exit ramps.</p> <p>At the beginning of many lines were stations already out of gas - but motorists still waited, hoping a fuel supply truck would eventually arrive.</p> <p>“We wasted gas getting here and going back,” Jimenez said as he watched police usher dejected customers away from Walmart’s entrance. “The gas lines are ridiculous. Fifty cars is wonderful. Most are 100-plus cars.”</p> <p>Another customer turned away from the Walmart, Daniel Santiago, 51, said he had waited in a gas line for 12 hours one day and 14 hours the next. Neither attempt had been successful, so he, his wife and three daughters had walked three miles to the Fajardo shopping complex, where they waited in line for the Econo grocery.</p>

“We have to do this every day,” Santiago said. “Yesterday, we came down walking. The day before that, we walked up a really big hill to try to get a signal to contact our family.”

That had not worked either.

Even before the storm hit and knocked out the island’s dilapidated electric grid - an outage expected to persist for months - Puerto Rico was suffering through a growing economic crisis that dates back to 2006. The island has an unemployment rate more than twice the U.S. national average and a 45 percent poverty rate.

The island had earlier this year filed the biggest bankruptcy in U.S. municipal history in the face of a \$72 billion debt load and near-insolvent public health and pension systems.

In an interview with Reuters on Saturday, Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rossello said relief efforts were still focused almost solely on saving lives; restoring basic necessities to the masses would come later.

“We’re not at the phase where we are focusing on comfort,” Rossello said. “Unfortunately, that’s the current reality that we’re dealing with.”

His team was still scrambling to open roads to communities blocked by landslides, and to deliver food, water, medicines and generators to remote homes and hospitals.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Spain faces constitutional crisis</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-spain-politics-catalonia/spanish-pm-faces-crisis-after-violent-secession-vote-in-catalonia-idUSKCN1C70M2">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-spain-politics-catalonia/spanish-pm-faces-crisis-after-violent-secession-vote-in-catalonia-idUSKCN1C70M2</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SANT PERE DE TORELLO, Spain (Reuters) - Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy faces Spain’s biggest constitutional crisis in decades after Sunday’s violence-marred independence referendum in Catalonia opened the door for its wealthiest region to move for secession as early as this week.</p> <p>The streets of Barcelona, the Catalan capital, were quiet on Monday, but newspaper editorials said the referendum, in which Catalan officials said 90 percent of voters had chosen to leave Spain, had set the stage for a decisive clash between Madrid and the region.</p> <p>“It could all get worse,” the moderate Catalan newspaper La Vanguardia said in an editorial after Spanish police used batons and rubber bullets to disrupt the vote, which had been declared illegal by Madrid. Catalan officials said 840 people had been injured.</p> <p>“We’re entering a phase of strikes and street protests ... and with more movement, more repression.”</p> <p>Catalonia is a center of industry and tourism accounting for a fifth of Spain’s economy, a production base for major multi-nationals from Volkswagen to Nestle, and home to Europe’s fastest-growing sea port. Although it already has extensive autonomy, its tax revenues are crucial to Spain’s state budget.</p> <p>Catalonia’s regional leader, Carles Puigdemont, declared on Sunday that voters had earned the right to independence and said he would present the results to the region’s parliament, which then had the power to move a motion of independence.</p> <p>The referendum has no legal status; it has been blocked by the Madrid government and Constitutional Court for being at odds with the 1978 constitution, which states that Spain cannot be broken up, and there is little sign of support for Catalan independence in any other part of Spain.</p> <p>Puigdemont called an emergency meeting of the Catalan regional government. In Madrid, Rajoy planned</p>

to coordinate next steps in a meeting with Pedro Sanchez, leader of the opposition Socialists.

Puigdemont's comments threw down a challenge to Rajoy, who has the constitutional power to sack the regional government and put Catalonia under central control pending fresh elections.

That would raise tensions further in the region of 7.5 million people, a former principality with its own language and culture, and potentially hurt the resurgent Spanish economy.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 FEMA: Puerto Rico relief 'challenging'</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/puerto-rico-crisis/fema-chief-brock-long-says-puerto-rico-relief-most-logistically-n806401">https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/puerto-rico-crisis/fema-chief-brock-long-says-puerto-rico-relief-most-logistically-n806401</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator Brock Long said Sunday that hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico are the "most logistically challenging event that the United States has ever seen" and defended the federal response.</p> <p>"We're not going to be satisfied until the situation is stabilized and the bottom line is that this is the most logistically challenging event that the United States has ever seen," Long said on "Fox News Sunday. "And we have been moving and pushing as fast as the situation allows."</p> <p>"Every day we make progress. Every day we have setbacks," he added. "For example, you don't just bring the commodities in — you have to be able to pump them down the roadway systems that we have been working desperately to get open."</p> <p>Overall, FEMA said on its website Sunday that "millions of meals and millions of liters of water" had been provided to Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.</p> <p>The agency and its partners have distributed close to 2 million liters of water and 1 million meals throughout Puerto Rico, Alejandro De La Campa, FEMA's federal coordinating officer, said during a teleconference Saturday.</p> <p>On Sunday, De La Campa said that while supplies had been distributed to all of Puerto Rico's 78 municipalities, a series of issues from downed trees on roads to no communication made reached "isolated areas" very difficult.</p> <p>"We have reached the 78 municipalities, at the same time we recognize that we have not been able or the mayors themselves have not been able to reach some of the isolated areas," he said.</p> <p>Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan, a three-star general serving as the Department of Defense's primary liaison to FEMA, said they were dependent on aircraft relief efforts to deliver supplies to some of the hardest to reach areas.</p> <p>Officials also said they hoped to expand the number of regional distribution centers from 11 to 25 or 30 throughout the island.</p> <p>Long defended FEMA's efforts in the wake of the damage caused by both Hurricane Maria a week ago and Irma before that. The agency has helped reopen 11 major highways and 700 out of about 1,100 gas stations in Puerto Rico, he said.</p> <p>He added that compounding the woes of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands was that "in some cases the infrastructure was incredibly fragile."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Mexico quake death toll continues to rise</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/mexico-quake-toll-361-missing-collapsed-building-50214727?">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/mexico-quake-toll-361-missing-collapsed-building-50214727?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The death toll from Mexico's magnitude 7.1 earthquake rose to 361 on Sunday after another casualty was confirmed in the capital, where a search continued at a collapsed seven-story office building in a central neighborhood.</p> <p>National Civil Defense chief Luis Felipe Puente reported on Twitter that the dead include 220 people killed in Mexico City by the Sept. 19 quake. The rest were in Morelos, Puebla and three other states.</p> <p>The toll has continued to climb gradually nearly two weeks after the earthquake as bodies keep being pulled from the rubble — though nearly all the collapse sites have been cleared by now in Mexico City.</p> <p>Mayor Miguel Angel Mancera said eight people were still believed to be missing inside the wreckage of the office building, one of 38 structures that toppled in the capital.</p> <p>Rescuers "continue to work intensely" at the site, Mancera said in a Sunday briefing on rescue and recovery efforts.</p> <p>He also confirmed the latest figure of 220 dead in his city and said all but one had been identified. Female victims outnumbered male victims 136 to 84, and 29 of the dead were children.</p> <p>Mancera said 25 people remained hospitalized, including four whose condition was given as "red" and 21 listed as "yellow."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Egypt fears disaster from a dam</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/existing-nile-egypt-fears-disaster-dam-50223373">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/existing-nile-egypt-fears-disaster-dam-50223373</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The only reason Egypt has even existed from ancient times until today is because of the Nile River, which provides a thin, richly fertile stretch of green through the desert. For the first time, the country fears a potential threat to that lifeline, and it seems to have no idea what to do about it.</p> <p>Ethiopia is finalizing construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, its first major dam on the Blue Nile, and then will eventually start filling the giant reservoir behind it to power the largest hydroelectric dam in Africa.</p> <p>Egypt fears that will cut into its water supply, destroying parts of its precious farmland, hampering its large desert reclamation projects and squeezing its burgeoning population of 93 million people, who already face water shortages.</p> <p>Dam construction on international rivers often causes disputes over the downstream impact. But the Nile is different: few nations rely so completely on a single river as much as Egypt does. The Nile provides over 90 percent of Egypt's water supply. Almost the entire population lives cramped in the sliver of the Nile Valley. Around 60 percent of Egypt's Nile water originates in Ethiopia from the Blue Nile, one of two main tributaries.</p> <p>Egypt barely gets by with the water it does have. Because of its population, it has one of the lowest per capita shares of water in the world, some 660 cubic meters a person. The strain is further worsened by widespread inefficiency and waste. With the population on a path to double in 50 years, shortages are predicted to become severe even sooner, by 2025.</p> <p>That is despite the fact that Egypt already receives the lion's share of Nile waters: more than 55 billion of the around 88 billion cubic meters of water that flow down the river each year. It is promised that amount under agreements from 1929 and 1959 that other Nile nations say are unfair and ignore the needs of their</p>



	<p>own large populations.</p> <p>Complicating the issue, no one has a clear idea what impact Ethiopia's dam will actually have. Addis Ababa says it will not cause significant harm to Egypt or Sudan downstream.</p> <p>Much depends on management of the flow and how fast Ethiopia fills its reservoir, which can hold 74 billion cubic meters of water. A faster fill means blocking more water at once, while doing it slowly would mean less reduction downstream.</p> <p>Once the fill is completed, the flow would in theory return to its previous levels, but the fear in Egypt is that the damage from the fill years could be long-lasting or that Ethiopia could build more dams and hold Egypt hostage by continuing to reduce the flow.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 India: Pakistan firing kills boy, teen girl</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/india-pakistan-firing-kills-boy-injures-kashmir-50222836?">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/india-pakistan-firing-kills-boy-injures-kashmir-50222836?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Indian and Pakistani troops fired at each other in the disputed Kashmir region Monday, killing a 10-year-old boy and 15-year-old girl and injuring nine other civilians on the Indian side, officials said.</p> <p>The boy and girl were killed in a firing by Pakistani soldiers in the Poonch sector on the Indian-administered side of Kashmir, police said.</p> <p>Police said the injured included a 5-year-old girl.</p> <p>Indian military spokesman Col. Nitin Joshi said Pakistani soldiers targeted several posts with automatic gunfire and mortar shells and the Indian army was "retaliating strongly and effectively."</p> <p>He called Pakistan's firing an unprovoked violation of the 2003-ceasefire accord between the two nuclear-armed rivals.</p> <p>Pakistan had no immediate comment on Monday's firings.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Catalonia independence vote marred by violence</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/catalans-assemble-polling-stations-defying-police-orders-50206958?cid=clicksource_4380645_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/catalans-assemble-polling-stations-defying-police-orders-50206958?cid=clicksource_4380645_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Catalonia's regional government declared a landslide win for the "yes" side in a disputed referendum on independence from Spain that degenerated into mayhem Sunday, with more than 800 people injured as riot police attacked peaceful protesters and unarmed civilians trying to cast their ballots.</p> <p>Catalonia has "won the right to become an independent state," Catalan president Carles Puigdemont said after the polls closed, adding that he would keep his pledge to declare independence unilaterally if the "yes" side wins.</p> <p>"Today the Spanish state wrote another shameful page in its history with Catalonia," Puigdemont added, saying he would appeal to the European Union to look into alleged human rights violations during the vote.</p> <p>Catalan regional government spokesman Jordi Turull told reporters early Monday that 90 percent of the 2.26 million Catalans who voted chose the "yes" side in favor of independence. He said nearly 8 percent of voters rejected independence and the rest of the ballots were blank or void. He said 15,000 votes were still</p>

	<p>being counted.</p> <p>The region has 5.3 million registered voters, and Turull said the number of ballots didn't include those confiscated by Spanish police during violent raids that aimed to stop the vote.</p> <p>No one knows what will happen if Catalan officials follow through on their pledge to use the vote as a basis for declaring independence, a provocation that would possible remove from Spain one of its most prosperous regions, including the coastal city of Barcelona, the regional capital.</p> <p>Hundreds of police armed with truncheons and rubber bullets were sent in from other regions to confiscate ballots and stop the voting, and amateur video showed some officers dragging people out of polling stations by the hair, throwing some down stairs, kicking them and pushing them to the ground. Anguished, frightened screams could be heard.</p> <p>Police were acting on a judge's orders to stop the referendum, which the Spanish government had declared illegal and unconstitutional — and Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said going forward with the vote only served to sow divisions.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Racial justice march in Olympia</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.theolympian.com/news/local/article176392041.html">http://www.theolympian.com/news/local/article176392041.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A crowd of 150 demonstrators gathered at Heritage Park in Olympia on Saturday to call for an end to racial injustice and deadly shootings by police.</p> <p>Some held signs that read “Justice for all,” “End police brutality” and “People of quality don’t fear equality.” The march through downtown to the Capitol coincided with the larger March for Racial Justice in Washington D.C. on Saturday and similar events held across the country over the weekend.</p> <p>James Bowman, 34, marched holding a “Black Lives Matter” sign. Bowman, who is black, said he has been profiled by police since he was a child growing up in Olympia.</p> <p>“Police follow me, pull me over, target me for no reason,” he said. “One of these days I’m afraid I’m going to get pulled over and I’m not going to go home to my family.”</p> <p>Olympia’s march was organized by De-Escalate Washington, which is proposing an initiative that would require law enforcement officers receive violence de-escalation and mental health training. It would also change the state’s law that makes it difficult to charge officers involved in fatal shootings.</p> <p>A similar proposed initiative failed to get on the ballot last year.</p> <p>Joyce Dorsey spoke before the march. Her son Che Taylor was shot and killed by Seattle police in 2016.</p> <p>“If we want something different, we have to do something different,” Dorsey told the crowd. “It will hit your home if we don’t do something. It will be in your community if we don’t do something.”</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Supreme Court docket: 5 policing cases</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/10/supreme-court-carpenier-cases/541524/">https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/10/supreme-court-carpenier-cases/541524/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The U.S. Supreme Court is back in more ways than one. Monday marks the first time in two years that nine justices have started a new term, and the Court has a full slate of high-profile cases to resolve. In addition to hearing arguments on LGBT rights and organized labor, the Court will weigh in on several major criminal-justice issues, from digital privacy and vehicle searches to qualified immunity and plea</p>

bargains. And like a fresh instrument joining a familiar orchestra, the newest justice could change the tune of those around him on these subjects.

This term will be different. It's the first full one to include Justice Neil Gorsuch, who took his seat in April, midway through the 2016-2017 term and far too late to have any significant sway in its direction. The justices saw fewer marquee cases than in years past, largely because the eight-member Court had avoided major legal issues where it might reach a 4-4 deadlock.

Here, a breakdown of the five criminal-justice cases that are already on the docket...

### **When Can Cops Access Cellphone Location Data?**

None of the cases loom larger than *Carpenter v. United States*, a long-awaited showdown on digital privacy and the Fourth Amendment. Police arrested the titular defendant, Timothy Carpenter, and his associates for allegedly robbing electronics stores in Michigan and Ohio in 2011. To build the case against them, federal prosecutors obtained historical cellphone location records from telecommunications companies. These records, compiled from the phones' interactions with cell towers, allowed investigators to recreate the digital footprints of Carpenter's device, and presumably his real-life footprints with it.

The catch: Officers didn't get a warrant first, relying instead on a provision in the federal Stored Communications Act that only requires them to have a reasonable suspicion that a crime has taken place—a lower threshold than is usually needed for searches. The records they obtained placed Carpenter near the scene of some of the robberies when they occurred. At trial, he sought to exclude that evidence because it had been obtained without a warrant.

Lower courts disagreed, citing what's known as the third-party doctrine to uphold the records search. The doctrine states that Americans have no expectation of privacy when they share data with a third party, and therefore the Fourth Amendment's typical restrictions on searches and seizures don't apply. Its origins date back to *Smith v. Maryland*, a 1976 case in which the Court upheld the use of a pen register—an old surveillance device that tracked a phone's outgoing numbers—because the suspect freely volunteered those numbers to phone companies to make calls.

But technology has slightly changed since then. Elizabeth Joh, a University of California, Davis, law professor who studies policing and surveillance, told me most people don't realize the data they create when using everyday devices could someday be used against them by law enforcement. In fact, they probably don't know much about their data at all. "Number one, we're not really aware most of the time how much information we're providing to these third parties," Joh said. "And number two, it's really hard to think of that as a voluntary act, because frankly it's impossible to live a normal life without providing this kind of locational information."

Nevertheless, the doctrine is still a core part of Fourth Amendment case law, even as phones became mobile supercomputers over the past 15 years. This incongruity hasn't gone unnoticed by scholars and judges. In *United States v. Jones*, a 2012 case in which the Court ruled that warrantless GPS tracking violates the Fourth Amendment, Justice Sonia Sotomayor wrote in a concurrence that the doctrine was "ill-suited" for modern life.

Whatever ruling the Court hands down in the case will shape the legal implications of new technologies for years to come. *Carpenter* revolves around cellphones, but in a digital age where even coffeemakers and alarm clocks can swap data with their manufacturers, its implications will be vast. Joh pointed to the autonomous car, which is under development in Silicon Valley and could be in mass production in the next decade.

"When you think about it, that's just another giant, quasi-voluntary transmission of information you're going to be providing to Tesla or whatever company," she said. "Is that going to be a case where the police will say, 'Well, we don't need a warrant because the driver decided to give all that information to Tesla or

another carmaker?” The Court’s ruling in *Carpenter*, she added, “will provide an answer, one way or another, to what I think is going to be a very important question.”

### **When Can Cops Search a Person’s Car?**

The Court added two more Fourth Amendment cases in its first orders of the new term on Thursday, both of which involve automobile searches. Generally speaking, courts have long ruled that drivers have a reduced expectation of privacy when they’re traveling by car. As a result, officers typically don’t need a warrant to execute a search of a car so long as they have probable cause to believe it contains evidence of a crime. The Supreme Court traditionally interprets “automobile” to broadly include vehicles like trucks, motor homes, motorcycles, and so forth.

In *Collins v. Virginia*, the Court will ponder whether the automobile exception applies to an unoccupied vehicle parked in a person’s driveway. An officer in Virginia approached the house of petitioner Ryan Collins’s girlfriend in 2013 while investigating a motorcyclist who’d eluded him and his partner in two high-speed chases. They believed Collins to be responsible. Sitting in the driveway behind a car they saw a motorcycle covered by a tarp. The officer walked onto the property, lifted the tarp, and ran the vehicle identification number, which matched that of a stolen bike from New York.

Officers then arrested Collins for possessing stolen goods. At trial, he asked the court to suppress evidence taken during the officer’s trespass onto the property, arguing it went beyond the automobile exception’s limits. The trial court, the Virginia Court of Appeals, and the Virginia Supreme Court all disagreed with the request and ruled that the exception applies on private property. If the U.S. Supreme Court follows that pattern, it would give police officers broader leeway to search cars, trucks, and other vehicles on private property for evidence of a crime.

The other automobile-related case, *Byrd v. United States*, explores whether a driver has a reasonable expectation of privacy in a rental car when they’re not the one who rented it. After Terrence Byrd’s girlfriend rented a car for him in 2014, he was pulled over in Pennsylvania for driving suspiciously. State troopers searched his car without a warrant and found heroin and body armor in the trunk. The Third Circuit, which covers Pennsylvania, rejected the argument and ruled he had no expectation of privacy because he wasn’t a listed driver. Other federal courts have reached the opposite conclusion in similar cases, creating an incongruity that the Supreme Court will have to resolve.

### **When Can a Person Sue the Police?**

The Court will also tackle when police officers can lawfully make arrests in *District of Columbia v. Welby*. The city government is appealing lower-court rulings against its police officers for a series of arrests they made at a house party in 2008. Neighbors had alerted police to a vacant house where they found more than two dozen people loudly partying. The house itself lacked furnishings or any other signs of habitation, but partygoers told them they had been invited by a new resident known only to them as “Peaches,” who wasn’t there. The officers were skeptical and investigated further.

When they contacted the property’s owner, he told them nobody had permission to be inside. Those present insisted they thought “Peaches” rightfully lived there. Twenty-one were arrested, and after prosecutors declined to bring charges, 16 of them sued the police department. Both the district court and the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals sided with the partygoers, who argued the police didn’t have probable cause to detain them. The courts ruled that the officers were liable for the unlawful arrest because D.C. law had long required proof that trespassers knew they were doing so against an owner’s will.

At first glance, it might seem strange for the Court to involve itself in the minutiae of a local trespassing case. But the justices will have to delve into an increasingly controversial legal issue along the way in *Welby*: qualified immunity. Government officials—including police officers—are generally immune from personal lawsuits for acts they commit while on the job, but there’s an exception if they violate a person’s civil rights in the course of their official duties.

Qualified immunity is an exception to that exception: If the official's actions didn't violate "clearly established" law or policy at the time, they are still immune from being sued in a personal capacity. More often than not, that threshold favors the officials instead of those whose rights may have been violated. Years of Supreme Court precedents have bolstered the doctrine to the point where some legal experts now believe it's far too difficult for Americans to seek redress for official wrongdoing.

But a glimmer of light emerged last term for qualified-immunity critics. In *Ziglar v. Abbasi*, a labyrinthine case on post-9/11 detention of non-citizens, Justice Clarence Thomas wrote a concurring opinion wondering aloud whether the Court's qualified-immunity jurisprudence should be revisited. Among the articles he cited was an influential analysis by University of Chicago law professor William Baude, who argued the doctrine lacked historical or statutory foundations and that the Court "ought to be beating a retreat" away from it. The ACLU filed an amicus brief in *Welby* raising similar concerns, making it the first case to test whether Thomas and his colleagues will heed Baude's advice.

### **Can Defendants Who Plead Guilty Challenge Their Sentences?**

Finally, in *Class v. United States*, the justices will ponder an unusual legal question: If a defendant pleads guilty to a crime, does he or she lose the right to challenge that crime's constitutionality? Bringing the case before the Court is Rodney Class, a retired veteran who parked his Jeep within the outer limits of the U.S. Capitol grounds without realizing it in 2013.

When Class returned to his parking spot after visiting House and Senate buildings, he discovered a group of Capitol Police officers scrutinizing his vehicle because it lacked the proper parking permit. Officers said he told them he was a "constitutional bounty hunter" and a "private attorney general" who hoped to enforce federal law against federal judges he believed violated the Constitution. During the encounter, he informed the officers that he had three lawfully owned firearms securely stored in the Jeep out of sight. Capitol Police then arrested him for bringing weapons onto the grounds, which is a federal offense.

Class, who mostly represented himself, initially argued in court that his arrest violated the Second Amendment and that he hadn't been properly notified that guns were forbidden in the parking lot. The court rejected both arguments. After the judge issued a bench warrant against Class for failing to appear at a hearing, he made a deal with prosecutors to plead guilty to the original charges in exchange for them dropping the failure-to-appear charge. He then asked the D.C. Circuit to overturn the sentence on the same grounds as before. The appellate court rejected his claims by ruling that Class had waived his right to challenge his arrest when he accepted a plea agreement.

What makes Class's case significant is the central role of the plea bargain in the modern American criminal-justice system. The courtroom trials of film and television are largely vanished, with deals between prosecutors and those they prosecute replacing them. At least 95 percent of federal criminal cases are resolved through plea agreements; experts believe the rate is similar in the 50 states as well. How the Supreme Court resolves this case could potentially impact how plea bargains are crafted throughout the country.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 WA farmers safeguard migrant workers</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://crosscut.com/2017/09/washington-migrant-workers-farmers-immigration-raids-skagit-valley-ice/">http://crosscut.com/2017/09/washington-migrant-workers-farmers-immigration-raids-skagit-valley-ice/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	SKAGIT VALLEY, Wash. — The squeaky crunch of fresh kale leaves being picked breaks the early morning silence at Ralph's Greenhouse vegetable farm, about 3 miles southwest of Mt. Vernon. A team of 14 workers has just arrived in an old converted school bus, exchanging morning pleasantries in Spanish and several indigenous Mexican languages as they begin the day's work. Within less than an hour, the acre-sized patch has been harvested, weeded and prepared for new growth.  Ray De Vries, longtime owner of the farm (and son of Ralph) says that he is continually amazed by the

speed and expertise of these workers.

“Contrary to popular belief, farming is a skilled trade, no different than an electrician or a plumber,” says De Vries. “These farm workers make farms work. ... We wouldn’t be able to get done what we need to without them.”

According to the most recent Washington State Farmworker Survey, almost half of the farm workers in the Skagit Valley are migrants from Mexico. They play a major role in the region’s \$300 million agricultural industry, as experienced field workers, irrigation specialists, seed experts and mechanics.

But they also face increased threats under new leadership at the federal level — threats that have forced farmers like De Vries to get creative.

Under the more aggressive immigration enforcement policies enacted by the Trump administration, migrant farmworkers with no criminal records are being arrested twice as often as last year, according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). It has only exacerbated a shortage of skilled farm labor in the Valley.

“What we have is a highly skilled labor force and no good way to get them here,” De Vries says. “To me, these random changes in policy don’t make sense.”

An immigrant himself, having moved to the United States from the Netherlands as a child, De Vries has tried using the government’s only legal temporary and seasonal worker immigration program, known as the H2A Visa. The heavily regulated system nearly bankrupted him.

“You’re supposed to estimate so many months ahead of time how many workers you’ll need, then you have to pay for their transportation and you’ve got to house them while they’re here. It’s expensive,” says De Vries.

But weather and fluctuating demand can quickly change a farmer’s labor needs, leaving him or her with workers to house and feed but a crop that’s not ready to harvest.

De Vries says he keeps required records on all of his employees and has complied with more frequent ICE check-ins and audits. But he knows the Valley’s agricultural system could not function without undocumented workers.

“It’s really difficult to find, say, a hundred berry pickers when you need them. But those farmers have to make that harvest or they don’t turn a profit... so we need some common sense here folks.”

De Vries — now in his 60s — has seen several waves of immigration contribute to this rich agricultural area, including the one that brought him and his family here from the Netherlands when he was a schoolboy. So when he saw the way new immigration policies were impacting workers and their families, he decided to do something about it.

Out of concern for the valley’s many seasonal workers and their families, as well as for the future of his business, he made a number of changes on the farm to be able to keep migrant workers from having to move with the harvest seasons.

“We grow mostly cold-weather crops — leeks, beets, kale, chard. The goal is to provide year-round employment for the people that work with us, so that determines — to a large extent — the crops that we grow.”

De Vries has also partnered with other farmers in the area to coordinate crop harvests and scheduling needs, making sure that families don’t have to resort to moving out of state to make ends meet.

“The rest of us don’t want to move from temporary job to temporary job. Why should experienced farm

	<p>workers?” asks De Vries. “You gotta uproot the whole family, move them off to a new area... your kids have to start a new school, all the money you saved from the last job is spent on the trip and you’re always working hand-to-mouth.”</p> <p>While several other Skagit Valley producers have been linked to controversies surrounding farm worker living conditions and treatment, De Vries has been able to provide steady work and a better quality of life to many of his workers.</p> <p>An added bonus: They’re less likely to accidentally fall into the hands of immigration officials.</p> <p>De Vries, for his part, insists that he is following the law to the letter and he has seen few arrests at the farm this year. But in the Skagit Valley, Ralph’s Greenhouse is the exception rather than the rule. Arrests, detentions and surprise sweeps continue to rise.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Health insurance exchange rates to rise</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/states-health-insurance-exchange-rates-to-increase-by-24-percent/616751588">http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/states-health-insurance-exchange-rates-to-increase-by-24-percent/616751588</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p><b>SEATTLE</b> - The board for Washington's health-insurance exchange has approved an average rate increase of 24 percent, the largest premium increase since the exchange began in 2013.</p> <p>The Washington Health Benefit Exchange board approved the rate increase this week.</p> <p><u>The Seattle Times reports</u> about 180,000 customers will be affected.</p> <p>Health exchange spokesman Michael Marchand says the increase is primarily due to rising costs for prescription drugs.</p> <p>Last year, rate increases averaged 11 percent. In 2016, the rate rose by 4 percent and in 2015, it rose by 1 percent.</p> <p>Customers can also expect fewer insurance providers to choose from going into 2018. King, Pierce and Snohomish counties each lost three providers and Kitsap County lost one.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 DOL rules Metro bus drivers back pay</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/metro-bus-drivers-to-receive-64-million-in-back-pay/616634681">http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/metro-bus-drivers-to-receive-64-million-in-back-pay/616634681</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Metro bus drivers will receive \$6.4 million in back pay after King County Metro broke federal labor rules.</p> <p>The Department of Labor handed down the decision after nearly 150 complaints from drivers about not getting paid for their work.</p> <p>One of the issues had to do with the pre-trip bus inspections the drivers are required to do before they head out of the bus barn in Seattle’s SoDo area.</p> <p>The Department of Labor ruled Metro wasn't paying the drivers enough for that work.</p> <p>For years, the practice has been to pay drivers for 10 minutes of pre-trip preparations. But more than 100 drivers filed a complaint, saying the inspections take longer than that, so they have to get started before their shift begins.</p> <p>There were other payroll violations as well -- not paying drivers overtime when they were called in for</p>

	<p>meetings with supervisors or had to fill out reports.</p> <p>The general manager for King County Metro, Rob Gannon, says when the complaints were filed, they cooperated with the investigation.</p> <p>Under the ruling, 2,403 current and former Metro bus drivers will be paid between \$44 and \$8,500 next month, depending on how many hours they worked.</p> <p>The back pay only covers the last two years.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 US Virgin Islands devastated by Maria</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/us-virgin-islands-ruins-hurricane-maria/story?">http://abcnews.go.com/International/us-virgin-islands-ruins-hurricane-maria/story?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Along with Puerto Rico, Hurricane Maria left the U.S. Virgin Islands in ruins after it roared through the Caribbean last week.</p> <p>Before making landfall as a Category 4 hurricane in Puerto Rico on Sept. 20, Maria ravaged St. Croix, the largest of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Although there were no reports of casualties, the storm unleashed powerful winds and heavy rainfall, tearing off roofs, downing trees and decimating the communications and power grid across the island, according to the U.S. Virgin Islands Emergency Operations Center.</p> <p>Two other main islands, St. John and St. Thomas, were pummeled by Hurricane Irma just 14 days earlier. The back-to-back storms delivered a one-two punch in the Caribbean territory, known for its white sand beaches.</p> <p>The U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Tourism urged people wanting to visit to postpone their trips while authorities assess the damage and the islands recover from both storms.</p> <p>"The past 24 hours have been difficult and exhausting for the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands, especially our friends, family, neighbors and communities on St. Croix," U.S. Virgin Islands Gov. Kenneth Mapp said in a statement as the storm passed. "After touring damaged neighborhoods across St. Croix, my prayer is for renewed strength and resolve to rebuild all of our islands in the wake of these two terrible storms."</p> <p>Elaine Duke, acting secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Secretary, said both the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico are now facing "total devastation."</p> <p>"We had zero power and it's going to take a long time to restore the power grid, and we don't have the adjacent areas from which to deploy like we did in [Hurricane] Katrina," Duke said Tuesday during a press briefing at the White House.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Florida segregates homeless in shelters?</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/yellow-wristbands-segregation-florida-homeless-irma-50180247">http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/yellow-wristbands-segregation-florida-homeless-irma-50180247</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Shelby Hoogendyk says that when she, her husband and her 17-month-old son arrived at an emergency shelter as Hurricane Irma closed in, they were separated from others by yellow wristbands and told to stay in an area with other people like them — the homeless.</p> <p>Sheriff's deputies, she says, told them the wristbands were prompted by problems that arose among homeless people at the shelter during <u>Hurricane Matthew</u> a year earlier.</p> <p>"We were treated like we were guilty criminals," Hoogendyk says.</p>



In the storm's wake, homeless people and their advocates are complaining that some of them were turned away, segregated from the others, denied cots and food, deprived of medication refills and doctors' visits, or otherwise ill-treated during the evacuation.

Many of the complaints have been blamed on misunderstandings, the sheer magnitude of the disaster, the crush of people needing shelter immediately, or inadequate state and local emergency planning.

All told, a record 72,000 Floridians sought refuge from the hurricane in early September at nearly 400 shelters. The response varied widely by county.

In Miami, over 700 homeless were picked up and taken to shelters. In Collier County, the sheriff sent officers into homeless encampments in the woods to bring people to a shelter. But in Polk County, Sheriff Grady Judd warned that any evacuees with warrants against them and all sex offenders seeking shelter would be taken to jail. And in Volusia County, some officials were accused of turning homeless evacuees away from shelters without explanation.

"Communities were all dealing with the fallout of not having very comprehensive planning in place to deal with this population," said Kirsten Anderson, litigation director at Southern Legal Counsel, a nonprofit public interest law firm in Florida.

She said if a shelter discriminated against people based on their economic status, it could be a violation of federal law that protects people in federal disaster zones.

In Hoogendyk's case, St. Johns County Sheriff David Shoar and school officials who ran the shelter at Pedro Menendez High vigorously denied segregating the homeless, saying the yellow wristbands were simply used to identify people with "special needs" — substance abuse problems, mental illness or other "frailties" — who needed to be closer to the bathrooms.

But Hoogendyk said neither she nor her husband claimed any special needs when they checked in. Other homeless people said they, too, were automatically issued the yellow wristbands, while others around them got blue or other colors denoting them as part of the "general population."

While insisting homeless people were not singled out, the sheriff also said that the homeless population has "a disproportionate representation of those with mental illness, substance abuse problems and, quite frankly, those with criminal backgrounds."

Sheriff's spokesman Cmdr. Chuck Mulligan said that last year, during Hurricane Matthew, there were numerous arguments, fights and instances of drunkenness among homeless people at the shelter.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 State Dept. issues Cuba travel warning</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/us-orders-withdrawal-personnel-cuba-embassy-specific-attacks/story?id=50179375">http://abcnews.go.com/International/us-orders-withdrawal-personnel-cuba-embassy-specific-attacks/story?id=50179375</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The U.S. is warning the American public against travel to Cuba and cutting more than half the staff of its embassy in Havana following mysterious attacks, including some that have caused symptoms suggesting a sonic assault.</p> <p>The State Department says 21 embassy employees have been “targeted in specific attacks” and that the withdrawal of all nonessential personnel and all family members from U.S. diplomatic offices in Havana aims to reduce the number of American personnel at risk of exposure.</p> <p>U.S. officials are also warning Americans about traveling to Cuba.</p>

	<p>"The department has issued a travel warning advising U.S. citizens to avoid travel to Cuba and informing them of our decision to draw down our diplomatic staff," Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said in a statement.</p> <p>Tillerson said the U.S. has no reports of private U.S. citizens being affected by the attacks.</p> <p>"But the attacks are known to have occurred in U.S. diplomatic residences and hotels frequented by U.S. citizens," he said in the statement.</p> <p>The U.S. will also halt all official delegations to Cuba and limit short-term travel to only that needed for the investigation, crucial embassy operations, or national security purposes.</p> <p>The embassy in Havana will continue to carry out core functions, but routine visa issuances to people seeking to go to the U.S. will be suspended indefinitely.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Large wildfire burns in Douglas Co.</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://komonews.com/news/local/large-wildfire-burns-in-douglas-county">http://komonews.com/news/local/large-wildfire-burns-in-douglas-county</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>DOUGLAS COUNTY, Wash. -- A large wildfire is burning in Douglas County about 12 miles east of Coulee City, according to the Grant County Sheriff's Office.</p> <p>According to the Sheriff's Office, state mobilization has been requested, but Saturday night officials said the news was better than thought and that the fire was 4,000 acres, not the 15,000 estimated earlier in the day.</p> <p>Wind is reportedly blowing east. Fewer than 10 homes are threatened, but fighters are protecting the homes and other structures, according to the Sheriff's Office.</p> <p>Six agencies are reportedly on the scene.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Health officials urge flu vaccinations</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://komonews.com/news/local/as-flu-season-approaches-health-officials-urge-people-to-get-vaccinated">http://komonews.com/news/local/as-flu-season-approaches-health-officials-urge-people-to-get-vaccinated</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SEATTLE -- The air is getting colder, the leaves are turning and the tissues are about to come out.</p> <p>Health officials are urging people to get their flu shot this season.</p> <p>Judging by what Australia has already gone through during their flu season this year, officials predict this year's flu season may be a bad one.</p> <p>One in five Americans are expected to get the flu this year, according to officials.</p> <p>Earlier this week at Virginia Mason Medical Center, officials were trying to boost the number of people who get their flu vaccines.</p> <p>"Every year it's a challenge to get people to their flu vaccines, but it is the single most important thing you can do to try and keep from getting the flu," doctor Christopher Baliga said.</p> <p>According to the Centers for Disease Control, only 47 percent of people got a flu shot last season.</p> <p>Clinics ranging from free to a small price for a flu shot pop up all over this time of year.</p>

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Calif. pot legalization grows govt. jobs</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-pot-jobs-20170930-story.html">http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-pot-jobs-20170930-story.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Scientists. Tax collectors. Typists. Analysts. Lawyers. And more scientists.</p> <p>Recreational marijuana use becomes legal in California in 2018, and one of the things to blossom in the emerging industry isn't green and leafy, it's government jobs.</p> <p>The state is on a hiring binge to fill what eventually will be hundreds of new government positions by 2019 intended to bring order to the legal pot economy, from keeping watch on what's seeping into streams near cannabis grows to running background checks on storefront sellers who want government licenses. Thousands of additional jobs are expected to be added by local governments.</p> <p>The swiftly expanding bureaucracy represents just one aspect of the complex challenge faced by California: Come January, the state will unite its longstanding medical cannabis industry with the newly legalized recreational one, creating what will be the United States' largest legal pot economy.</p> <p>Last January, just 11 full-time workers were part of what's now known as the Bureau of Cannabis Control, the state's chief regulatory agency overseeing the pot market. Now, it's more than doubled, and by February the agency expects to have more than 100 staffers.</p> <p>The agency is moving into new offices later this year, having outgrown its original quarters. It's expected new satellite offices will eventually spread around the state.</p> <p>There also will be scores of jobs added to issue licenses for sellers, growers, truck drivers, manufacturers and others working in the projected \$7-billion industry. The state has taken to Facebook to lure applicants.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Puerto Rico oversight board: need more aid</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-puertorico-board/puerto-rico-oversight-board-asks-washington-for-more-aid-for-island-idUSKCN1C50SU">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-puertorico-board/puerto-rico-oversight-board-asks-washington-for-more-aid-for-island-idUSKCN1C50SU</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>(Reuters) - Members of the board in charge of resolving Puerto Rico's debt crisis met this week with Trump administration officials and members of the U.S. Congress to ask for more financial assistance for the hurricane-struck island, the panel said on Saturday.</p> <p>Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory that filed for the biggest-ever U.S. local government bankruptcy in May, was devastated when Hurricane Maria struck the Caribbean island 11 days ago, wiping out power, water and communications systems.</p> <p>The Financial Oversight and Management Board, named in August to resolve the island's debt and economic crisis, said in a statement that Puerto Rico needs money to address the immediate humanitarian crisis as well as rebuild its destroyed infrastructure.</p> <p>In the meetings this week in Washington, board members asked for caps on individual aid programs to be lifted and local government cost-sharing requirements to be waived.</p> <p>"Puerto Rico has been devastated by Hurricane Maria," Jose Carrion, the board's chairman, said in a statement. "In every meeting we had this week we were asked what more can be done."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Thousands Hong Kong protest rule of law</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-anniversary-hongkong/tens-of-thousands-march-to-defend-hong-kongs-rule-of-law-against-china-idUSKCN1C6196">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-anniversary-hongkong/tens-of-thousands-march-to-defend-hong-kongs-rule-of-law-against-china-idUSKCN1C6196</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>HONG KONG (Reuters) - Tens of thousands marched in China-ruled Hong Kong on Sunday in an “anti authoritarian rule” march that called for the resignation of the city’s top legal official over the recent jailing of young democracy activists.</p> <p>The march, an annual fixture over the past few years on China’s October 1 National Day, comes at a time of nascent disillusionment with Hong Kong’s once vaunted judiciary.</p> <p>“Without democracy, how can we have the rule of law,” the crowds yelled as they marched through sporadic downpours, from a muddy pitch to the city’s harbor-front government headquarters.</p> <p>Organizers estimated about 40,000 people joined the march.</p> <p>Many protesters, some clad in black, expressed dismay with Hong Kong’s Secretary of Justice, Rimsky Yuen, who Reuters reported had over-ruled several other senior public prosecutors to seek jail terms for three prominent democrats: Joshua Wong, Nathan Law and Alex Chow.</p> <p>“We believe he (Yuen) has been the key orchestrator in destroying Hong Kong’s justice,” said Avery Ng, one of the organizers of the rally that drew a coalition of some 50 civil and political groups.</p> <p>Around one hundred Hong Kong activists are now facing possible jail terms for various acts of mostly democratic advocacy including the “Umbrella Revolution” in late 2014 that saw tens of thousands of people block major roads for 79 days in a push for universal suffrage.</p> <p>While the October 1 march is a regular annual fixture, this was the first time the rule of law has been scrutinized like this, with the judiciary -- a legacy of the British Common Law system -- long considered one of the best in Asia and a cornerstone of Hong Kong’s economic success.</p> <p>“It’s like mainland (Chinese) laws have intruded into Hong Kong,” said Alex Ha, a teacher of classical guitar, who was walking alone in the crowd.</p> <p>The World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Index last week downgraded Hong Kong’s judicial independence ranking by five spots to number 13 in the world.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 States push control boundaries over cities</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/cities-have-good-idea-not-unless-state-says-so-n805951">https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/cities-have-good-idea-not-unless-state-says-so-n805951</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>When Arizona passed a sweeping measure last year prohibiting all cities within the state from taking any action contrary to state laws, Republican lawmakers said it was about getting everyone on the same page.</p> <p>Arizona's city leaders — most of them Democrats — saw handcuffs.</p> <p>The measure, which critics have called "the mother of all 'preemption' laws," was a first-of-its-kind law that allowed the state government to withhold funds from cities, counties and municipalities that pass any laws, regulations or ordinances that violate any state law.</p> <p>It's spread well beyond Arizona.</p> <p>"It feels a lot like a lot like being forced into submission, like we're being bullied," said Andrew Gillum, the mayor of Tallahassee, Florida, a Democrat. "It's a fight of blue cities versus red states. They now want to punish people for simply exercising their democratic rights, a new frontier."</p>

Historically, preemption laws have intended to nullify local laws or ordinances. But in recent years, conservative-controlled state Legislatures have used such laws to thwart cities in ways large and small, including minimum wage legislation, fracking and even plastic bag bans.

Proponents of preemption laws say they're simply trying to bring regulations within their states under control, in ways that comply with their state constitutions.

"Framers of state constitutions, certainly the framers of the Florida state constitution, didn't intend for these local governments to decide what certain things — something like a minimum wage, should be. Those are state-level decisions," said Florida Republican state Rep. Randy Fine.

According to the National League of Cities, 24 states have laws on their books preempting local laws raising the state minimum wage, while 18 states preempted local laws pertaining to the guarantee of paid sick days. Some 37 had laws restricting local measures regulating ridesharing and 17 states blocked municipalities from establishing broadband service.

Some of the most high-profile fights over state legislation have been over preemption laws.

North Carolina's infamous "bathroom bill," for example, was in response to the city of Charlotte having expanded, via ordinance, LGBTQ protections.

Texas' tough anti-sanctuary cities law, known as SB4, was designed to put an end to the sanctuary policies of cities like Austin.

But a larger concern, opponents of preemption argue, are "super-preemption" laws and statutes like Arizona's — broad provisions that prevent localities from doing anything on multiple issues at once, and in some cases, seek to punish local officials who violate them.

"They're becoming way more sweeping and punitive," said Jared Make, a staff attorney at Better Balance, a New York-based legal advocacy and policy think-tank.

Bills similar to the super-preemption law in Arizona have been proposed in Iowa, Michigan, Texas and Florida. (Arizona's law is currently tied up in court, as is Texas' SB4.)

Experts say the trend is in part a product of backlash to the Obama administration. In the past 10 years, Democrats lost nearly 1,000 seats in state Legislatures across the U.S., giving rise to dominant Republican control that many GOP officials have wielded to directly combat local progressive policies.

Thirty-four states have Republican governors, and the GOP in 25 of those states controls both chambers of the Legislature, which can make things difficult for cities, which skew "younger, more diverse, more progressive, more affluent," said Sam Munger, the director for strategic engagement at SIX, the State Innovation Exchange.

In Florida, in 2014, a gun-rights groups went after Gillum for violating a Florida preemption gun law, under which local officials who don't abide by the broader state laws on firearms can be brought to court. Gillum, then a city commissioner, was sued for not repealing a decades-old measure that made it illegal to fire guns in public parks. The suit was rejected by the courts.

Fine sponsored a broad preemption-proposal called HB17 that would have banned local governments across the state "from imposing or adopting regulations on businesses, professions, and occupations."

"The nexus of power in the United States is at the state level," Fine said. "We are not the 'United Towns of Florida' or 'United Counties of Florida.' The state exists and it created all of those, and it created them with a specific purpose, and that is to be administrative units."

	Legal experts say the issue is complicated, and that, simply put, preemption laws aren't illegal.
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Spain riot police smash into vote centers</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2017/10/01/spain-riot-police-smash-way-into-catalan-voting-center/720890001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2017/10/01/spain-riot-police-smash-way-into-catalan-voting-center/720890001/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SANT JULIA DE RAMIS, Spain (AP) — Spanish riot police smashed their way into the polling station where Catalonia's regional leader was due to vote in the disputed independence referendum on Sunday. Scuffles erupted outside between police and people waiting to vote.</p> <p>Civil Guard officers, wearing helmets and carrying shields, used a hammer to break the glass of the front door and a lock cutter to break into the Sant Julia de Ramis sports center near the city of Girona. At least one woman was injured outside the building and wheeled away on a stretcher by paramedics.</p> <p>Clashes broke out less than an hour after polls opened, and not long before Catalonia regional president Carles Puigdemont was expected to turn up to vote. Polling station workers inside the building reacted peacefully and broke out into songs and chants challenging the officers' presence.</p> <p>National Police and Civil Guard officers also showed up in other polling centers where Catalan officials were expected.</p> <p>Catalans defied rain and police orders to leave designated polling stations for the banned referendum on the region's secession that has challenged Spain's political and institutional order.</p> <p>The country's Constitutional Court has suspended the vote and the Spanish central government says it's illegal. Regional separatist leaders have pledged to hold it anyway, promising to declare independence if the "yes" side wins, and have called on 5.3 million eligible voters to cast ballots.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 By the numbers: Puerto Rico recovery</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2017/09/30/puerto-rico-by-the-numbers/720731001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2017/09/30/puerto-rico-by-the-numbers/720731001/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — As of Saturday morning, here's what we know about hurricane recovery in the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico, which has a population of 3.4 million.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Death toll: 16</li> <li>• Gasoline stations open: 714 of 1,100</li> <li>• Amount of fuel on the island: 600,000 barrels of diesel and 722,000 barrels of gasoline. Converted to gallons, that's 25.2 million gallons of diesel, 30.3 million gallons of gas but getting the fuel to where it's needed most is a problem because of debris and washed-out roads. Electricity to operate gas pumps also is an issue.</li> <li>• Electric customers with power: 5%</li> <li>• Supermarkets open: 224 of 456</li> <li>• Pharmacies open: 337</li> <li>• Municipalities visited and provided with emergency supplies: 78 (all of them)</li> <li>• Staging areas across the island for food, water and other supplies: 11</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shelters open: 150</li> <li>• Hospitals open: 51 of 69</li> <li>• Hospitals connected to the electric grid: 9</li> </ul>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Hezbollah leader warns Israel</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/hezbollah-leader-warns-israel-shiites-mark-ashoura-50208056?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/hezbollah-leader-warns-israel-shiites-mark-ashoura-50208056?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The leader of the Lebanese militant group <u>Hezbollah</u> has marked the Shiite religious holiday of Ashoura with a speech warning Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu against pushing the region into war.</p> <p><u>Hassan Nasrallah</u> said in a televised speech Sunday that Netanyahu is working with U.S. President Donald Trump's administration to undermine the <u>Iran</u> nuclear deal and start a regional war. He warned Israel not to underestimate Hezbollah's capabilities.</p> <p>Shiites across the region are marking the holiday with prayers and marches and, in some cities, self-flagellation.</p> <p>Ashoura commemorates the day the Prophet Muhammad's grandson, Hussein, was killed by a rival Muslim faction in Karbala, present day Iraq, in 680 A.D. Hussein and his descendants are seen by Shiites as the rightful heirs to the prophet.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 UN agency urges Rohingya aid</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/head-food-agency-world-step-rohingya-aid-50208625">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/head-food-agency-world-step-rohingya-aid-50208625</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The head of the United Nations' food-assistance agency on Sunday urged the international community to step up its support for the relief operation for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh or risk "a massive catastrophic disaster."</p> <p>More than half a million Rohingya Muslims have fled into Bangladesh in little more than a month to escape a Myanmar military operation that has been condemned as ethnic cleansing. The crackdown was in response to a series of deadly attacks on security posts by Muslim insurgents.</p> <p>Authorities have housed the refugees in a number of existing camps near the border, but the huge numbers and the sheer speed of the exodus have created acute needs, including food.</p> <p>"Bangladesh alone can't handle this. The international community must rally," David Beasley, head of the U.N.'s World Food Programme, said after observing a handout of food to refugees at Kutupalong camp, near Cox's Bazar.</p> <p>He said the WFP needs \$75 million in the next five to six months to meet current and anticipated food needs.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Turkey opens military base Mogadishu</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2017/09/30/537022/Turkey-Somalia-military-base">http://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2017/09/30/537022/Turkey-Somalia-military-base</a>
<b>GIST</b>	Turkey has opened its largest military base in Africa, in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, as the African

	<p>country struggles in a protracted war against militants.</p> <p>The training base was inaugurated on Saturday in the presence of the Turkish chief of staff General Hulusi Akar and Somali Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khayre.</p> <p>The newly-constructed facility includes army dormitories, training grounds and prisons and will serve as a training ground for 10,000 Somali soldiers. Some 200 Turkish military officers will be deployed to the base to oversee the training.</p> <p>During the opening ceremony, Khayre hailed Turkish "unwavering" support to Somalia as Mogadishu tries to rebuild the fractured army and stabilize the war-torn country.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 ACLU challenges updated travel ban</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/sep/29/aclu-challenges-updated-travel-ban/">http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/sep/29/aclu-challenges-updated-travel-ban/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Civil rights groups announced a new legal challenge to President Trump’s revised travel ban, saying that his attempt to add non-Muslim countries does little to change the underlying policy.</p> <p>The American Civil Liberties Union, which was already fighting in court to block the travel ban, said it sent a notice to the judge asking that the case be shifted to cover the updated policy the president announced this weekend.</p> <p>“President Trump’s newest travel ban is still a Muslim ban at its core, and it certainly engages in discrimination based on national origin, which is unlawful. Adding a few North Koreans and a tiny group of Venezuelan officials doesn’t paper over the original sin of the Muslim ban,” said ACLU Executive Director Anthony D. Romero said. “We’ll see President Trump in court — again.”</p> <p>The ACLU had won a halt to much of the president’s original travel policy in an appeals court ruling, but the Supreme Court in June revived the ban, in a limited fashion.</p> <p>Courts are now trying to figure out how to deal with the latest updates. Briefs are due to the Supreme Court next week.</p> <p>Mr. Trump dropped Sudan from his last travel ban and added Chad, North Korea and Venezuela, and kept Iran, Libya, Somalia, Syria and Yemen.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Half Puerto Rico Nat’l Guard on duty</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.stripes.com/news/us/9-days-ago-after-maria-less-than-half-of-puerto-rico-national-guard-on-duty-1.490469#.Wc_zAltSzIU">https://www.stripes.com/news/us/9-days-ago-after-maria-less-than-half-of-puerto-rico-national-guard-on-duty-1.490469#.Wc_zAltSzIU</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>When a natural disaster strikes in the United States, one of the first lines of defense in calming the chaos is typically the National Guard. The service advertises doing so as a core mission, telling prospective guardsmen and women that, as "citizen-soldiers," they will be called upon to help friends and neighbors.</p> <p>But nine days after Hurricane Maria, a striking trend has emerged: Less than half of the 8,000 members of the Puerto Rico National Guard are currently on duty. Army Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan, the top U.S. officer overseeing military operations on the island, attributed this to a combination of factors. Many personnel are dealing with the devastation in their own lives, he said, and some are responding instead in their full-time jobs as police, firefighters or other first responders.</p> <p>The struggle to activate National Guard troops comes as Puerto Rico grapples with devastation that U.S. officials have, repeatedly, called unprecedented while defending the federal government's response.</p>



	<p>However, a growing number of critics have questioned why more U.S. forces were not deployed sooner. The storm cut a 60-mile wide swath across the island with Category-4 strength, knocking out the electrical grid and people desperate for help.</p> <p>Of the Puerto Rico Guard's 8,000 members, some 2,750 are activated, said Kurt Rauschenberg, a National Guard Bureau spokesman. That number is growing by the day, but it illustrates a crucial difference in how states and territories responded to other hurricanes this year.</p> <p>In Florida, Gov. Rick Scott activated all 7,000 members of the Florida National Guard prior to Hurricane Irma pummeling the state. In Texas, all 12,000 members were activated within two days of Hurricane Harvey coming ashore with Category-4 strength.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Puerto Rico faces 6mo. without power</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2017/09/30/hurricane-fallout-puerto-rico-could-face-6-months-without-power/717005001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2017/09/30/hurricane-fallout-puerto-rico-could-face-6-months-without-power/717005001/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>After Puerto Rico was pummeled by Hurricane Maria last week, a Category 4 hurricane with 150 mph winds, the island has been left in shambles. After suffering widespread power outages thanks to Hurricane Irma the week before, 1 million Puerto Ricans were left without electricity. 60,000 still hadn't gotten power when Maria brought a total, island-wide power outage, and severe shortages of food, water, and other supplies.</p> <p>There's still no power on the island except for a handful of generators powering high-priority buildings like select hospitals, and the island likely won't return to full power for another half a year. This also means that there are next to zero working cell phone towers and no reception anywhere on the island.</p> <p>Due to the blackout, many residents are relying on small gas-fed generators, and fuel is running out (though authorities in Puerto Rico insist that it's a distribution problem, not a shortage). Puerto Ricans are waiting in six-hour lines for fuel, while many stations have run completely dry. In most of Puerto Rico there's no water either — that means no showers, no flushable toilets, and no drinkable water that's not out of a bottle. In some of the remoter parts of the island, rescue workers are just barely beginning to arrive.</p> <p>Puerto Rico is experiencing all of the normal catastrophes brought on by a major hurricane — and then some. In Houston after Harvey and Florida after Irma, wastewater pumping systems failed, causing significant sewage spillage. The same is almost guaranteed to happen in Puerto Rico thanks to the sustained power outages, but will be greatly exacerbated by the fact that the island's electrical system was already “degraded and unsafe”.</p> <p>In fact, nearly every problem typically faced in the wake of natural disaster will be amplified and accelerated in Puerto Rico thanks to long-existing financial and environmental problems and far fewer rescue and relief workers. Florida and Texas also dealt with contamination from Superfund sites, but Puerto Rico has a whopping 23 in its relatively tiny area.</p> <p>Puerto Rico also has more contaminants to worry about thanks to the coal industry, which has been stockpiling coal ash in southern Puerto Rico. According to Adriana Gonzales of the Sierra Club, an uncovered five-story pile of coal ash situated next to a low-income and minority community in the town of Guayama threatens to toxify the entire area thanks to its content of heavy metals like arsenic, mercury, and chromium that will be released when the rain liquefies the ash.</p> <p>The coal industry also dumped thousands of tons of coal ash in Puerto Rican landfills for years, a common practice that has recently mushroomed into a disaster as local landfills overflow thanks to the territory's financial crisis. While the ash is not Puerto Rico's (it's owned by Pennsylvania-based Applied Energy Systems) they are now faced with its toxic burden, despite the fact that the Puerto Rican government</p>

	<p>ordered the company to cover and secure the pile under the threat of Hurricane Irma, weeks before Maria hit.</p> <p>Puerto Rico's fallout of Maria will result in a long, long road to recovery. Even though the island is home to 3.5 million U.S. citizens, help is few and far between compared to response in the U.S., and the island's pre-existing poverty and environmentally dangerous Superfund Sites will make rebuilding a tricky and toxic business, costing in the billions of dollars.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 FAA bans drones near some landmarks</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/09/29/Drones-banned-near-certain-US-landmarks/5941506714876/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=lh&amp;utm_medium=5">https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/09/29/Drones-banned-near-certain-US-landmarks/5941506714876/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=lh&amp;utm_medium=5</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Sept. 29 (UPI) -- The Federal Aviation Administration has outlawed the use drones within 400 feet of certain national monuments.</p> <p>The restrictions, announced jointly by the FAA and Department of the Interior on Thursday, go into effect Oct. 5. The FAA said the restrictions were at the request of U.S. national security and law enforcement agencies.</p> <p>The monuments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Statue of Liberty National Monument, New York City</li> <li>-- Boston National Historical Park (U.S.S. Constitution)</li> <li>-- Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia</li> <li>-- Folsom Dam, Folsom, Calif.</li> <li>-- Glen Canyon Dam, Lake Powell, Ariz.</li> <li>-- Grand Coulee Dam, Grand Coulee, Wash.</li> <li>-- Hoover Dam, Boulder City, Nev.</li> <li>-- Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, St. Louis</li> <li>-- Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Keystone, S.D.</li> <li>-- Shasta Dam, Shasta Lake, Calif.</li> </ul> <p>Drone operators who violate the new restrictions could face penalties and criminal charges.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 US carrier navigates crowded waters</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-southchinasea-usa-carrier/u-s-carrier-navigates-crowded-waters-as-north-korea-tensions-mount-idUSKCN1C50IH">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-southchinasea-usa-carrier/u-s-carrier-navigates-crowded-waters-as-north-korea-tensions-mount-idUSKCN1C50IH</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>ABOARD THE USS RONALD REAGAN, South China Sea (Reuters) - As the commanders of the largest U.S. warship in Asia seek to maintain operational readiness amid protracted tensions over North Korea, they find themselves keeping one eye on China, too.</p> <p>On Saturday, as F-18 Super Hornet jet fighters roared from the decks of the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft</p>

carrier during routine drills deep in the South China Sea, two Chinese frigates maintained a constant line-of-sight vigil.

Officers on the Japanese-based Reagan described frequent close quarter surveillance from the ships of the People’s Liberation Army Navy in international waters.

Sometimes, they said, Chinese vessels steam in to check out the carrier en route to other destinations. Other times, Chinese frigates linger for days within the screen of U.S. ships and planes that protect the Reagan - Washington’s only carrier based outside America.

At times, the carrier crew, to ensure safe passage, will alert their uninvited Chinese escorts, should the Reagan sharply alter course, officers said.

“We’ve had no issues. They’ve been very professional,” said Rear Admiral Marc Dalton, commander of the Reagan’s strike group, as well as the larger battle forces of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. “We see them on a regular basis,” he said.

As Dalton spoke, the midnight blue waters beyond the flight decks made for a crowded scene, with a U.S. and an allied Japanese destroyer also visible as the Reagan maneuvered some 400 nautical miles (748 kilometers) from the Chinese coast.

It provided a window into the strains of increased deployments and exercises by regional militaries, in part as they respond to the threat posed by Pyongyang’s pursuit of nuclear and missile programs.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Drought looms Ohio Valley to Northeast</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/weather/2017/09/30/drought-looms-for-ohio-valley-to-northeast-as-rainfall-deficit-grows/">http://www.foxnews.com/weather/2017/09/30/drought-looms-for-ohio-valley-to-northeast-as-rainfall-deficit-grows/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A persistently dry end to summer and start to fall has put some areas on the cusp of a drought across the Ohio Valley to the mid-Atlantic and Northeast.</p> <p>“While most places east of the Mississippi River have yet to develop drought conditions, with the exception to eastern Maine, the area has had hardly any precipitation since early September,” AccuWeather Lead Long-Range Meteorologist Paul Pastelok said.</p> <p>Many cities are running a few inches below normal in terms of rainfall since Aug. 1. Some of the major cities include Chicago, Indianapolis, Cleveland, Syracuse, New York and Providence, Rhode Island. This deficit will grow even more as October starts.</p> <p>This has prompted the Drought Monitor to label some areas in a drought and others abnormally dry. Both categories will likely expand through the week.</p> <p>Aside from some locally heavy showers across New England Saturday, appreciable rain will be tough to find across much of the eastern U.S. through early this week. For some areas, that may be the case through the entire week.</p> <p>A dome of high pressure aloft, which was in place across the eastern U.S. this past week, is expected to build back in for the start of October. This dome acts as a wall and prevents storm systems from passing through the region. Instead, they are turned northward which results in areas of rain deflecting northward as well.</p> <p>“We see minimal rain chances to start October, especially in the mid-Mississippi Valley, Tennessee Valley, and mid-Atlantic,” Pastelok said.</p>

	<p>The lack of rainfall has put a strain on community and household water systems with some municipalities asking residents to monitor water usage. Households that utilize underground wells for their water will want to conserve as water levels will likely continue to lower.</p> <p>Farmers and gardeners are also feeling the effects of the dry spell. Some of the apple crop is ripening earlier and quicker, which is shortening the time for the fruit to be harvested.</p> <p>Fall foliage is also taking a hit amid the dry stretch. Trees that are typically turning vibrant with color during this time are dull and falling earlier.</p> <p>Not only will this disappoint leaf-peepers, but it also will provide dry fuel for wildfires. Hikers and campers are urged to use caution and to heed local burn bans.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Turkey, Iraq retaliate Kurdish referendum</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/kurdish-independence-referendum-triggers-retaliation-from-iraq-turkey/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/kurdish-independence-referendum-triggers-retaliation-from-iraq-turkey/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>ERBIL — The Kurdish people face their vote for independence as neighboring states ratchet up their opposition to the move. 93 percent of Kurds voted for independence on Monday in a referendum that the Iraqi national government deemed illegal. Turkey, to the north, has also vowed to retaliate with blockades and sanctions, which are likely to cause severe economic woes to the fledgling state.</p> <p>Already, Iraq has shut down international flights in and out of the region, with several major international airlines already flagging that they won't be offering services.</p> <p>The last commercial international flights out of Iraqi Kurdistan left on Friday, as the Iraqi government began to squeeze Kurdistan in retaliation. "All international flights without exception to and from Erbil will stop from 6pm (10am ET) on Friday following a decision by the Iraqi cabinet and Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi," Talar Faiq Salih told AFP news agency on Thursday.</p> <p>The Kurds of Iraq have been stalwart allies to the U.S. in the fight against ISIS in northern Iraq. Many in Kurdistan believe the sacrifices its troops have made in that long-running battle means they are more deserving of their independence, but allies are not lining up behind them.</p> <p>U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson deemed the vote illegitimate on Friday, saying that the United States does not recognize the result, and Turkey's President Tayyip Erdogan said on Saturday Iraqi Kurdish authorities would pay the price for the vote, issuing threats to hurt the region economically, and circumvent Kurdish authorities with whom his government had fostered strong links.</p> <p>"They are not forming an independent state, they are opening a wound in the region to twist the knife in," Erdogan told members of his ruling AK Party in the eastern Turkish city of Erzurum. However, after Erdogan said that Iraqi Kurds would go hungry if Ankara halted the cross-border flow of trucks and oil, his prime minister reiterated that any measures it took would not target civilians and instead focus on those who organized the referendum.</p> <p>Turkish Prime Minister Bin Yildirim, speaking on Saturday, did not refer specifically to those plans, but said Ankara would no longer deal with Kurdish authorities in Erbil.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Desperate Puerto Rico seeks assistance</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/we-dont-need-money-we-need-help-desperate-puerto-rico-seeks-assistance/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/we-dont-need-money-we-need-help-desperate-puerto-rico-seeks-assistance/</a>

<b>GIST</b>	<p>In <u>Puerto Rico</u>, the recovery from Hurricane Maria is going slowly at best. The tiny fishing village of Playa del Negro was among the first to face the wrath of <u>Hurricane Maria</u>, Omar Villafranca reports from Yabucoa.</p> <p>Many of the homes are now unlivable, but families have nowhere else to go.</p> <p>On Friday, the first government relief finally rolled into the southeastern part of the island, nine days after the storm.</p> <p>Residents in this small fishing village were evacuated. They returned home hungry and thirsty.</p> <p>Manolo Morales was grateful to receive squash to eat. He's been eating canned sardines, capturing rainwater in barrels and pots, just to have something to drink.</p> <p>A young and desperate couple begged for supplies for their six-month-old baby. They said they didn't have milk for the baby, so this is the first help they're seeing.</p> <p>Residents hope there are more relief supplies on the way and the government doesn't forget about them. Meanwhile, in a place surrounded by water, people in Aguadilla are desperately looking for a drop to drink, David Begnaud reports.</p> <p>Some stood patiently at the fresh water truck, hoping to get enough for the day. Many more cast their buckets here.</p> <p>At 8 a.m., young children started lining up with their parents to get food. Everyone was given a bag with four bottles of water and three snacks that mayor says may have to last for two days.</p> <p>Many roads are still impassable, and the U.S. military is using helicopters to deliver water supplies to rural areas.</p> <p>But they haven't yet reached Aguadilla -- and that's left residents like Blanca Reyes boiling in frustration. "We don't need money, we need help, that's it," Reyes said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Houston toxic site leaked after Harvey</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/houston-superfund-site-leaked-toxic-chemicals-harvey-epa/story?id=50181549&amp;cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/houston-superfund-site-leaked-toxic-chemicals-harvey-epa/story?id=50181549&amp;cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>At least one Superfund site was damaged and leaked toxic chemicals in Texas, despite early information that the sites were secure, the Environmental Protection Agency confirmed Thursday.</p> <p>New test results found very high levels of chemicals called dioxins around the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site in Channelview. The EPA previously said that the site needed further investigation, which was ongoing, but an armored "cap" intended to contain the waste should have prevented any toxic material from leaking. Part of this site is always underwater but after Hurricane Harvey flooding was up to 12 to 14 feet.</p> <p>Dioxins can cause cancer and reproductive problems, as well as damage the immune system, according to the EPA. Low levels of dioxin have detected in the river before and humans can be exposed to it by swimming or eating seafood from the water, according to the Galveston Bay Foundation.</p> <p>Thursday's testing results released by EPA found levels at 70,000 nanograms per kilogram, more than 2,000 times the recommended level of 30 ng/kg, according to an EPA press release. The toxic chemical that leaked does not dissolve in water and could continue to spread. The company responsible for the site will continue to conduct testing in the area.</p>

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Massive verdict guardrail case overturned</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/massive-verdict-guardrail-case-overturned/story?id=50196881">http://abcnews.go.com/US/massive-verdict-guardrail-case-overturned/story?id=50196881</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A massive verdict that found a company had defrauded the government over a guardrail blamed for gruesome accidents was reversed Friday, a blow to a case that ultimately affected highways on states throughout the country.</p> <p>In 2015, <a href="#">Trinity Industries</a> was found by a Texas court to have committed fraud for switching out one guardrail design for the other without telling state or federal officials until years later and was <u>ordered to pay</u> more than \$600 million in damages and penalties.</p> <p>On Friday, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, which has had the case for two years, “reversed and rendered” the Texas verdict, leaving the plaintiffs to mull an appeal to the Supreme Court.</p> <p>Attorneys for the plaintiff, Josh Harman, didn’t immediately provide a response to the Court’s opinion or plans for an appeal.</p> <p>The ET-Plus guardrail system, made by Trinity Industries, <u>was the subject of an ABC News investigation in 2014</u>, which examined allegations from accident victims that the guardrail’s design was flawed, making them potentially dangerous to motorists when struck from the front with a vehicle.</p> <p>The federal case didn’t focus on safety issues but rather if the US government had been defrauded when Trinity made a change to the guardrail design that it failed to disclose to safety inspectors.</p> <p>The change in 2005 involved trimming the width of a metal piece of the end terminal down from five inches to four, a modification that a company employee estimated at the time would save the company \$50,000 per year. But Trinity failed to tell state or federal safety inspectors about the change until 2012, by which time the new guardrail end terminals had been installed on roads nationwide.</p> <p>Trinity has continually maintained that the guardrails are safe and that federal crash tests conducted in 2015 that were prompted by the verdict have given the guardrails a passing grade.</p> <p>But the massive federal verdict rippled through state departments of transportation and dozens of states halted sales of the guardrails, with Virginia DOT announcing it would begin replacing the controversial guardrail.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Seattle: police reforms in compliance</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/769258/seattle-says-its-in-compliance-with-police-reforms/">http://mynorthwest.com/769258/seattle-says-its-in-compliance-with-police-reforms/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SEATTLE (AP) — The city of Seattle is asking a federal judge to find its police department in full compliance with its reform agreement with the U.S. Justice Department.</p> <p>If granted, the request would trigger a two-year period of continued oversight by the court, during which the department must demonstrate that it’s continuing to abide by the agreement.</p> <p>The Justice Department investigated Seattle police after an officer shot and killed a Native American woodcarver. The city entered a consent decree in 2012 agreeing to make changes to resolve concerns about biased policing and unnecessary force.</p> <p>The court-appointed monitor overseeing the reforms says the police department has made great strides, but isn’t ready to be declared in full compliance. He said some issues remain, including questions surround the</p>

	fatal police shooting in June of a black, pregnant mother named Charleena Lyles.”
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Seattle counters income tax lawsuits</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/769294/seattle-counters-income-tax-lawsuit/">http://mynorthwest.com/769294/seattle-counters-income-tax-lawsuit/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The City of Seattle wants the lawsuits against its recently passed income tax shut down before they get to trial.</p> <p>The City of Seattle has filed a motion for a summary judgement, meaning it wishes the court to determine that the cases fighting its income tax are too weak to go any further. In a statement Friday, the city argues its council was fully authorized by the state Legislature to pass a personal income tax on high-income residents. Attorneys representing the city also argue that Seattle should not be held to court rulings from the 1930s, which some state tax law is based upon.</p> <p>“Those nearly century-old Washington Supreme Court decisions relied on case law that is no longer valid, incorrect statements of the law, and unfounded conclusions,” the city’s statement reads.</p> <p>“Seattle’s personal income tax is best characterized as an excise tax rather than a property tax ...” it argues.</p> <p>A King County Superior Court judge is expected to hear arguments for the case on Nov. 17. The city is being represented by Pacifica Law Group.</p> <p>Seattle’s tax has resulted in <u>three lawsuits</u>. Washington law, which was partially decided in court in the 1930s, states that income is property, and that all property taxes must be uniformly imposed. Therefore, it is argued, Seattle cannot pick and choose how much and whose income it wants to tax. Washington law also states that local governments cannot impose income taxes.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Las Vegas sheriff on Bennet encounter</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/769174/las-vegas-sheriff-bennett-video/">http://mynorthwest.com/769174/las-vegas-sheriff-bennett-video/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Saying officers “were heroic” on the night Seahawks Michael Bennett was detained in Las Vegas, Sheriff Joseph Lombardo revealed additional footage from the incident.</p> <p>“The incident was not about race, as most of the patrons were the same race as Mr. Bennett,” the sheriff said. “...The officer that took Mr. Bennett into custody is Hispanic, the other officer is Hispanic, and the officer wearing the body camera is a black male.”</p> <p>Sheriff Lombardo laid out a narrative from the officers’ perspective while stressing that there is no evidence to show any use of force was racially motivated.</p> <p>“While I’m responding because of the allegations Mr. Bennett made, I’m not here to disparage him,” Lombardo said. “As often, in any case, there are two sides to any story. Mr. Bennett has a valid perspective ... those who experience such a stop, especially having not committed a crime, are likely not to feel good about it.”</p> <p>“As you will see, Mr. Bennett’s actions that night stood out to the officers,” he said. “His movements and actions were different than others’ ... officers had reasonable cause to stop Mr. Bennett.”</p> <p>Lombardo showed footage detailing the incidents of that night, starting with video of the defensive end for the Seahawks entering The Cromwell and Draai’s Nightclub. The sheriff said that he attempted to enter via the VIP line. After he entered the club, other patrons got into a fight, causing a commotion and knocking</p>

over stanchions. At the same time, a separate fight broke out elsewhere in the club, also knocking over stanchions.

The sheriff believes the sound of the stanchions hitting the ground sounded like gunshots, resulting in reports of gunfire. The crowd can be seen on video responding to the sounds by crouching and laying on the ground.

Lombardo said people were instructed not to run. He showed video of a figure he says is Bennett crouching and rushing behind slot machines, then separate video of the figure running out of the hotel. The sheriff then said Bennett jumped over a concrete wall and down onto the sidewalk where an officer brought him to the ground.

This is when the officer's gun can be seen through body cam footage of another pursuing officer. Lombardo said that the officer's gun was drawn, but there is no evidence to confirm that it was put to the player's head, as alleged, or that the officer said he would blow his head off. Lombardo said that while that language would not be acceptable, it is not a violation of policy.

The sheriff also confirmed that the officer with his gun drawn forgot to turn his body camera on, therefore, there is no up-close account of their interaction at that time.

Video then shows Bennett being escorted into the backseat of a patrol car while he pleads with officers, asking why he is being detained and if he is being arrested.

"Nobody can tell me what I did," Bennett said. "Take me out of the car, man."

Bennett said he was running, as many others were, and said he has three daughters at home.

"Please un-cuff me," Bennett said. "Can I just talk to you about it because I didn't do anything ... tell me what I'm being detained for ... he said, 'Why you running?' I said, 'Somebody's shooting, man.' I got three daughters, I want to go home and see my kids."

"The officers did not know who Mr. Bennett was, they just reacted to this suspicious actions," Lombardo said.

The entire incident, Lombardo said, took 10 minutes with Bennett spending seven minutes in the back of the car. Bennett complained his handcuffs were too tight, and an officer can be seen on the video loosening the cuffs.

"As soon as officers realized no probable cause for Mr. Bennett's detention, he was released," Lombardo said.

"During the release, officers explained the detention and apologized for the detention," he said. Bennett was eventually taken out of the car. Officers asked for his name and also asked him to relate what he saw happen in the hotel.

"My name is Michael Bennett, Seattle Seahawks, look it up," Bennett can be heard on the video.

Two other men were detained at the same time; a Hispanic man and a black man.

Nearly a week after the encounter, Bennett posted a letter on social media claiming the incident was racially motivated, and that the officer put a gun to his head and said he would blow his head off. Lombardo said this prompted his office to investigate the detention.

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HEADLINE	<b>10/02 Russia reviewed US cyberdefense system</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-cyber-russia-hpe-specialreport/special-report-hp-enterprise-let-russia-scrutinize-cyberdefense-system-used-by-pentagon-idUSKCN1C716M">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-cyber-russia-hpe-specialreport/special-report-hp-enterprise-let-russia-scrutinize-cyberdefense-system-used-by-pentagon-idUSKCN1C716M</a>
GIST	<p>WASHINGTON/MOSCOW (Reuters) - Hewlett Packard Enterprise allowed a Russian defense agency to review the inner workings of cyber defense software used by the Pentagon to guard its computer networks, according to Russian regulatory records and interviews with people with direct knowledge of the issue.</p> <p>The HPE system, called ArcSight, serves as a cybersecurity nerve center for much of the U.S. military, alerting analysts when it detects that computer systems may have come under attack. ArcSight is also widely used in the private sector.</p> <p>The Russian review of ArcSight's source code, the closely guarded internal instructions of the software, was part of HPE's effort to win the certification required to sell the product to Russia's public sector, according to the regulatory records seen by Reuters and confirmed by a company spokeswoman.</p> <p>Six former U.S. intelligence officials, as well as former ArcSight employees and independent security experts, said the source code review could help Moscow discover weaknesses in the software, potentially helping attackers to blind the U.S. military to a cyber attack.</p> <p>"It's a huge security vulnerability," said Greg Martin, a former security architect for ArcSight. "You are definitely giving inner access and potential exploits to an adversary."</p> <p>Despite the potential risks to the Pentagon, no one Reuters spoke with was aware of any hacks or cyber espionage that were made possible by the review process.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>10/02 NKorea link to bitcoin exchange phishing</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.coindesk.com/police-confirm-north-korean-connection-bitcoin-exchange-phishing/">https://www.coindesk.com/police-confirm-north-korean-connection-bitcoin-exchange-phishing/</a>
GIST	<p>Law enforcement officials have confirmed that hackers from North Korea sought to steal bitcoins from exchanges in South Korea.</p> <p>In a report released last week, the Republic of Korea's National Police Agency (NPA) said the incidents – which were said to be ultimately unsuccessful – did occur. It further detailed that 25 employees at four different exchanges were targeted in 10 separate "spear phishing" attempts since July.</p> <p>Spear phishing is when a would-be hacker pretends to be someone else in order to trick the victim into providing login or other details.</p> <p>The confirmation comes several weeks after cybersecurity firm FireEye published a report on the attacks.</p> <p>AFP, citing regional news source Yonhap, reported that those behind the attacks pretended to be security specialists and sent emails with malware included as attachments. The police report further indicated that the hacking attempts also targeted smartphones, suggesting that they may have been attempting to compromise devices used for two-factor authentication.</p> <p>Perhaps most notably, the NPA indicated that none of the investigated attempts resulted in either the loss of funds or an actual security breach, according to AFP. No exchanges were identified in the report.</p> <p>The Permanent Mission to the United Nations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea did not respond to a request for comment.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Gaming service goes down in hack</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/gaming-service-goes-down-after-hacker-wipes-database-and-holds-it-for-ransom/">https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/gaming-service-goes-down-after-hacker-wipes-database-and-holds-it-for-ransom/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>R6DB, an online service that provides statistics for Rainbow Six Siege players, went down over the weekend after an attacker wiped the company's database and asked a ransom.</p> <p>The attack took down the service Saturday, September 30. In a statement released on Sunday, the company said an automated bot accessed their server, wiped the database, and left a ransom note behind. The database appears to be a PostgreSQL instance.</p> <p>The attacker's bot was able to access the database because the company's engineers left remote connections enabled for the database server from the development phase.</p> <p>"Due to the hectic and unplanned September migration, we didn't have everything locked down yet, which led to this situation," an R6DB spokesperson said. "They left a nice ransom message, but we have no reason to believe that they kept any data. On top of that our backups are useless, since they didn't work on the Postgres codebase yet."</p> <p>R6DB said the attacker only accessed the database, but they decided to wipe and reinstall the entire machine, just to be safe.</p> <p>Company engineers are working to restore as much of the data as possible, but R6DB expects some information to be lost for good.</p> <p>Staff says they never stored any personal data on Rainbow Six Siege players, so service users don't have anything to worry about.</p> <p>All that was lost is player statistics. Gamers used R6DB exactly for this purpose, to keep track of their evolution across time, and get another perspective on their stats, besides to what the game provides.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 China plans massive cyber expansion</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.atimes.com/article/chinas-plan-massive-cyber-warrior-expansion/">http://www.atimes.com/article/chinas-plan-massive-cyber-warrior-expansion/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Chinese mastery in cyber-warfare was without a doubt on General Joseph Dunford's mind when as chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff he named China as the greatest future threat to US security at a congressional hearing last week.</p> <p>Serious cases of hacking in recent years have demonstrated China's growing cyber-warfare capability. In the past few months, China announced grand plans to expand its dominance massively in the cyber realm.</p> <p>In February 2014, President Xi Jinping took personal control of cyber policies by creating the Central Cyberspace Affairs Leading Group. At a cybersecurity symposium in April 2016, Xi pledged greater state commitment, both financially and policy-wise, to upping China's cybersecurity capabilities – particularly the identification, recruitment and cultivation of talented individuals.</p> <p>The Chinese government views cybersecurity and national security as equals. State, social, infrastructure and personal security are all deeply affected by events in the cyber domain. A war between China and the US, if it ever occurs, will witness many cyberspace duels.</p> <p>To fight and win this war, China needs more highly trained cyber-warriors.</p>

According to Tencent’s “Internet Security Report: First Half of 2017”, China currently suffers from a severe shortage of cybersecurity professionals. In the past few years, Chinese universities only graduated around 30,000 cybersecurity majors, while the current demand for such professionals has risen above 700,000 – a number projected to top 1.4 million by 2020.

The gap is huge. But the Chinese government does have a plan.

On August 15 this year, the Central Cyberspace Affairs Leading Group and the Chinese Education Ministry issued a joint decree formalizing a set of rules on constructing first-rate cybersecurity schools.

In 10 years’ time, the plan seeks to establish four to six world-class cybersecurity schools in Chinese universities as training grounds for cyber-warriors. All resources at these institutions – from teaching staff to incentive structures – will be dedicated solely to fostering top-notch cyber-warriors. Universities must meet certain criteria before they can apply for state support.

The first batch of state-sponsored pilot programs was approved in mid-September. These seven schools are Xidian University, Southeast University, Beihang University, Wuhan University, Sichuan University, the University of Science and Technology of China, and the Strategic Support Force Information Engineering University.

One quickly notices two trends. First, the seven schools encompass all regions of China, meaning the search for talent will cover the entire nation of 1.37 billion. Second, the batch is a mixture of civilian and military-affiliated universities. Such a model of civil-military integration will help schools complement one another’s limitations.

Young geeks make perfect cyber-warrior candidates. The geekier the better, since top-tier computer wizards are often strange individuals with unconventional ways of thinking. The consensus among Chinese university talent scouts is to find young Prometheans with strong cybersecurity interests and a cyber-related specialty.

While recruiting normally happens at college-freshmen lecture halls or hacking competitions, some institutions including Xidian University have expanded their scouting network to secondary schools in search of promising candidates. After completing three years of coursework, the cyber-warriors will work in a corporate environment for a year of real world experience. This is called the “3+1 plan”. Outstanding graduates are fast-tracked to the Strategic Support Force, the wing of the People’s Liberation Army in charge of cyber, electronic and space warfare.

While China’s cyber-warrior training curriculum is by no means perfect – the emphasis on offensive tactics über alles, for example – the Chinese leadership, in cooperation with universities, corporations, and the military, is proactively making improvements and preparing training grounds for a massive expansion of its cyber-warrior army.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Claim: Russia boost to NKorea internet</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.ft.com/content/d1d48dd0-5366-3fd8-b0bc-bcab64101a17">https://www.ft.com/content/d1d48dd0-5366-3fd8-b0bc-bcab64101a17</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A Russian telecommunications company appears to be providing North Korea with a new internet connection, according to a US-based North Korea research group.</p> <p>A report published by 38 North – part of the US-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies – says the new connection from TransTeleCom (also referred to as Trans Telekom or TTK) began appearing at 17:38 local time on Sunday in Pyongyang.</p> <p>The connection provided by the Moscow-headquartered firm will help back up an existing link from China, according to the report.</p>

<p><a href="#">Return to Top</a></p>	<p>According to its website, TTK is owned by Russia’s state-run railway company.</p> <p>The new line comes amid heightened tension on the Korean peninsula and follows reports that the US has targeted North Korean cyberspace. US President Donald Trump on Sunday dismissed the prospect of talks with Pyongyang as pointless, despite diplomatic efforts by Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.</p> <p>The new connection not only boosts Pyongyang’s resilience to “network, physical and political attacks” but also provides Russia with a new level of influence and “significant visibility” into North Korean communications, according to Bryce Boland, the Asia Pacific chief technology officer at cybersecurity firm FireEye.</p> <p>Mr Boland expected to see the next round of United Nations sanctions target North Korea’s internet access, but for the bid to be blocked by Russia at the UN Security Council.</p> <p>“The users of the internet in Pyongyang are military and intelligence agencies, who are also using their internet access to conduct attacks on other countries, steal money from banks, and now stealing cryptocurrencies,” Mr Boland said, adding that Russian companies do not appear to have been the target of North Korean cyber attacks.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Military vets solution to cyberstaffing gap?</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.govtech.com/security/GT-OctoberNovember-2017-Are-Vets-the-Solution-to-the-Cyberstaffing-Gap.html">http://www.govtech.com/security/GT-OctoberNovember-2017-Are-Vets-the-Solution-to-the-Cyberstaffing-Gap.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>As technology continues to speed ahead, many state and local governments are challenged with an impending shortage of IT talent to fill key positions in areas like cybersecurity. At the same time, CIOs at all levels of state and local government name cybersecurity as their No. 1 priority. To address this challenge, a growing number of states are taking a new approach: investing in veterans returning from active duty to take part in specialized cybersecurity training and fill the growing staffing gap.</p> <p>Cybersecurity repeatedly stands out as a top priority for state and local IT leaders, yet in a nationwide survey by the Center for Digital Government,* 93 percent of states reported cybersecurity as a current workforce gap. Numbers are similarly high for cities and counties.</p> <p>Many states have partnered with local colleges and universities to offer cybertraining or internship programs as a way to attract and filter employees to public-sector roles. Case in point: In Maine, interns take on key IT projects, like writing code and conducting industry research on cutting-edge business solutions. According to state CIO Jim Smith, about 70 percent of interns go on to become full-time employees with the state.</p> <p>A growing number of states are starting to tap a new talent pool to fill staffing needs related to cyber. It’s an approach that makes a lot of sense: A wealth of cybertalent exists among military veterans returning from active duty.</p> <p>Virginia is looking to veterans to fill its approximately 36,000 open cybersecurity positions. The Cyber Vets Virginia initiative is open to service members transitioning from the military, as well as their spouses and National Guard members, and offers free cybertraining for about 200 participants in the state. Through the program, veterans can train with top corporations like Amazon Web Services, Cisco, Yyotta and Fortinet.</p> <p>The state also offers apprenticeships and sponsors the Virginia Cybersecurity Public Service Scholarship Program, which awards cybereducation funds to students committed to working in a state agency or institution. Virginia is also among select states partnering with the SANS Institute to offer a free online aptitude course called CyberStart to help drive students to cyberpositions.</p>

Karen Jackson, Virginia’s secretary of technology, notes that reaching out to veterans is just one piece of the staffing puzzle. “We have to continue to be creative and create more opportunities to get people into the cyberpipeline. People coming out of the military generally have some kind of IT experience,” she said. “Now we want to take a continuum — put in place programs that cast the net even wider to those who don’t already have an IT background.”

In Washington state, officials are also looking at veterans as ideal candidates for cyberjobs. The state has partnered with the University of Washington to offer scholarships to veterans seeking cybersecurity degrees, and the Washington International Trade Association offers opportunities for veterans to retrain themselves for cyberwork in the public or private sector. The state also partners with local colleges on online certification programs that could help jumpstart a veteran’s retraining for a position in the cybersecurity field.

“Our veterans make great employees because they understand discipline and technology they’ve learned in the military,” said Washington Chief Information Security Officer Agnes Kirk. She also pointed out that many veterans find the transition to the public sector easier than to the private sector because of the work-life balance offered. “The private sector has a bit of a reputation for chewing through their IT people,” she said. “It’s a different mindset. It’s hard to learn a new business that way.”

Colorado recently launched a Veterans Transition Program, a paid internship for veterans with backgrounds in cybersecurity or threat intelligence seeking training for the next phase of their career. The state has partnered with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and veterans organizations to fill 10 internship positions. The program is designed to help veterans with military experience make a smooth transition to a cybersecurity career.

As chief information security officer at the Colorado Governor’s Office of Information Technology, Deborah Blyth points out that while it’s hard to compete against the private sector’s high salaries, public service is often a good match for veterans. “They are great candidates to come to state governments. These are individuals who like to be in positions where they feel like they’re making an impact and don’t want to move around. They are coming out of the military with skills and knowledge that translate to my environment, but their resume doesn’t draw that line of distinction,” she said. “I think they’re a perfect fit, and I can train them in the pieces that are unique to my environment.”

While the trend of investing in veterans to fill cyberpositions is growing, many agree that it’s just one element of the solution to the larger challenge of nurturing cybersecurity talent in the numbers that the field needs. “The entire bubble keeps getting bigger. There are supposed to be about 1.6 million open cyberjobs by 2020,” said Jackson. “The problem is that the need is growing much faster than we can impact the supply.”

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Judge sides w/FBI in iPhone hacking</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2017/10/fbi-does-not-have-to-disclose-payments-to-vendor-for-iphone-cracking-tool/">https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2017/10/fbi-does-not-have-to-disclose-payments-to-vendor-for-iphone-cracking-tool/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A federal judge ruled Saturday that the FBI does not have to disclose the name of the vendor, and how much it was paid by the government for a hacking tool that unlocked the iPhone of a terrorist behind the San Bernardino, California attacks that left 14 people dead.</p> <p>The development of the unlocking tool ended what was one of the biggest legal showdowns in the technology space, one in which Apple was fighting a judge's order last year to provide the FBI with software to enable investigators to unlock the iPhone 5C of Syed Rizwan Farook. Farook was one of two shooters behind the December, 2015 attack at a San Bernardino County facility that left him—and wife Tashfeen Malik—dead. Apple had argued that the law didn't require it to create software, or a "backdoor," to enable the government to unlock its customers' encrypted devices.</p>

	<p>But ahead of a major March, 2016 court hearing in which Apple was to contest the order forcing it to cooperate with the FBI, the government dropped its demand and announced it had obtained a method to unlock the iPhone from an "outside party."</p> <p>Six months later, The Associated Press, USA Today, and Vice Media sued the FBI in a bid to force the agency to reveal the name of the vendor that cracked the iPhone. The Freedom of Information Act lawsuit also demanded to know how much taxpayers paid for the crack.</p> <p>US District Judge Tanya S. Chutkan of the District of Columbia agreed with the government that naming the vendor could put the company and its tools susceptible to a "cyberattack."</p> <p>"It is logical and plausible that the vendor may be less capable than the FBI of protecting its proprietary information in the face of a cyberattack," the judge ruled. "The FBI's conclusion that releasing the name of the vendor to the general public could put the vendor's systems, and thereby crucial information about the technology, at risk of incursion is a reasonable one."</p> <p>The court also agreed with the government that divulging the price the government paid could harm national security.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 DDoS hits UK national lottery website</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/latest-news/649121/National-Lottery-website-app-cyber-attack-jackpot-winners-miss-out">http://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/latest-news/649121/National-Lottery-website-app-cyber-attack-jackpot-winners-miss-out</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A CYBER attack brought the National Lottery's website and official app to a halt – causing fury among punters.</p> <p>The site was down for more than 90 minutes on Saturday as hackers flooded the web page with traffic.</p> <p>Gamblers fumed online as thousands were unable to nab last-minute tickets and the £14m Lotto jackpot rolled over for the sixth time.</p> <p>The incident is the second cyber attack launched at Camelot in the past year.</p> <p>In November 2016, hackers accessed information of 26,000 online Lotto accounts.</p> <p>A Camelot spokesman apologised for the problems, adding: "Unfortunately, as experienced by many companies, the website was subject to a DDoS (Distributed Denial of Service) incident for around 90 minutes from 6pm."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 DHS to track immigrants' social media</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://gearsofbiz.com/americans-are-horrified-by-dhs-plan-to-track-immigrants-on-social-media/95484">http://gearsofbiz.com/americans-are-horrified-by-dhs-plan-to-track-immigrants-on-social-media/95484</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Starting October 18th, the Department of Homeland Security will collect and store "social-media handles, aliases, associated identifiable information and search results" in the permanent files of all immigrants. This will include new immigrants, in addition to permanent residents and naturalized citizens.</p> <p>There are around 43 million foreign-born people living in the US right now. And even if you don't personally know someone who'll be made into a terrifying dossier for Trump's anti-immigrant foot soldiers, you'll most certainly show up in those millions of files somewhere as a "like" or other piece of tangential social metadata.</p>

People who have commented on the act are comparing it to round-up lists and internment-camp dossier-building. Considering the Trump administration's plans for using data to hunt immigrants at our borders, those commenters might not be too far off. And what they don't know is that non-immigrants are going to be collateral damage.

The "Modified Privacy Act System of Records" will also include: "publicly available information obtained from the internet, public records, public institutions, interviewees, commercial data providers and information obtained and disclosed pursuant to information sharing agreements." Commercial data suppliers are companies like Equifax, and "people search" vendors like Intelius and Axicom.

That "people search" websites are involved in the data collection should make us worry for many reasons. With a quick search of your name on any "people search" website like Intelius or WhitePages, you'll see your name, date of birth, names of family members, current and past addresses, your phone number — and much more.

People-search sites get their data from public records and corporations selling your information to them (including third-party fine-print agreements you agree to by using businesses such as eBay). The information they collect sometimes depends on the site's Terms of Use regarding sharing information with third parties, as well as your privacy selections on that site (e.g., your Facebook likes and interests, your friends, your tweets, the work information you provide to LinkedIn).

The new dossiers on immigrants will include all kinds of information gleaned both directly and indirectly from social-media profiles. And worse yet, much of the information might not even be accurate.

In a new age of modern permanent records, popular sites like Facebook and Twitter are the face of a hidden world of commercial data brokers. Moreover, not all information is accurate, and even if consumers are aware, they are unable to erase or correct their personal records.

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HEADLINE	<b>10/01 Claim: NKorea hackers after UK money</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/4586790/north-korean-hackers-plot-to-loot-britains-finances-with-cyber-attack-on-the-citys-banks/">https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/4586790/north-korean-hackers-plot-to-loot-britains-finances-with-cyber-attack-on-the-citys-banks/</a>
GIST	<p>NORTH Korean hackers are trying to loot Britain's banks as the secretive state turns to cyber-warfare amid financial losses from sanctions that threaten its nuclear capability.</p> <p>"They're after our money," warned Robert Hannigan, who ran Britain's signals intelligence agency for three years until March.</p> <p>Mr Hannigan said Pyongyang is set to become a "premier league" players in cyber-warfare as it targets Britain's financial sector.</p> <p>He told <u>The Times</u> that while its military weapons did not pose a direct threat to the UK, North Korea's cyber-capabilities do.</p> <p>The reclusive regime is improving its hacking through collaboration with Iran and criminal networks operating in southeast Asia and China, the expert said.</p> <p>He said the cyber attack that crippled computers at NHS hospitals and GP surgeries was an attempt to take money.</p> <p>"Their missiles are not going to reach the UK but their cyber-attacks did reach the NHS and other parts of Europe," the 52-year-old said.</p>

	<p>"As sanctions bite further and North Korea becomes more desperate for foreign currency, they will get more aggressive and continue to come after the finance sector. They're after our money."</p> <p>"It's attacks can be launched from outside the country by outsourcing to criminal groups," Hannigan said.</p> <p>"Their threshold for risk is sky-high and they don't really care about collateral damage. They are not in the premier league yet - not in the top five nations - but they are getting there."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Stormfront supremacist site reemerges</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/sep/30/stormfront-webs-oldest-white-supremacist-site-reem/">http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/sep/30/stormfront-webs-oldest-white-supremacist-site-reem/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Racists are returning in droves to Stormfront, the internet's longest-running white supremacist site, more than a month after the online neo-Nazi hub nearly went dark over a dispute with its domain registrar.</p> <p>Stormfront administrator and former Ku Klux Klan leader Don Black has reclaimed the site's original web address, Stormfront.org, meaning white supremacists displaced by the site's sudden disappearance last month can once again visit the internet's oldest-operating hate site with ease.</p> <p>The site abruptly vanished August 26 after Network Solutions, an internet registrar with control over its web address, seized the Stormfront.org domain name after receiving complaints brought by a legal group that said the site had violated its terms of service, effectively making it impossible to access the site simply by visiting Stormfront.org.</p> <p>Network Solutions has since relinquished control of the Stormfront.org domain name to Mr. Black, 64, and on Friday the site went live at its original web address of 22 years after he took his business to a different registrar, Perfect Privacy, LLC, according to public records.</p> <p>Stormfront's online message boards boasted nearly 330,000 registered users at its peak, but last month's domain seizure practically brought traffic to a halt: only a handful of users maintained access to the site after Network Solutions took action, with only a meager half-dozen members logged-on during a normally thriving Friday afternoon the following week, The Washington Times previously reported.</p> <p>Stormfront reclaimed its domain name at about 12 p.m. Friday, according to Mr. Black, and more than 788 people were browsing its forums the following afternoon, including 62 registered members and 726 guests, per the site's own statistics.</p> <p>More than 400 registered Stormfront members have signed on to its forums in a 24-hour period beginning Friday afternoon, according to the figures, and active discussions taking place Saturday revolved around subjects such as "How to break bad news to a white child" and "Skills for a New White Homeland."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Hikvision security cams compromised</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.hackread.com/hikvision-security-cams-compromised-to-display-hacked/">https://www.hackread.com/hikvision-security-cams-compromised-to-display-hacked/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>If you own Hikvision security cameras you would have noticed the sudden change in the live feed display where the normal footages were replaced with the term HACKED. However, it isn't the case with all Hikvision security cameras but only some of them but if you are the owner of one such camera then it is obvious that there is a backdoor in the device.</p> <p>In May, Department of Homeland Security's ICS-CERT issued warning regarding the presence of remotely exploitable vulnerabilities in Hikvision security cameras; these vulnerabilities were of such nature that it required low-level skills to exploit them. In its advisory, the department clearly stated that if</p>



	<p>these vulnerabilities are exploited successfully then the malicious attacker would gain high-level privileges and/or impersonate an authentic user and access or even steal sensitive, confidential data.</p> <p>And now, malicious attackers are trying to exploit this vulnerability, the first example is the appearance of HACKED by replacing live feed of some models of Hikvision security cameras.</p> <p>On Sep 12, a security researcher using the alias Monte Crypto posted access control bypass in IP cameras from Hikvision on Full Disclosure mailing list and warned users that a majority of these cams contain a backdoor that can let unauthentic impersonation of a configured user account.</p> <p>“The vulnerability poses a severe risk [and] is trivial to exploit,” and still there are “hundreds of thousands of vulnerable devices” that are active on the internet, wrote Monte Crypto.</p> <p>In his post on Full Disclosure regarding the vulnerability, it is claimed that there is a superuser admin account in all devices manufactured by Hikvision. This account allows understanding of how to retrieve users and roles, how to download camera configuration and how to get camera snapshot without authentication. Monte Crypto also noted that the vulnerability is not new and has been there in Hikvision products since 2014.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Fake popular WordPress plugin</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.securityweek.com/backdoor-masquerades-popular-wordpress-plugin">http://www.securityweek.com/backdoor-masquerades-popular-wordpress-plugin</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A fake WordPress plugin containing a backdoor attempts to trick users into believing it is a version of a popular plugin that has over 100,000 installs.</p> <p>Dubbed X-WP-SPAM-SHIELD-PRO, the offending plugin was abusing the popularity of WP-SpamShield Anti-Spam, a tool designed to help WordPress site admins fight a variety of spam.</p> <p>Code used by author of the backdoor was designed to disable other plugins, including security-related ones, steal data, and add a hidden admin account.</p> <p>While analyzing X-WP-SPAM-SHIELD-PRO, Sucuri security researchers discovered that it features legitimate structure and file names, but that all of its contents are fake. None of the components forming it behave as expected but instead serve a hidden purpose.</p> <p>The fake plugin also includes code to ping home, meaning that the attackers were informed each time an administrator activated it on website. Thus, the attackers would immediately know when a new site is accessible.</p> <p>A custom sendPost(); function in the plugin was found to collect a great deal of information from the compromised sites and send it to the attackers: user, password, current site the plugin is active on, server IP address, and other sensitive data as well. Sent using the POST method, the data exfiltration is difficult to detect within the site logs.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Serious flaw exposes Siemens ICS</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.securityweek.com/serious-flaw-exposes-siemens-industrial-switches-attacks">http://www.securityweek.com/serious-flaw-exposes-siemens-industrial-switches-attacks</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Siemens has started releasing patches to address a high severity access control vulnerability that can be exploited to remotely hack some of its industrial communications devices.</p> <p>The flaw, discovered by Siemens itself and tracked as CVE-2017-12736, affects SCALANCE X industrial ethernet switches, and Ruggedcom switches and serial-to-ethernet devices running the Rugged Operating</p>

	<p>System (ROS).</p> <p>The issue is related to the Ruggedcom Discovery Protocol (RCDP), which allows the Ruggedcom Explorer management tool to discover and configure ROS-based devices regardless of their IP network configuration. Siemens Ruggedcom switch</p> <p>The problem, according to Siemens, is that the protocol is not configured properly after a device is commissioned, allowing an unauthenticated attacker who has access to the network to remotely perform administrative actions.</p> <p>“After initial configuration, the RCDP is still able to write to the device under certain conditions, potentially allowing users located in the adjacent network of the targeted device to perform unauthorized administrative actions,” Siemens said in its advisory.</p> <p>The issue has so far been addressed in Ruggedcom RSL910 devices with the release of ROS 5.0.1 and in other ROS-based products with version 4.3.4. An update has also been rolled out for Ruggedcom Explorer.</p> <p>In the case of SCALANCE XB-200, XC-200, XP-200, XR300-WG, XR-500 and XM-400 switches, patches have not been made available, but users can mitigate possible attacks by manually disabling RCDP.</p> <p>Ruggedcom switches are typically used to connect devices in harsh environments, such as traffic control cabinets and electric utility substations, while SCALANCE X switches are used to connect programmable logic controllers (PLCs), human-machine interfaces (HMI) and other industrial components. According to ICS-CERT, the affected products are deployed worldwide.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Taboola on MSN.com serves malvertising</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.scmagazine.com/scammers-exploit-native-ad-content-providers-to-serve-malvertising/article/696789/">https://www.scmagazine.com/scammers-exploit-native-ad-content-providers-to-serve-malvertising/article/696789/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Native ad and content provider Taboola is being abused by tech support scammers to serve malvertising.</p> <p>Malwarebytes researchers came across the malvertising on MSN.com, a Microsoft web portal that attracts millions of unique visitors, being promoted by Taboola a global discovery platform which Microsoft signed a deal with in 2016, according to a Sept. 28 blog post.</p> <p>Upon clicking the malicious link under the guise of a sensational news story, users are redirected to a page claiming that the user's computer has crashed and that they must call a number for immediate assistance.</p> <p>The phony page uses a code that repeats the warning indefinitely making it so the page can't be closed normally.</p> <p>Researchers said threat actors typically create content similar to legitimate advertisers and build a profile to appear genuine by monitoring what is trending to create attractive content. Threat actors will also use conditional redirect that profiles users and returns a particular response.</p> <p>“For instance, if the server determines that a bot or crawler is making a request, it may in turn either deny it or simply serve the expected content (decoy),” researchers said in the post. “Similarly, if the user is running Internet Explorer, is from North America and their IP address appears to have hit the server for the first time, they may receive a scammy page instead.”</p> <p>In the MSN instance, the users were always redirected to the scam page. Researchers reported the incident to Taboola who told them they had opened an internal review of the vendor hosting the malicious content.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Macs vulnerable to firmware hacks</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://thehackernews.com/2017/09/apple-mac-efi-malware.html">https://thehackernews.com/2017/09/apple-mac-efi-malware.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>"Always keep your operating system and software up-to-date."</p> <p>This is one of the most popular and critical advice that every security expert strongly suggests you to follow to prevent yourself from major cyber attacks.</p> <p>However, even if you attempt to install every damn software update that lands to your system, there is a good chance of your computer remaining outdated and vulnerable.</p> <p>Researchers from security firm Duo Labs analysed over 73,000 Macs systems and discovered that a surprising number of Apple Mac computers either fails to install patches for EFI firmware vulnerabilities or doesn't receive any update at all.</p> <p>Apple uses Intel-designed Extensible Firmware Interface (EFI) for Mac computers that work at a lower level than a computer's OS and hypervisors—and controls the boot process.</p> <p>EFI runs before macOS boots up and has higher-level privileges that, if exploited by attackers, could allow EFI malware to control everything without being detected.</p> <p>"In addition to the ability to circumvent higher level security controls, attacking EFI also makes the adversary very stealthy and hard to detect (it's hard to trust the OS to tell you the truth about the state of the EFI); it also makes the adversary very difficult to remove—installing a new OS or even replacing the hard disk entirely is not enough to dislodge them," Duo researchers say.</p> <p>What's worse? In addition to neglecting to push out EFI updates to some systems, Apple does not even warn its users of the failed EFI update process or technical glitch, leaving millions of Macs users vulnerable to sophisticated and advanced persistent cyber attacks.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Apple shares more data w/US govt.</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.darkreading.com/cloud/apple-shares-more-data-with-us-in-first-half-of-2017/d-d-id/1330017?">http://www.darkreading.com/cloud/apple-shares-more-data-with-us-in-first-half-of-2017/d-d-id/1330017?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Apple received 4,479 requests during the first half of 2017 for device-based data, such as which of its customers were tied to which devices, and provided the information 80% of the time when US government agencies made the request, according to the company's transparency report released this week.</p> <p>While the number of requests fell to 4,822 during the same period last year, the percentage of the fulfilled requests rose from 78%, according to Apple's 2016 transparency report.</p> <p>Meanwhile, US account-based requests, which generally involved cases where law enforcement agencies want information about the fraudulent use of Apple accounts, rose to 1,692 requests during the first half of the year – up from 1,363 requests last year, the 2017 and 2016 reports state. However, in both time periods, the percentage of requests fulfilled remained at 84%.</p> <p>Apple fulfilled a higher percentage of device-based and account-based data requests in the first half of this year, compared with the level it shared on a worldwide basis, according to the 2017 report. On a global basis, 77% of device-based data requests were fulfilled and 80% of account-based data requests.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Woman fakes own kidnapping online</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/09/29/woman-fakes-her-own-kidnapping-posts-video-herself-gagged-tied-up-online-police-say.html">http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/09/29/woman-fakes-her-own-kidnapping-posts-video-herself-gagged-tied-up-online-police-say.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>An Ohio woman who posted photos to social media saying she had been kidnapped and tied to a pole in a basement actually faked the entire ordeal, police said.</p> <p>Thelma Williams, 38, of Hamilton, reportedly told police a masked man entered her home early Thursday morning, tied her up and cut off her clothes.</p> <p>Butler County Sheriff Richard Jones told <u>WESH 2</u> that Williams claimed the man then used her phone to videotape the event and later posted the clips to her Facebook accounts.</p> <p>The posts caught the attention of Williams' friends, who called 911.</p> <p>“They hacked her old Facebook account,” one person told a dispatcher. “It has video and a picture of her and it says that they have her and they’re going to kill her.”</p> <p>Police initiated a full response that included a helicopter search and closing down a highway. However, once investigators started questioning Williams, her story because to unravel.</p> <p>“It appears she took the videos herself. We can actually see her waiting for it to come on so she can get her serious face on,” Jones said. “Then her story starts unraveling, and then we find the story to be totally a fabrication.”</p> <p>He said Williams actually tied herself up and then posted the messages from a McDonalds. He called it “one of the most bizarre cases” his department has ever had.</p> <p>It's unclear why Williams allegedly faked the kidnapping. She's been charged with making false alarms.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Phone scammers using local numbers</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.king5.com/news/local/beware-of-phone-scammers-spoofing-local-numbers/479801644">http://www.king5.com/news/local/beware-of-phone-scammers-spoofing-local-numbers/479801644</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>LITTLE ROCK, Ark.(KTHV) - Familiar-looking numbers are the latest twist in robocalls. It's the latest scam known as neighbor spoofing.</p> <p>Here's something that may sound annoyingly familiar.</p> <p>Your cell phone rings, and the number that flashes across the screen has the same area code and prefix as yours.</p> <p>It happened to Mike Rohrer, Vice President at the Better Business Bureau of Arkansas.</p> <p>"I received a call on my cell phone from somebody, it was a robocall with an automated computer voice," he said.</p> <p>It's been happening non-stop around central Arkansas.</p> <p>Rohrer said robocalls aren't new, but now scammers are illegally disguising their identities under familiar-looking numbers to get people to pick up their phones.</p> <p>"When you answer a call from a number you don't know you've confirmed that they've got a good number," Rohrer explained, "Your number becomes valuable and they could sell it or remarket it."</p> <p>So, how do you stop endless robocalls?</p>

	<p>One thing you can do is avoid sharing your number on social media profiles or contest entries. The Better Business Bureau also recommends Googling your number.</p> <p>But the best advice of all is to ignore the phone call, according to Rohrer.</p> <p>"Just don't answer it," he said. "If you let it go to voice mail they generally won't leave you a voice mail."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Manufacturers' ICS at high risk of attack</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.themanufacturer.com/articles/manufacturers-ics-high-risk-cyber-attack/">https://www.themanufacturer.com/articles/manufacturers-ics-high-risk-cyber-attack/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A new study has found that the Industrial Control Systems (ICS) used in the manufacturing sector are at high risk of cyber attack.</p> <p>The study, commissioned by cyber security company Kaspersky Lab, found that the manufacturing sector was the most susceptible of any business sector to cyber attacks.</p> <p>Moreover, the study found that the manufacturing sector represented one-third of all attacks against ICSs globally.</p> <p>Industrial control systems are networked computer systems which are used by a wide range to businesses to manage their infrastructure and machines, as well as keep tabs on their production and inventory.</p> <p>As manufacturers move towards so-called 'Industry 4.0' standards and begin to use smart factories, this brings more of these ICS into contact with the outside internet.</p> <p>These connections, while usually very beneficial for the manufacturing company, also leave their systems vulnerable to cyber threats, or spillover from larger globe-spanning malware outbreaks.</p> <p>According to the study, the top 3 countries for these kinds of attacks on industrial computers were Vietnam, Algeria, and Morocco, with manufacturing giant China, coming in fifth, with a rising number of systems affected.</p> <p>"In the first half of the year we've seen how weakly protected industrial systems are – pretty much all of the affected industrial computers were infected accidentally and as the result of attacks targeted initially at home users and corporate networks," said Evgeny Goncharov, head of critical infrastructure defense department at Kaspersky Lab.</p> <p>Moreover, in only just over 20 percent of all cases that a cyber attack was attempted, did protective software manage to block the threat.</p> <p>"Since we are already late with preventive measures, companies should think about proactive protective measures now to avoid 'firefighting' in future," said Goncharov.</p> <p>Cyber attacks cause real damage for manufactures</p> <p>While in the past many manufacturing companies treated cyber attacks a mere nuisance, 2017 has proven that they can also inflict serious damage.</p> <p>The so-called 'WannaCry' ransomware shut down many manufacturing plants as terminals were remotely encrypted and key data lost.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>09/30 Saudis seek Twitter user over threats</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-women-driving-arrests/saudi-authorities-pursue-twitter-user-over-womens-driving-threat-idUSKCN1C50H2?il=0">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-women-driving-arrests/saudi-authorities-pursue-twitter-user-over-womens-driving-threat-idUSKCN1C50H2?il=0</a>
GIST	<p>RIYADH (Reuters) - Saudi Arabia's public prosecutor issued an arrest warrant on Saturday for a Twitter user who called for anyone who supports women driving to be killed, days after a royal decree ended a long-time ban on women taking the wheel.</p> <p>The Twitter user, who was not named, was alleged to have referred to men who support women driving as "cuckolds who should be killed," according to state-linked Asharq al-Awsat newspaper.</p> <p>The prosecutor's announcement comes two days after a separate arrest warrant was issued for a man who threatened in a video clip posted online to attack women drivers.</p> <p>Many Saudis welcomed Tuesday's announcement by King Salman lifting the ban by next year, but others expressed opposition online or in quiet conversations after decades of support for the policy by prominent clerics.</p> <p>In the statement, the prosecutor vowed to monitor for threats of abuse and pursue cases against those who "incite attacks against society and violations of the rights of others".</p>
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## Terror Conditions

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HEADLINE	<b>10/02 Officials: ISIS torches oil wells north Iraq</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-oilwells/islamic-state-torches-oil-wells-in-northern-iraq-officials-idUSKCN1C71FW?il=0">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-oilwells/islamic-state-torches-oil-wells-in-northern-iraq-officials-idUSKCN1C71FW?il=0</a>
GIST	<p>BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Islamic State militants set fire to three oil wells near Hawija, west of the oil city of Kirkuk, one of two areas of Iraq still under their control, military and oil officials said on Monday.</p> <p>Iraqi security forces were using bulldozers to control the fires started by the militants in the early hours of Saturday to slow the advance of U.S.-backed Iraqi forces and Shi'ite militia groups toward Hawija town, military officials said.</p> <p>The Allas oilfield, 35 km (20 miles) south of Hawija, was one of the main sources of revenue for Islamic State, which in 2014 declared a caliphate in parts of Syria and Iraq.</p> <p>"Terrorists are trying to use the rising smoke to avert air strikes while retreating from the area toward Hawija," said army Colonel Mohammed al-Jabouri.</p> <p>Military officials said the fire had been brought under control at one of the wells, while the other two were still burning. They said it would take about three days to put out the fires.</p> <p>Oil officials from the state-run North Oil Company said it was still too risky to send its crews in to assess damage at the wells as militants may have left bombs and landmines.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>10/02 Which deadliest: Boko Haram, al-Shabab?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/10/02/boko-haram-vs-al-shabaab-what-do-we-know-about-their-patterns-of-violence/?utm_term=.1d4bf06cdb4">https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/10/02/boko-haram-vs-al-shabaab-what-do-we-know-about-their-patterns-of-violence/?utm_term=.1d4bf06cdb4</a>
GIST	The United Nations proclaimed Oct. 2 as the International Day of Non-Violence, a reminder that it is irrational to use violence to promote peaceful societies. It's also a reminder of the importance of accurate

data on where and why violence occurs in the world, and where the threats are on the rise.

Since April 2016, the Africa Center for Strategic Studies has tracked the levels of attacks associated with all militant Islamist groups in Africa on a quarterly basis, using data compiled from the widely used Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project.

In a July 21 Monkey Cage post, Salem Solomon and Casey Frechette challenged the validity of an Africa Center analysis that noted that al Shabaab had surpassed Boko Haram as Africa's most deadly militant Islamist group. Of course, no battle data can offer reliable and unbiased assessments of who began the fight, who killed whom and how many died from each side — and collecting the data can be complicated. A review of the ACLED dataset, however, can shed some light on two of Africa's most active groups, Boko Haram and al Shabaab.

Which group should be considered the “deadliest”?

Al Shabaab is a violent fundamentalist Islamist group with 7,000 to 9,000 fighters allied with al Qaeda operating in Somalia and parts of Kenya. ACLED data indicate that in 2016 al Shabaab was involved in the largest number of violent events by a conflict actor in Africa recorded that year (1,136), resulting in a total of 4,282 reported fatalities — the total includes both al Shabaab deaths as well as those of opponents/victims (see Figure 1).

Boko Haram is a militant Islamist fundamentalist group based in northeastern Nigeria loosely aligned with ISIS. ACLED data show that in 2016 Boko Haram, was involved in 419 events resulting in 3,500 reported fatalities overall — including both Boko Haram deaths as well as those of opponents/victims (see Figure 1). This means that while an average of more than three people were killed in every event involving al Shabaab, each Boko Haram event left an average of more than eight people dead.

However, there's an important caveat: Fatality numbers are frequently the most biased and poorly reported component of conflict data. They are often debated and can vary widely. Conflict actors may overstate or underreport fatalities to appear strong to the opposition, or to minimize international backlash against the state involved. And the numbers can be off simply because it's difficult to collect exact data mid-conflict. While ACLED codes the most conservative reports of fatality counts to minimize over-counting, this does not account for biases that exist around fatality counts at-large.

Further, the true cost of conflict cannot be measured by “battlefield” deaths alone. Conflicts that result in fewer deaths may still cause instability that ultimately results in additional deaths from food insecurity, or lack of access to medical facilities. Other scholars point out that tallies of “battlefield” deaths are also necessarily “biased towards men's experiences of armed conflict.” While more men may be killed fighting, women and children are often the victims of sexual violence and other forms of violence “off the battlefield.”

The true threat of these two groups in Africa, therefore, can't be based solely on fatality numbers — numbers that ACLED explicitly acknowledges as inadequate to capture the full impact of conflict.

The “deadliness” of a conflict group is essentially a proxy for the threat it poses

The threat of a conflict group is multifaceted and is based on where the group commits violence, over which time period, against whom and toward which goals. Fatalities or incidents of violence alone do not paint the full picture.

When considering these many facets of threat, important differences in the profiles of al Shabaab and Boko Haram emerge. With regard to known civilian deaths in 2016, fewer civilians were reportedly killed by al Shabaab than by Boko Haram (329 versus 550). However, given that Nigeria's population is almost 13 times larger than Somalia's, the average Somali civilian was at greater risk of being killed by an armed group than the average Nigerian.

Historically, al Shabaab has targeted civilians less frequently than Boko Haram (see Figure 2). The average rate of violence against civilians as a proportion of al Shabaab's overall violent activity is 10 percent, compared with 37 percent of Boko Haram's overall violent activity. That being said, ACLED analysts have long suspected that al Shabaab employs unidentified armed groups to kill civilians.

The two groups also differ greatly in the scope of their activities. While reported fatalities involving Boko Haram have been spatially limited to northeastern Nigeria and along the borders inside Cameroon and Niger, those involving al Shabaab have taken place across much of Somalia and in several locations in Kenya (see Figure 3).

ACLED's research indicates that Boko Haram has declined markedly as a force in the past 18 months: the organization is smaller, weaker and scattered along Nigeria's northeastern borders with Cameroon and Niger.

In contrast, al Shabaab has gained significant strength and territory during the same period. This trend is visible in the Africa Center's series of maps and analysis of all major militant Islamist groups in Africa from 2010 to 2016.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 ISIS drone maker killed</b>
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<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq-war/islamic-state-drone-maker-killed-flying-weaponized-device-hawija/">https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq-war/islamic-state-drone-maker-killed-flying-weaponized-device-hawija/</a>
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<b>GIST</b>	<p>Hawija (IraqiNews.com) Islamic State's member responsible for flying drones was killed in an explosion on Sunday at the town of Hawija, southwest of Kirkuk, as government troops advance to retake the town.</p> <p>The so-nicknamed "al-Mulla" was killed in an explosion of a weaponized drone while trying to fly it on the outskirts of Hawija, said a local source to Alsumaria News.</p> <p>Islamic State has been relying on bomb-laden drones both reconnaissance and for attacking security troops over the past few years.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Edmonton mayor: lone-wolf attack</b>
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<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/oct/1/somalia-refugee-suspected-canada-knife-moving-van/">http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/oct/1/somalia-refugee-suspected-canada-knife-moving-van/</a>
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<b>GIST</b>	<p>Edmonton, Alberta – A car and knife attack on a police officer outside a football game and a high-speed chase of a moving van that left four people injured was the work of a single suspected terrorist, a Somalia refugee who was known to police, Canadian authorities said Sunday.</p> <p>Marlin Degrand, assistant commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, said officers took a 30-year-old man into custody. Police declined to identify the man because he had not yet been charged but said pending charges included terrorism and five counts of attempted murder.</p> <p>Edmonton Police Chief Rod Knecht said an Islamic State group flag was found in the car that hit the officer, and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called it a terror attack.</p> <p>The suspect was known to both Edmonton police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Degrand said he was flagged in 2015 for extremist ideologies and police interviewed him at the time, but he said charges were not warranted after an "exhaustive investigation."</p> <p>Degrand said the suspect is a refugee from Somalia who had applied for refugee status.</p>
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	<p>“To the best of our knowledge, this was a lone wolf attack,” Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson said.</p> <p>The incident took place outside a Canadian Football League game at Edmonton’s Commonwealth Stadium on Saturday night.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Russia: ISIS cell detained, plots foiled</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/10/02/russia-says-is-cell-members-detained-terror-plots-foiled.html">http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/10/02/russia-says-is-cell-members-detained-terror-plots-foiled.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>MOSCOW – Russia's top domestic intelligence agency says it has detained members of a sleeper cell of the Islamic State group and foiled a series of terrorist attacks.</p> <p>The FSB said in a statement on Monday its operatives on Saturday detained an unspecified number of men outside Moscow. The intelligence agency said the men were from Russia's majority-Muslim North Caucasus, and reported to IS members based abroad.</p> <p>The FSB said they were plotting attacks targeting critical infrastructure and public events in Russia, but didn't give any details. Two improvised explosive devices, grenades and guns were found at their homes.</p> <p>Similar arrests were reported in August when the FSB said suspects from Central Asia with links to the IS were plotting attacks on civilians in Moscow.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 ISIS claims France train station slayings</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/latest-women-killed-french-train-station-attack-50209963?">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/latest-women-killed-french-train-station-attack-50209963?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The Islamic State group is claiming links to a knife attack in the southern French city of Marseille that left two women and the assailant dead.</p> <p>The claim was carried in a statement Sunday night by the IS-affiliated Aamaq news agency. It said the attacker on Sunday was one of its "soldiers" who acted in response to the group's calls to target countries involved in the US-led coalition fighting IS in Syria and Iraq.</p> <p>It did not elaborate on the attacker's alleged IS links.</p> <p>French counterterrorism authorities are investigating the attack Sunday at the main Marseille train station and any possible links to Islamic extremism. Two women were stabbed to death and the assailant was shot dead by police.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Marseille suspect arrested day earlier</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/marseille-suspect-released-custody-day-attack-50224750?">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/marseille-suspect-released-custody-day-attack-50224750?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A man who fatally stabbed two women outside Marseille's main train station had been detained for shoplifting and released the day before the attack, and used multiple fake identities in a series of previous arrests, officials said Monday.</p> <p>French authorities are studying the suspect's cellphone and working to determine whether he had accomplices or direct links to the Islamic State group, which claimed responsibility for Sunday's stabbing.</p>

	<p>The assailant was killed by soldiers immediately after the attack, the latest of several targeting France.</p> <p>The suspect was identified by his fingerprints, which matched those taken during previous arrests, according to two police officials. He wasn't on France's extremist watch list, according to the officials, who weren't authorized to be publicly named discussing an ongoing investigation.</p> <p>The man didn't appear to have French residency papers and was detained for suspected shoplifting at a department store in the Lyon region Saturday before being released, according to police union official Yves Lefebvre.</p> <p>"While it could shock the public, unfortunately it doesn't shock us, the police" that the suspect was released the day before carrying out a deadly attack, said Yves Lefebvre of the Unite SGP Police union.</p> <p>He said shoplifting usually results in a quick police report and a court summons for a later date, and the suspect is released.</p> <p>"Nothing allowed us to suspect there was a threat of radicalization during the (Lyon) arrest," he told The Associated Press.</p> <p>He said the man used multiple pseudonyms and identity papers, making it difficult to determine his true identity — or even to find a house to search. He said authorities are pinning hopes on an iPhone found on the suspect for clues to his true identity and motives.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Report: British jihadists links to groups</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4936642/Most-British-jihadists-links-non-violent-Islamists.html">http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4936642/Most-British-jihadists-links-non-violent-Islamists.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Three in four jihadists in Britain have links to non-violent Islamist groups before they go on to join terror groups, a new report has revealed.</p> <p>Researchers looked at the lives of 113 men and women who had joined jihadist groups from the 1980s onwards.</p> <p>Seventy-seven per cent of the jihadists were found to have had links to Islamist organisations or others with an extremist ideology, researchers at the <a href="#">Tony Blair Institute for Global Change</a> found.</p> <p>The report, seen by The Times, calls for authorities monitor the groups more closely. And it identifies six individuals who have shaped the jihadist movement in the UK.</p> <p>They include hate preachers Anjem Choudary, Abu Hamza, Abdullah el-Faisal, Hani al-Sibai, Omar Bakri Mohammed and Abu Qatada.</p> <p>The research also found that men are less likely to be radicalised online than women. 'At least 44 per cent of our sample of women were partly radicalised online, for half of whom there were no known Islamist links in person,' the report read.</p> <p>'In contrast, only four per cent of men in our sample had an online element noted in their radicalisation.' Of the sample studied, 58 per cent of men spent time in prison and most had been jailed for jihadist crimes.</p> <p>Seven served time in young offender institutions while at least four were radicalised while in prison.</p> <p>'Many are well-educated,' the report said. 'Thirty-one per cent started a degree, and over half of these studied Stemm [Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Medicine] subjects.'</p>

	A third of the sample studied humanities or social sciences. Just four had read Islamic Studies and five were dropouts.
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Libyan faces trial for Benghazi attack</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.geo.tv/latest/160672-libyan-goes-on-trial-over-2012-benghazi-attack-that-killed-us-envoy">https://www.geo.tv/latest/160672-libyan-goes-on-trial-over-2012-benghazi-attack-that-killed-us-envoy</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A Libyan militant accused of leading the September 11, 2012 attack on an American diplomatic compound in Benghazi that left the US ambassador and three others dead goes on trial Monday.</p> <p>Ahmed Abu Khattala is charged with 18 counts of murder, supporting terrorists and related charges in the trial in the federal district court in Washington, three years after he was captured in a commando raid and sent by ship to the United States.</p> <p>Khattala, about 46, was the commander of an extremist militia in Benghazi, Ansar al-Sharia, which undertook the deadly raid on the US compound in the eastern port city.</p> <p>According to the indictment, he led a group of about 20 militants storming the compound. They set buildings on fire, including one that contained ambassador Christopher Stevens and a foreign service offices, killing them.</p> <p>Shortly afterward they killed two US security contractors in an attack on a CIA outpost near the mission compound.</p> <p>The attack shocked Americans but turned into a bitter political fight in which Republicans sought in a multi-year investigation to pin the blame for the popular diplomat's death on then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton ahead of her planned run for the presidency.</p> <p>The trial of Khattala, who has pleaded not guilty, was stalled by a steady stream of motions challenging the way he was brought to the United States and the use of evidence from two interrogations.</p> <p>After his capture he was not spirited quickly back to the United States by jet, but placed on a navy ship for two weeks.</p> <p>There he first underwent five days of interrogation by intelligence agents.</p> <p>Then he was interrogated by a team from the Federal Bureau of Investigation for several days.</p> <p>In August the Washington court ruled against his lawyers' motion to suppress whatever he told his interrogators as evidence, because his rights to remain silent, know the charges against him and have a lawyer present were violated.</p> <p>His lawyers also argued that the lengthy 13 day trip by ship back to the United States was part of a scheme to extract information from him without legal protections.</p> <p>But in his August 16 ruling, Judge Christopher Cooper ruled that in fact FBI agents had repeatedly advised Khattala of his "Miranda" rights to have a lawyer present and to remain silent, and had "knowingly and intelligently" waived them.</p> <p>"Abu Khattala was treated humanely and courteously: He was given breaks every hour or two, and offered snacks and refreshments," the judge said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 First Singaporean featured in ISIS video</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/first-singaporean-in-an-isis-video-3-questions-1-why-feature-a-sporean">http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/first-singaporean-in-an-isis-video-3-questions-1-why-feature-a-sporean</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Dressed in military fatigues, and vaulting onto a truck loaded with artillery rounds, Megat Shahdan Abdul Samad last weekend surfaced online as the first Singaporean to anchor one of the slickly produced propaganda videos of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS).</p> <p>In it, the 39-year-old praises East Asian fighters, calls for extremists to join the terror group's efforts in East Asia or the Middle East, and challenges Britain's Prince Harry - a former Apache pilot in the British army, who paid a visit to Singapore in June - to a fight.</p> <p>"Why don't you come here and fight us if you are man enough? So we can send you and your Apaches to hellfire," says Shahdan, who is identified in the video as "Abu Uqayl from Singapore".</p> <p>The 3 1/2-minute clip may be high in machismo, but analysts and community leaders say although ISIS may have put a Singaporean face to its propaganda, it is unlikely to have much impact in getting people here to rally around the group - although it is also impossible to rule out lone individuals being attracted by the video.</p> <p>They point out that only a small number of Singaporeans have been detained for supporting ISIS despite its steady onslaught of online propaganda, compared with the hundreds who have been flagged as ISIS supporters in Malaysia and Indonesia.</p> <p>And just three Singaporeans are known to have made their way to Syria and Iraq to join the extremist group: Shahdan, who has been fighting on the front lines since he entered Syria three years ago, is one of them, as well as Haja Fakkurudeen Usman Ali and Maimunah Abdul Kadir, who left for Syria in 2014 and are believed to still be there with their families.</p> <p>"The level of support and empathy for ISIS in Singapore is very low," said S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) senior analyst Jasminder Singh.</p> <p>And instead of tempting more people here down the path of radicalisation, the clip may well have the effect of drawing disapproval, he added. "I doubt the video will have much traction in Singapore.</p> <p>"If anything, Singaporeans in general and Singapore Muslims in particular will be greatly shocked at the video - that a Malay/Muslim can betray the nation and the Malay community in order to threaten Singapore."</p> <p>Professor Rohan Gunaratna, head of the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, believes this is because Singaporeans are resilient enough to withstand ISIS' propaganda offensive.</p> <p>"Its message will not resonate among Singaporeans as Singaporeans value moderation, tolerance and coexistence," he said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Fatal knife attack Marseille's train station</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-41461107?ns_mchannel=social&amp;ns_campaign=bbc_breaking&amp;ns_source=twitter&amp;ns_linkname=news_central">http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-41461107?ns_mchannel=social&amp;ns_campaign=bbc_breaking&amp;ns_source=twitter&amp;ns_linkname=news_central</a>
<b>GIST</b>	Two people have been killed in a knife attack at Marseille's Saint Charles train station.

	<p>The assailant has been shot dead by security forces in the southern French city. The incident is being treated as an act of terrorism, media report.</p> <p>"Two victims have been stabbed to death," regional police chief Olivier de Mazieres told AFP.</p> <p>France's Interior Minister, Gérard Collomb, said he was immediately travelling to the scene.</p> <p>France's national police tweeted that the situation at the station had been resolved, and the perpetrator "neutralised and shot down".</p> <p>Train traffic has been stopped, it said. Police had earlier asked people to avoid the area.</p> <p>An unnamed official told France's Le Monde newspaper that the assailant had cried "Allahu Akbar" (God is greatest).</p> <p>French media report that both victims were women; one had her throat cut and the other was stabbed to death.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Soccer violence, radicals share links?</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20170929-understanding-soccer-violence-could-help-the-fight-against-terror">http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20170929-understanding-soccer-violence-could-help-the-fight-against-terror</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Violent soccer fans and radicals are motivated by shared experience, new research suggests.</p> <p>Soccer has long been tarnished by outbreaks of fan violence. Although media headlines often link the behavior to “hooliganism,” the activity could stem from potentially more positive motivations, such as passionate commitment to the group and the desire to belong. Understanding the root cause of the behavior may therefore help in tackling the violence and channeling it into something more positive, Oxford University scientists suggest.</p> <p>Oxford says that researchers from the University of Oxford, Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology, used the theory of identity fusion — an extreme form of social bonding – to investigate fan violence in the United Kingdom, Brazil, Australia, and Indonesia. They recently conducted a critical review of literature on the subject.</p> <p>The research, featured in the International Review for the Sociology of Sport, aims to better understand the motivation behind football violence in British and Brazilian fan culture and how this behavior can be both addressed and potentially channeled into pro-social activity.</p> <p>While hooliganism in the United Kingdom and the phenomenon of torcidas organizadas in Brazil have cultural differences, the fundamental motivations that underpin the violence have clear similarities. The research found that both activities are underpinned by shared experiences that created a brothers-in-arms mentality. Regardless of geographic location, football fanatics view other fans as family, and have an overwhelming desire to protect them.</p> <p>Lead author and Postdoctoral researcher at Oxford’s Department of Anthropology, Dr. Martha Newson, said: “Football fandom is in many ways a positive thing that can trigger impressive displays of commitment, like attending every match come rain or shine, or setting up food banks for the community during the recession. Even though you are not literally brothers, you share a sense of kinship based on going through life-changing ordeals together. This produces a shared passion for the cause – or, in football terms, the club. The feeling is that you are looking after your kin and protecting your family. We believe it’s possible to harness these motivations in ways that could lead to positive outcomes.”</p> <p>The critical commentary also finds clear links between the psychology underlying soccer violence and</p>

other extremist activity, such as gang culture and terrorism, which is often rooted in a similar feeling of “brotherhood” [see James L. Gelvin, “Are Islamic State recruits more street gang members than zealots?” HSNW, 21 August 2017]. These group bonding parallels suggest that these different types of extreme pro-group behavior could potentially be tackled in the same way.

Experiments were conducted at fan sites and football grounds during the Brazilian World Cup, and fieldwork observations made at Millwall’s “The Den” and Wolverhampton Football Club as part of the Onside Project, earlier this year. The research team is now working with West Midlands Police’s Football Unit to better understand fan violence and disorder. Over time they hope to extend the research to tackle more dangerous extreme group membership, such as IS fighters, as part of a large project run by Professor Harvey Whitehouse at the Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology.

Dr. Newson added: “Our studies show that many extreme group behaviors are fueled by the same motivations, but football bonding offered us a relatively safe space to start. The more we understand how the behavior works, and what motivates it, the more likely our chances are of reducing it and maybe even harnessing its potential to produce more positive outcomes. Tackling one form of extreme group violence will give us the confidence and tools to apply the learnings to other areas such as fundamentalists and radicals.”

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Tension grows in Iraqi Kurdistan</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/tension-grows-in-iraqi-kurdistan-partner-in-u-s-battle-against-isis/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/tension-grows-in-iraqi-kurdistan-partner-in-u-s-battle-against-isis/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>ERBIL, Iraq -- There's election fallout in Iraq after Kurds voted overwhelming this week for independence. Iraqi Kurds have been a crucial partner of the U.S. in the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, or ISIS.</p> <p>They say the Iraqi government is now taking steps against them that could hinder their efforts.</p> <p>Turkish and Iraqi troops held military drills along Iraqi Kurdistan's northern border this week and in its main airport on Friday, people took the last planes out after Iraq's national government canceled international flights.</p> <p>Federal Iraqi authorities are ratcheting up the tension, pressuring the leaders of this region to cancel the results of Monday's referendum, in which over 90 percent of voters chose full independence.</p> <p>Most are members of the Kurdish ethnic minority and they already rule over their own autonomous region. Iraq's national government says the referendum was illegal.</p> <p>Turkey, which has a restive Kurdish population of its own, condemned the vote and the U.S. also opposed it, worried it could disrupt the fragile cooperation between the Kurds and the Iraqi government in the fight against ISIS. The Kurds of Iraq have battled bravely against ISIS as close American allies who have laid down their lives to defeat the extremists.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Attack ushered France new era of terror</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/2012-attack-ushered-era-terror-france-50208443">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/2012-attack-ushered-era-terror-france-50208443</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Soon after Mohammed Merah's life ended in a torrent of explosions and bullets, the mother of his first victim swore she would devote her life to ensuring that no other parents would suffer as she had.</p> <p>But since the 2012 assault on a Jewish school and soldiers left seven people dead, France has endured a seemingly endless series of attacks and near-misses from extremists with the same background. Merah was the model they hoped to imitate and surpass.</p>

Beginning with that attack, Islamic extremists — most of them homegrown — have killed nearly 250 people in France, far more than anywhere else in Western Europe.

"I said, 'Watch out, there are Merahs everywhere! You have to do something,'" said Latifa Ibn Ziaten, whose son, Imad, was a French paratrooper when Merah shot and killed him on March 11, 2012. "But, unfortunately, no one heard me at first. I think they believed it was just a mother's grief."

Within eight days, Merah attacked other French soldiers and a Jewish school in Toulouse. In all, he killed seven people, including three children in France's first Islamic extremist attack in 17 years.

"France entered a new era. Beginning in 2012, we entered an age of terrorism, where before we believed ourselves protected. It was a turning point in French history," Mathieu Guidere, a professor of Islamic studies in Paris and author of "Islamic Fundamentalism."

Merah, who had gone to Pakistan and trained with al-Qaida-linked extremists, died after a 32-hour televised standoff with France's police special forces. He was 23 and had already been in and out of prison for petty crimes. His older brother, Abdelkader Merah, and an acquaintance will stand trial Monday, charged with complicity in terrorism.

Guidere said the Merah brothers' choice of targets made an impression on a simmering generation of nascent French extremists.

"In attacking, in killing at the same time soldiers and Jewish citizens, he smashed two taboos and opened the path psychologically for those who came after, who saw a model in him and who said to themselves they could do the same thing, if not worse," he said.

Worse came quickly.

In May 2014, a Frenchman who fought alongside Islamic extremists in the Middle East returned to Europe to gun down visitors at a Jewish museum in Brussels, killing four. According to Didier Francois, a former hostage who recognized Mehdi Nemmouche after the extremist's arrest, he had "an obsession to imitate or surpass Merah."

In 2015 and 2016, more French extremists followed suit, either sent by the Islamic State group directly or inspired by its directives to inflict pain and hatred.

"At the time, even if the Merah attack should have been an alert, the attacks in Paris stupefied us. We suddenly discovered that we were a terrorist target and that the risk was everywhere," Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said this week.

Since then, France has more than doubled down on security and, next week, votes on a law that would make permanent many of the measures imposed as part of a state of emergency that began Nov. 13, 2015, when a group of mostly French and Belgian Islamic State fighters killed 130 people with bombs and gunfire in Paris. About 7,000 soldiers, most armed with automatic weapons, are deployed across the country in what the military calls Operation Sentinel.

Other countries also entered the crosshairs of their own homegrown extremists, including Belgium, Britain and Spain. But none suffered as much bloodshed as France, and no other European country has seen as many young people leave to join the Islamic State and other extremist fighters in Iraq and Syria, including Merah's own sister and his half brother.

Through it all, Ibn Ziaten visited schools and prisons, bringing her son's service beret and speaking to those at risk of traveling the same path to extremism as his killer.

Merah's brother, Abdelkader, was in prison, out of sight of the victims of the 2012 attack. On Monday, Ibn

	<p>Ziaten will face him for the first time.</p> <p>"This trial has to shed light, be clear, that the truth come out, that justice be done, and that it become a part of history. Because he is the one who set off all these terrorist attacks in France, it was Merah," she said.</p> <p>Abdelkader Merah is accused of playing an active role in radicalizing his brother and in plotting the attacks. During the standoff with police, Mohammed Merah said he acted alone, according to a transcript obtained by the French newspaper Liberation a few months afterward. According to court documents obtained by The Associated Press, Mohammed Merah wrote in a 2009 letter to Abdelkader from prison: "When I get out, I will know very very precisely what is left for me to do."</p> <p>Mohammed rode a scooter stolen by Abdelkader to the Ozar Hatorah school in Toulouse and, in a span of 38 seconds, gunned down a father and his two young sons, as well as an 8-year-old girl. Ibn Ziaten believes the jailed Abdelkader Merah knows far more than he has admitted about the meticulously planned and videotaped attacks.</p> <p>"I hope I will be allowed to take the stand, to say what I think," Ibn Ziaten said.</p> <p>"These are things that I expect from him: I expect him to speak and that he look at me," she added. "Not a smile. It's not the smile that will disconcert me. Not at all. Or his eyes that will make me afraid. Because I'm not afraid of him."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Canada police investigate 'acts of terrorism'</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/edmonton-police-officer-stabbed-incident-investigated-act-terror/story?id=50207623&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/edmonton-police-officer-stabbed-incident-investigated-act-terror/story?id=50207623&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A police officer in Edmonton, Canada, was stabbed and four civilians injured in two incidents officials are investigating as connected "acts of terrorism."</p> <p>Police said a man drove "at a high rate of speed" into a police barricade where an officer was directing traffic outside an Edmonton Eskimos Canadian Football League game at about 8:15 p.m. local time Saturday evening in Alberta province.</p> <p>The 30-year-old suspect then exited the vehicle, a white Chevrolet Malibu, and used a knife to attack an officer who had been thrown to the ground in the collision, police said.</p> <p>The officer was stabbed multiple times, but police reported his injuries are not life-threatening.</p> <p>The suspect then fled the scene on foot and managed to escape police.</p> <p>Two hours later, police pulled over the driver of a U-Haul truck at a police checkpoint in the city and asked for the person's license. The officer noticed the name was similar to the owner of the Chevy Malibu, upon which the U-Haul driver fled the scene with police in pursuit.</p> <p>According to police, the U-Haul driver drove toward downtown Edmonton and "attempted to deliberately hit pedestrians in the crosswalk." Four civilians were injured, however, police did not have an update on their conditions.</p> <p>The U-Haul flipped on its side on Jasper Avenue, a main thoroughfare through downtown Edmonton, during the chase and police managed to apprehend the individual, police said.</p> <p>The two incidents are believed to be related, and according to police, they believe the person acted alone.</p> <p>The Edmonton Police Service said an ISIS flag was displayed on the dashboard of the Chevy Malibu that</p>



	<p>rammed the officer outside Commonwealth Stadium. Police confirmed the item was taken as evidence, but would only say it was part of the investigation.</p> <p>"Based on evidence at the scenes and the actions of the suspect, at 12:38 a.m. today it was determined that these incidents are being investigated as acts of terrorism," said Rod Knecht, Edmonton police chief.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Iraq forces seize oil fields from ISIS</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/iraqi-forces-seize-oil-fields-in-offensive-to-free-hawijah-from-is-117100100007_1.html">http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/iraqi-forces-seize-oil-fields-in-offensive-to-free-hawijah-from-is-117100100007_1.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The Iraqi security forces on Saturday seized two oil fields in second phase of offensive to dislodge the extremist Islamic State (IS) militants from Hawijah and surrounding areas, the Iraqi military said.</p> <p>The security forces managed to free the oil fields of Allas and Ajil in the eastern part of Iraq's northern central province of Salahudin, after two days of clashes with IS militants, a source from Salahudin Operations Command, told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.</p> <p>By Saturday evening, the troops recaptured all the oil wells of the two oil fields and seized the nearby Himreen mountain range in south of the IS-held city of Hawijah, which itself located some 230 km north of Baghdad, the source said.</p> <p>Before the offensive, the IS militants seized roughly 100 oil wells of the 200 wells of the two oil fields, and they used to extract crude oil and refine it in primitive ways, leaving many nearby valleys filled with leaked oil, he said.</p> <p>The militants set fires in some 34 oil wells, some of them were on fire for about three years since the extremist group captured the area in 2014, the source added.</p> <p>In the past, Ajil oil field used to give some 35,000 barrels per day (bpd). The two oil fields, Allas and Ajil, were seized by IS militants following the June 10 blitzkrieg when the group seized large swathes of territories in predominantly Sunni provinces.</p> <p>The oil fields became an important source of funding for the IS group, which extracted about 10,000 bpd and transported to others areas under its control.</p> <p>The battles in the oil fields were part of an offensive began on Friday when the Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi announced the launch of the second phase of offensive to dislodge the extremist IS militants from their stronghold in the city of Hawijah and surrounding areas.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Canadian jailed 9yrs under terror law</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://aa.com.tr/en/americas/canadian-jailed-9-years-under-terrorism-law/923286">http://aa.com.tr/en/americas/canadian-jailed-9-years-under-terrorism-law/923286</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A Quebec man who attempted to leave Canada and join Daesh in Syria was sentenced to nine years in prison Friday.</p> <p>Ismael Habib, 29, was found guilty under the Anti-Terrorism Act that Canada established in 2013. He is the first adult to be found guilty, under the act, of attempting to leave Canada to take part in terrorist activities.</p> <p>A Canadian judge handed Habib an eight-year sentence under the terrorism act and one year for giving false information to try to obtain a passport.</p>

“This wasn’t a utopian or irrational project for a manipulated adolescent,” Quebec Court Judge Serge Delisle said of Habib.

“Rather, it was done with perfect knowledge of the objectives of the Islamic State and its methods used.

The offender multiplied his efforts to get to Syria to join the Islamic State. He didn’t plan on getting there to play a passive role. He was ready to do anything for the Islamic State, up to dying.”

Delisle was referring to the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, another name for Daesh.

With a reduction for time served in custody, about 27 months, and his Friday sentences running concurrently, Habib will spend another six-and-a-half years in prison. He was found guilty in June.

The prosecution said Habib was totally submerged in Daesh ideology and was a threat to the public.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Texas man convicted for aiding attack</b>
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<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/29/nyregion/texas-man-convicted-of-helping-attack-us-army-base-in-afghanistan.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/29/nyregion/texas-man-convicted-of-helping-attack-us-army-base-in-afghanistan.html</a>
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<b>GIST</b>	<p>In January 2009, two trucks packed with explosives careened toward the front gate of a remote United States Army base in the Khost Province of Afghanistan. The first truck exploded near the gate, injuring a pregnant Afghan woman and several others. But the terrorist plot to kill American soldiers was foiled when the second truck crashed into the blast crater left by the initial explosion.</p> <p>On Friday, a Texas-born man, Muhanad Mahmoud Al Farekh, was convicted of having helped to plan the attack as an operative of Al Qaeda. After a weeklong trial in Federal District Court in Brooklyn, Mr. Farekh was found guilty on charges of providing material aid to terrorists.</p> <p>Born in Houston and raised in Dubai, Mr. Farekh, 31, served in Al Qaeda’s external operations unit from 2007 to 2014, prosecutors said, where his duties included collecting money for the terrorist group’s fighters. When he was first identified as a Qaeda operative, his case prompted a debate within the U.S. government over whether it was morally and legally defensible to kill an American citizen overseas without a trial.</p> <p>Although the Pentagon nominated Mr. Farekh to be placed on the so-called kill list of terrorism suspects and the Central Intelligence Agency pushed for him to be killed, he was taken into custody in Pakistan in 2014 based on intelligence provided by American officials. After being questioned by a team of elite terrorism investigators, he was eventually brought to Brooklyn to stand trial.</p> <p>At the trial, prosecutors described how Mr. Farekh had studied at the University of Manitoba in Western Canada and was radicalized in part by the online sermons of Anwar al-Awlaki, an American-born Islamic cleric who was killed by the C.I.A. in Yemen in 2011. Prosecutors said that Mr. Farekh and two friends, Ferid Imam and Maiwand Yar, traveled to Pakistan in 2007. There, they said, Mr. Farekh joined Al Qaeda, working his way up the ranks, his ascent assisted by marrying the daughter of a top Qaeda leader.</p> <p>After an attack at Forward Operating Base Chapman on Jan. 19, 2009, forensic technicians were able to recover latent fingerprints from the adhesive packing tape used to bind together the explosive material in the second undetonated bomb, prosecutors said. At least 12 of those prints, they said, matched Mr. Farekh’s.</p> <p>Starting in 2012, the Obama administration began a series of discussions about Mr. Farekh’s fate. Though American drones had shown him several times in Pakistan in the early months of 2013 and spy agencies were monitoring his communications, the decision eventually was made to spare his life.</p>
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Among the witnesses who testified against Mr. Farekh was Zarein Ahmedzay who said that while they were in the tribal areas of Pakistan, he had taught Mr. Farekh how to handle weapons, like pistols, machine guns and hand grenades. Mr. Ahmedzay took the stand against Mr. Farekh under a cooperation agreement with the government reached after he pleaded guilty in 2010 to planning an attack on the New York City subway system.

Mr. Farekh will face up to life in prison at his sentencing scheduled for Jan. 11.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Man sorry for trying to aid ISIS</b>
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<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/09/30/man-expresses-remorse-for-trying-to-help-islamic-state-group.html">http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/09/30/man-expresses-remorse-for-trying-to-help-islamic-state-group.html</a>
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<b>GIST</b>	<p>COLUMBUS, Ohio – An Ohio man has written a letter to the judge overseeing his case expressing remorse for trying to help the Islamic State group.</p> <p>Aaron Daniels pleaded guilty in July to a charge accusing him of trying to travel to Libya to join the group.</p> <p>Authorities allege Daniels wired \$250 to an Islamic State group operative in January 2016 and told an undercover informant he was interested in traveling to commit violence overseas.</p> <p>Daniels was 20 years old when he was taken into custody last November.</p> <p>Daniels sent federal Judge Edmund Sargus a handwritten letter this week saying he regretted his association with "such an atrocious terrorist organization."</p> <p>He faces up to 20 years in prison. No sentencing date has been set. His attorney declined comment.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Monitor: airstrikes kill civilians in Syria</b>
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<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.yahoo.com/news/air-strikes-kill-28-civilians-syria-safe-zone-071259736.html">https://www.yahoo.com/news/air-strikes-kill-28-civilians-syria-safe-zone-071259736.html</a>
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<b>GIST</b>	<p>Beirut (AFP) - At least 28 civilians were killed in air strikes on northwestern Syria where a planned safe zone has been overshadowed by a bombing campaign against jihadists, a monitor said Saturday.</p> <p>Four children were among the dead in the overnight strikes on the town of Armanaz, in Idlib province near the Turkish border, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.</p> <p>The Britain-based watchdog had earlier reported 12 dead in the strikes on the town in Harem district around 20 kilometres (12 miles) northwest of the provincial capital Idlib.</p> <p>An AFP correspondent who toured Armanaz on Saturday morning said entire apartment blocks had been flattened by the bombardment.</p> <p>The Observatory said it could not immediately determine whether the strikes had been carried out by warplanes of the Syrian government or its ally Russia.</p>
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## Suspicious, Unusual

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 School: shooting attracts profiteers</b>
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SOURCE	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/770858/officials-school-shootings-attract-profiteers/">http://mynorthwest.com/770858/officials-school-shootings-attract-profiteers/</a>
GIST	<p>SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — The superintendent of a Washington school district says she started receiving emails from people trying to sell “door locks, metal detectors and emergency supplies” within 10 minutes after a school shooting.</p> <p>The Spokesman-Review reports Marysville School District Superintendent Becky Berg says the emails she received following a deadly 2014 shooting at Marysville-Pilchuck High School “couldn’t have been more offensive.”</p> <p>She says “people prey upon your vulnerability in order to profit for themselves.”</p> <p>Freeman School District Superintendent Randy Russell says the district was inundated with calls and emails “to support Freeman” following a shooting at Freeman High School two and a half weeks ago.</p> <p>School shooting experts say profiteering from school shootings is not an isolated event. In fact, an industry of sorts has developed around mass shootings.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>10/02 Attacks in Cuba hit US spy network</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://apnews.com/d0fa8db258bf4c5492428e448e953102/APNewsBreak:-Attacks-in-Havana-hit-US-spy-network-in-Cuba">https://apnews.com/d0fa8db258bf4c5492428e448e953102/APNewsBreak:-Attacks-in-Havana-hit-US-spy-network-in-Cuba</a>
GIST	<p>HAVANA (AP) — Frightening attacks on U.S. personnel in Havana struck the heart of America’s spy network in Cuba, with intelligence operatives among the first and most severely affected victims, The Associated Press has learned.</p> <p>It wasn’t until U.S. spies, posted to the embassy under diplomatic cover, reported hearing bizarre sounds and experiencing even stranger physical effects that the United States realized something was wrong, individuals familiar with the situation said.</p> <p>While the attacks started within days of President Donald Trump’s surprise election in November, the precise timeline remains unclear, including whether intelligence officers were the first victims hit or merely the first victims to report it. The U.S. has called the situation “ongoing.”</p> <p>To date, the Trump administration largely has described the 21 victims as U.S. embassy personnel or “members of the diplomatic community.” That description suggested only bona fide diplomats and their family members were struck, with no logical motivation beyond disrupting U.S.-Cuban relations.</p> <p>Behind the scenes, though, investigators immediately started searching for explanations in the darker, rougher world of spycraft and counterespionage, given that so many of the first reported cases involved intelligence workers posted to the U.S. embassy. That revelation, confirmed to the AP by a half-dozen officials, adds yet another element of mystery to a year-long saga that the Trump administration says may not be over.</p> <p>The State Department and the CIA declined to comment for this story.</p> <p>The first disturbing reports of piercing, high-pitched noises and inexplicable ailments pointed to someone deliberately targeting the U.S. government’s intelligence network on the communist-run island, in what seemed like a bone-chilling escalation of the tit-for-tat spy games that Washington and Havana have waged over the last half century.</p> <p>But the U.S. soon discovered that actual diplomats at the embassy had also been hit by similar attacks, officials said, further confounding the search for a culprit and a motive.</p> <p>Of the 21 confirmed cases, American spies suffered some of the most acute damage, including brain injury</p>

and hearing loss that has not healed, said several U.S. officials who weren't authorized to speak publicly on the investigation and demanded anonymity. They heard an unsettling sound inside and in some cases outside their Havana homes, described as similar to loud crickets. Then they fell ill.

Over time, the attacks seemed to evolve.

In many of the more recent cases, victims didn't hear noises and weren't aware an attack was occurring, identifying the symptoms only later. That has raised concerns among investigators that the attacks may be getting more sophisticated and harder to detect, individuals briefed on the investigation said.

Though the State Department has called all the cases "medically confirmed," several U.S. officials said it's unclear whether all of the victims' symptoms can be conclusively tied to attacks. Considering the deep sense of alarm among Americans working in the embassy, it's possible some workers attributed unrelated illnesses to attacks.

Almost nothing about what has transpired in Havana is perfectly clear. But this is Cuba.

For decades, Washington and Havana pushed their rivalry to unprecedented levels of covert action. The former enemies tracked each other's personnel, turned each other's agents and, in the case of the CIA, even mounted a failed attempt to overthrow the Cuban government in the 1961 "Bay of Pigs" invasion.

There were hopes, though, that the two nations were starting to put that bitter history behind them after renewing diplomatic relations in 2015. When the attacks first occurred, the U.S. and Cuban governments were hard at work on clinching new commercial and immigration agreements. No new spat among intelligence services was publicly known.

Eleven months on, the U.S. cannot guarantee the threat is over. Last week, the State Department warned Americans to stay away from Cuba and ordered more than half the embassy staff to leave indefinitely. The U.S. had previously given all embassy staff the option to come home, but even most of those struck by the mysterious attacks had opted to stay, individuals familiar with the situation said.

For those staying and new arrivals, the U.S. has been giving instructions about what to watch and listen for to identify an attack in progress. They're also learning steps to take if an attack occurs that could mitigate the risk, officials said.

But the U.S. has not identified whatever device is responsible for the harm. FBI sweeps have turned up nothing.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Plague-hit Madagascar death toll at 21</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/steps-aid-plague-hit-madagascar-21-deaths-50209251?">http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/steps-aid-plague-hit-madagascar-21-deaths-50209251?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The U.N. health agency says it is stepping up its response to an outbreak of plague in Madagascar that has claimed 21 lives so far.</p> <p>The World Health Organization said Sunday that Malagasy authorities have confirmed a basketball coach visiting the island from the Seychelles for a sports event died from the disease Wednesday. It says authorities are trying to trace people he may have come into contact with to administer antibiotics against pneumonic plague.</p> <p>WHO says it is deploying further staff and supplies amid concerned the disease could spread further because cases have already been reported in several cities.</p> <p>So far at least 114 people have been infected with the plague since the outbreak was identified in late August. Both pneumonic and bubonic plague are endemic on the island.</p>

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Evergreen sanctions student protesters</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/education/article176254816.html">http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/education/article176254816.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>About 80 protesters have been sanctioned for breaking the student conduct code at The Evergreen State College in Olympia last spring, when race-related protests broke out on campus, college officials say.</p> <p>About 120 incident reports involving 180 students were filed during the campus unrest, college spokeswoman Sandra Kaiser told The Olympian.</p> <p>“Of those 180 students, approximately 80 were found responsible for their actions,” she said. “They received sanctions ranging from formal warnings, community service and probation, to suspension.”</p> <p>The students were adjudicated using the student conduct code during spring and summer quarters, she said.</p> <p>In addition, non-students who were involved in the disruptions were issued criminal trespass warnings, and one person was “subsequently arrested and permanently barred from campus,” said college spokesman Zach Powers.</p> <p>Evergreen is no stranger to protests, but college president George Bridges said some students went too far in May when they interrupted faculty member Bret Weinstein’s class, and a day later pushed furniture against doors to create barricades during a takeover of the library building.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 US pulls half embassy staff out Cuba</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/29/us/politics/us-embassy-cuba-attacks.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/29/us/politics/us-embassy-cuba-attacks.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>WASHINGTON — The State Department announced on Friday that it is pulling more than half of its staff out of the American embassy in Havana in the wake of mysterious attacks that have injured 21 people associated with the embassy.</p> <p>Some of those attacked have suffered significant injuries, with symptoms including hearing loss, dizziness, tinnitus, balance and visual problems, headache, fatigue, cognitive issues and difficulty sleeping. But despite an intensive investigation by the F.B.I., the cause and perpetrators of the attacks remain a mystery, with some experts speculating that some kind of sonic weapon or faulty surveillance device may have been at fault.</p> <p>The department will also issue an advisory warning to American citizens who travel to Cuba that they could face unusual risks. Some of the attacks occurred in hotels where State Department employees were temporarily staying, leading officials to worry that tourists and others could be affected. But there is no evidence so far that tourists or hotel employees have been affected, according to the State Department.</p> <p>State Department officials have decided they will not punish Cuba by forcing the country to reduce its own diplomatic staff in Washington, a decision that was immediately attacked by Senator Marco Rubio, a Republican from Florida who fiercely opposed President Barack Obama’s decision to improve ties with Cuba.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Cow farts global warming threat?</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/livestock-emissions-global-warming/2017/09/29/id/816781/">http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/livestock-emissions-global-warming/2017/09/29/id/816781/</a>

<p>GIST</p>	<p>Scientists have underestimated just how much livestock feces and gas have contributed to global warming, a new study contends.</p> <p>In the study posted Friday in the journal Carbon Balance and Management, researchers from the Department of Agriculture, the Joint Global Change Research Institute and the Department of Energy discovered previous estimates of methane emissions from livestock were off by more than 10 percent.</p> <p>Forbes noted methane gas is a natural byproduct of digestion, made by that microbes in an animal's gut that breakdown and ferment the food eaten — and a principle component of farts.</p> <p>It's also 85 times more powerful in trapping heat within Earth's atmosphere than carbon dioxide — which is usually given the principle blame for global warming, Forbes reported.</p> <p>Led by USDA plant physiologist Julie Wolf, the researchers looked at the data underpinning an old estimate of the effects of methane, realizing some dated back decades — and didn't take into account changes in land and animal use.</p> <p>The figures that served as a basis for the 2006 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change were off by 11 percent, the researchers determined.</p>
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<p>HEADLINE</p>	<p><b>09/30 Yemen's massive cholera outbreak</b></p>
<p>SOURCE</p>	<p><a href="https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2017/09/30/Oxfam-Yemen-cholera-outbreak-nearing-largest-in-recorded-history/4271506791656/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=lh&amp;utm_medium=1">https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2017/09/30/Oxfam-Yemen-cholera-outbreak-nearing-largest-in-recorded-history/4271506791656/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=lh&amp;utm_medium=1</a></p>
<p>GIST</p>	<p>Sept. 30 (UPI) -- Yemen's massive cholera outbreak could infect more than one million people by the end of the year, experts believe.</p> <p>The World Health Organization's Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean reported 745,205 suspected cholera cases and 2,119 associated deaths in the country as of Wednesday.</p> <p>British charity Oxfam sad the epidemic is already the fastest-growing in recorded history and is expected to soon surpass the 754,373 cases recorded in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.</p> <p>"Yemen is the world's worst humanitarian crisis and it is getting even worse. More than two years of war have created ideal conditions for the disease to spread," Oxfam's Humanitarian Director Nigel Timmins said. "The war has pushed the country to the edge of famine, forced millions from their homes, virtually destroyed the already weak health services and hampered efforts to respond to the cholera outbreak."</p> <p>The United Nations and global children's advocacy group Save the Children warned of the ongoing cholera epidemic in early August while reinvigorating calls for international humanitarian aid.</p> <p>Less than half of the country's medical centers remain functional following a civil war that engulfed the country in March 2015.</p> <p>The severe damage to the medical system, along with 14.5 million people lacking regular access to clean water, allowed the deadly disease to spread since the epidemic began in March of this year.</p>
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<p>HEADLINE</p>	<p><b>09/29 College food pantries spread</b></p>
<p>SOURCE</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ocregister.com/2017/09/29/starving-students-no-longer-a-laughing-matter-as-free-college-food-pantries-spread/">http://www.ocregister.com/2017/09/29/starving-students-no-longer-a-laughing-matter-as-free-college-food-pantries-spread/</a></p>
<p>GIST</p>	<p>Across Southern California and the nation, colleges and universities no longer view the concept of the</p>

starving student as an inevitable joke, but a serious issue. To address what's become known as "food insecurity," campuses are opening up free pantries.

Some are as small as closets. In fact, UCLA's pantry is called the Food Closet.

Others began small and grew.

Cal State San Bernardino on Thursday dedicated their renamed Obershaw DEN pantry, which was remodeled and has added refrigeration for perishables.

A day earlier, the UCI campus celebrated the opening of a remodeled pantry touted as the biggest in the UC system. At more than 1,800 square feet, it features not only free food and toiletries but sitting areas, a "kitchenette" with small appliances and a space for weekly food demonstrations and nutrition talks.

There are more than 540 campus food pantries across the U.S. registered with the College and University Food Bank Alliance, which is tracking the trend.

All UC campuses – and all but one of the California state universities – now have food pantries, as do many community colleges.

Even some pricey private colleges, including Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles and Chapman University in Orange, say they have students who simply can't afford to cover the cost of tuition, books, labs, transportation and food.

"Some LMU students were surprised to see that kind of need at LMU," said Lorena Chavez, the university's assistant director for community engagement. Then, they began inquiring about it for research papers and to offer donations.

"For me, it was that 'aha' moment," Chavez said. Need isn't restricted to any one campus, she said, "especially when it comes to food insecurity."

For some students who visit local campus pantries, the free food is more than a supplement. It's a necessity.

Studies indicate a significant percentage of college students are experiencing various levels of food insecurity, ranging from going hungry to poor diets:

- A 2016 UC survey of nearly 9,000 students found that 42 percent experienced food insecurity; 23 percent had diets of reduced quality, variety or desirability; and 19 percent weren't getting enough food because they couldn't afford it.
- A 2017 Community College report found that about 12.2 percent of students experienced food insecurity.
- A 2016 Cal State University system study reporting preliminary data based on Cal State Long Beach respondents suggested 24 percent of students were experiencing food insecurity. A second phase of the survey of all the system's 23 campuses is expected to be released next year.

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HEADLINE	<b>09/30 Austria burqa ban signals change?</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://apnews.com/9da7fcf1ab0f4a3ba1d7f9ebb16e1a81/'Burqa-ban'-law-signals-rightward-political-turn-in-Austria">https://apnews.com/9da7fcf1ab0f4a3ba1d7f9ebb16e1a81/'Burqa-ban'-law-signals-rightward-political-turn-in-Austria</a>
GIST	VIENNA (AP) — A law prohibiting any kind of full-face covering, known popularly as the "Burqa Ban," takes effect Sunday in Austria, where the strong support for it portends potential political upheaval in the upcoming national election.



Parties campaigning on an anti-migrant message are poised to win on Oct. 15 and to form a coalition government. Such a rightward swing in a country that's had centrist governments almost consistently since World War II could have repercussions across Europe, emboldening politicians who take a hard line on Islam and immigration.

Last week, the right-wing, anti-migrant Alternative for Germany party won seats in Germany's national parliament for the first time after featuring posters with the slogan "Burqas? We prefer bikinis" in its campaign.

The Austrian law — called "Prohibition for the Covering of the Face" — forbids off-slope ski masks, surgical masks outside hospitals and party masks in public. Violations carry a possible fine of 150 euros (nearly \$180) and police are authorized to use force with people who resist showing their faces.

But its popular name reflects the most prevalent association — the garments some Muslim women wear to conceal their whole faces and bodies. The garments are rare in Austria even after the recent surge of migrants into Europe. Support for the law is strong nonetheless, reflecting anti-Muslim attitudes in the predominantly Catholic country.

"It's not right that those living here don't show their faces," said Emma Schwaiger, who expressed support for the ban in a straw poll on the streets of Vienna.

Five in seven of those who said they backed the law also said they will vote for the two parties that critics link to anti-Muslim sentiment — the traditionally xenophobic Freedom Party and the People's Party. The People's Party avoids the Freedom Party's inflammatory talk, but has swung radically from the center under new leader Sebastian Kurz to echo that party's positions on migration.

The Social Democratic Party, currently the majority partner in the government coalition with the People's Party, has been left struggling.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Illinois exodus for too high taxes?</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-biz-homeowners-leaving-illinois-20170919-story.html">http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-biz-homeowners-leaving-illinois-20170919-story.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>In 2016, Illinois lost 37,508 people, putting the state's population at its lowest level in nearly a decade, according to U.S. census data. It was the third consecutive year the state lost more residents than any other state. The state's population count for 2017 won't be released until December.</p> <p>Some of those who are leaving Illinois say they're frustrated with their tax burden and the state's financial situation. After going more than two years without a budget, Illinois lawmakers passed a spending plan over the summer, one that involved a 32 percent income tax hike for residents. The state is still digging itself out of the financial disarray that accumulated during the budget impasse. A Forbes listing of the best and worst states for taxes in 2016, before the tax hike, ranked Illinois 46th, signifying a heavier tax burden.</p> <p>But demographers aren't ready to chalk the outmigration up to tax pressures entirely.</p> <p>Brookings Institution demographer William Frey said that when people move, it's usually for employment, and not necessarily because of taxes. Most of the people moving are in their 20s and 30s, are establishing themselves in careers, and are relocating for job opportunities.</p> <p>"When you have more people moving out than in, it means the employment is somewhere else," Frey said. Regardless of whether or not they are the primary factor behind relocations, high tax rates still affect the housing market by cutting into the amount of money residents have to spend.</p> <p>Lance Ramella, president of Housing Trends, a Chicago-based housing market consultant, said weak</p>

	<p>growth in the Chicago economy, unresolved government fiscal issues and high taxes are all tied together, and are resulting in a “stagnant” housing market.</p> <p>Even though it’s difficult to determine how much of an impact tax concerns are having on real estate, the weakness in the local housing market is clear, said Geoff Smith, executive director of the Institute for Housing Studies at DePaul University. Home prices in many major metropolitan areas have recovered and hit new highs since the 2008 housing crash, but in the Chicago area only a few suburbs and select city neighborhoods have rebounded, he said.</p> <p>According to CoreLogic, a global property information firm, the Chicago area is one of the U.S. metropolitan areas with the highest percentage of homeowners underwater with their mortgages, meaning they owe more than their homes are worth. During the second quarter of this year, 10.8 percent of residences in the Chicago metro area were underwater, compared with 13.5 percent during the second quarter of 2016, according to CoreLogic.</p> <p>The day after the Illinois legislature voted to raise the individual income tax rate from 3.75 to 4.95 percent, Northfield-based financial planner Ellen Rogin said she started getting phone calls from clients who are residents of Chicago with second homes in Florida.</p> <p>The clients, according to Rogin, were saying “I’m worried about Illinois. Should I be moving to Florida?”</p> <p>Rogin said anyone considering a move has to look at lifestyle, not just taxes.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 US direct communication w/NKorea</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/30/world/asia/us-north-korea-tillerson.html?mcubz=3">https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/30/world/asia/us-north-korea-tillerson.html?mcubz=3</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson on Saturday said Washington is in direct contact with North Korea over the country’s recent missile tests, the first time the Trump administration has acknowledged it is engaged in backchannel communications with Pyongyang.</p> <p>“We are probing, so stay tuned,” Tillerson said after meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing. “We ask, ‘Would you like to talk?’ We have lines of communications to Pyongyang — we’re not in a dark situation, a blackout. We have a couple, three channels open to Pyongyang,” he said.</p> <p>He did not elaborate on how North Korea has responded to U.S. overtures but said, “We can talk to them. We do talk to them.”</p> <p>“The whole situation is a bit overheated right now,” he said, referring to threats being exchanged between President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.</p> <p>“If North Korea would stop firing its missiles, that would calm things down a lot,” he said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Nevada pot sales outpaces other states</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/769100/nevada-pot-sales-bigger-than-first-months-in-or-co-wa/">http://mynorthwest.com/769100/nevada-pot-sales-bigger-than-first-months-in-or-co-wa/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>RENO, Nev. (AP) — The first month of legal sales of recreational marijuana in Nevada significantly outpaced the opening month of sales in other states where it’s legal for adult use.</p> <p>The state Department of Taxation says Nevada dispensaries sold \$27.1 million worth of pot in July.</p> <p>That compares to \$14 million in each of Oregon and Colorado, and \$3.8 million in Washington when those states first legalized recreational sales.</p>

The combination of a 15 percent wholesale tax and a 10 percent retail tax generated \$3.68 million in state tax revenue.

Nevada Tax Department spokeswoman Stephanie Klapstein says the numbers are consistent with projections legal pot sales will bring in \$120 million over the next two years.

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## Crime, Criminals

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HEADLINE	<b>10/01 Trafficking victims turn to hotline for help</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/trafficking-victims-turn-hotline-pleas-50211428?cid=clicksource_4380645_6_heads_posts_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/trafficking-victims-turn-hotline-pleas-50211428?cid=clicksource_4380645_6_heads_posts_headlines_hed</a>
GIST	<p>The tipster's account was grim. A woman had suffered broken ribs and a punctured lung at the hands of a man who for nine years had been forcing her into prostitution.</p> <p>That confidential call was received in late January by the National Human Trafficking Hotline, which relayed the tip to an anti-trafficking task force operating in Virginia's Hampton Roads area. Within days, investigators located and interviewed the woman, and arrested the man, Naeem Lateef Odums. He was indicted on sex trafficking charges in March, pleaded guilty in June and will be sentenced in November to at least 15 years in prison.</p> <p>"The hotline is extremely effective," said Michael Lamonea, a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement special agent who assists the task force. "It's crucial to get folks the knowledge that there is help out there — there is a light at the end of the tunnel."</p> <p>Many Americans know little about the hotline beyond the billboards and other public service ads providing its phone number. Yet people in the anti-trafficking field say it performs well at two vital roles — as a conduit for people to report suspected trafficking and as an immediate resource for trafficking victims in need of help.</p> <p>As of December, the hotline will have been operating in its current form for 10 years. In 2008, it received 3,514 calls, including just a few hundred from trafficking victims. In 2016, there were 26,727 calls, including more than 4,600 from victims, fielded by 55 specially trained staffers at the hotline's call center.</p> <p>The toll-free hotline is available to field calls 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Callers can speak with the staffers in English or Spanish, or in more than 200 additional languages using an interpreting service.</p> <p>An early version of the hotline was created by the Department of Health and Human Services in 2004, but it took its current shape in 2007 when HHS chose Polaris, a Washington-based anti-trafficking nonprofit, to operate it. Its budget is now \$2.85 million, including \$1.5 million in federal funding and the rest from donors.</p> <p>"We've been working hard at reaching more survivors and building trust so the number of calls would increase," said Polaris' executive director, Bradley Myles. "We wanted to offer a lifeline to those who were stuck in a trafficking situation and didn't know how to get help."</p> <p>The largest number of calls comes from Houston, New York and Los Angeles; the most calls per capita are from Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Las Vegas and the Florida cities of Orlando and Miami.</p> <p>Myles attributed the rise in calls to increased awareness of the hotline and its confidentiality policy. All communications are kept confidential unless a caller consents to being connected to law enforcement or a social service provider, or if the caller reports a situation of imminent danger.</p>

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Police investigate South Park shooting</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://komonews.com/news/local/teen-shot-in-south-park">http://komonews.com/news/local/teen-shot-in-south-park</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SEATTLE -- A 19-year-old woman was shot in South Park early Sunday morning, adding to the level of violence in that community <u>that has increased police efforts there.</u></p> <p>Police went to the 1000 block of South Donovan Street after 1 a.m. to find the woman, who had been wounded in the shoulder. She was taken to Harborview Medical Center.</p> <p>She told police that she had arrived at a house to visit friends and was shot. The people inside the house didn't provide any more details.</p> <p>Gang unit detectives are investigating...</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Grisly discovery at Kent strip mall</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/crime/article176448406.html">http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/crime/article176448406.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Kent police on Sunday were investigating a shooting that left one man dead and two others injured.</p> <p>A security guard on patrol discovered two of the victims — one dead — on the ground at a strip mall in the 18100 block of East Valley Highway.</p> <p>The wounded man was taken to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle with life-threatening injuries, Kent police said.</p> <p>About the same time, a third man with a gunshot wound arrived at Valley Medical Center via private vehicle. He also was taken to Harborview with life-threatening injuries, police said.</p> <p>Initially, police were dispatched about 3:20 a.m. to the report of a gunshot heard east of the 18000 block of East Valley Highway. Officers did not find anything.</p> <p>About 20 minutes later the guard made his discovery.</p> <p>Detectives were speaking with witnesses and collecting evidence, they said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Shocking wave of violence Rio de Janeiro</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/rios-kids-dying-crossfire-wave-violence-50222141">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/rios-kids-dying-crossfire-wave-violence-50222141</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>An unborn boy's lung is punctured by a bullet while still in the womb. A 2-year-old girl is shot in the head while playing at a restaurant. Three stray bullets cut down a 13-year-old during physical education class at school.</p> <p>Rio de Janeiro, which just a year ago was in the global spotlight as it hosted the Summer Olympics, has always struggled with crime. But amid a national economic crisis that has exacerbated deep problems of inequality, this city famous for both its glamorous beaches and its sprawling slums is experiencing a wave of violence that's the worst in a decade.</p> <p>With an estimated average of 15 shootings a day involving police and heavily armed gangs that control large swaths of the city, hundreds of civilians have been killed or injured in the crossfire — and</p>

	<p>increasingly that includes children, many of whom have been felled this year by bullets intended for others.</p> <p>In July, the federal government deployed over 8,500 soldiers to try to stamp out crime in Rio's roughest neighborhoods. But so far they have not been able to stem the bloodshed.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Trial NKorea Kim's half-brother killing</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/trial-begin-assassination-korea-leaders-brother-50219910">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/trial-begin-assassination-korea-leaders-brother-50219910</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Two women accused of fatally poisoning the estranged half brother of North Korea's ruler pleaded not guilty as their trial began Monday in Malaysia's High Court, nearly eight months after the brazen airport assassination that sparked a diplomatic standoff.</p> <p>Siti Aisyah of Indonesia and Doan Thi Huong of Vietnam are suspected of smearing Kim Jong Nam's face with the banned VX nerve agent on Feb. 13 at a crowded airport terminal in Kuala Lumpur, killing him within about 20 minutes. The women say they thought they were playing a harmless prank for a hidden-camera show.</p> <p>After asking for the charges to be read in their native languages, the women shook their heads when asked if they were guilty.</p> <p>The two women are the only suspects in custody in a killing that South Korea's spy agency said was part of a five-year plot by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to kill a brother he reportedly never met. Police say several North Koreans suspected of involvement left the country on the day of the attack. Others who holed up inside North Korea's embassy were allowed to leave in a deal with Pyongyang to ease tensions, despite Malaysia's anger at the public use of a chemical weapon on its territory.</p> <p>Lawyers for two women, who face the death penalty if convicted, asked the court to compel prosecutors to identify four people still at large mentioned in the charge sheet as having a common intention to kill Kim. The judge denied the request.</p> <p>North Korea has a long history of ordering killings of people it views as threats to its regime, though Kim was not thought to be seeking influence over his younger brother. He had, however, spoken out publicly against his family's dynastic control of the reclusive, nuclear-armed nation.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/02 Deadliest mass shooting US history</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/las-vegas-shooting-mandalay-bay-resort-casino/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/las-vegas-shooting-mandalay-bay-resort-casino/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>LAS VEGAS – A shooting at a music festival on the Las Vegas Strip killed at least 50 people and wounded more than 200 others late Sunday, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said.</p> <p>It was the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history.</p> <p>He said the man authorities think was the sole gunman was killed by police on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino across Las Vegas Boulevard from the Route 91 Harvest Festival, a country music festival.</p> <p>"We believe it's a solo actor. A lone wolf," Lombardo said.</p> <p>He said the gunman is an area resident.</p>

	<p>Law enforcement sources told CBS News a search warrant has been issued for the home of the shooter, identified as Stephen Paddock, 64, of Mesquite, Nevada.</p> <p>Two law enforcement sources told CBS News senior investigative producer Pat Milton that at this point, it doesn't appear the shooting was an act of terrorism. The suspect was known to police in Mesquite and had a criminal history, the sources said.</p> <p>Lombardo said authorities believe they had found a traveling companion of the deceased gunman they were seeking, who Lombardo identified as Marilou Danley. Law enforcement sources tell Milton that Danley was Paddock's wife.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 Pipeline activists embrace unique defense</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.khq.com/story/36494323/activists-in-4-state-pipeline-protest-embrace-unique-defense">http://www.khq.com/story/36494323/activists-in-4-state-pipeline-protest-embrace-unique-defense</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - An environmental activist who targeted an oil pipeline in North Dakota a year ago as part of a broader four-state effort to draw attention to climate change is due to stand trial along with the man who filmed his deeds.</p> <p>Michael Foster's trial starts Monday in Pembina County. He is among the first in that group of activists to go to trial, following a man in Washington state who was convicted of a burglary charge and served just two days in jail.</p> <p>Here's a look at Foster's case, an update on others and an examination of the defense Foster and other activists hope to use: that their lawbreaking was in the public's interest.</p> <p><b>WHAT HAPPENED LAST FALL?</b></p> <p>On Oct. 11, 2016, 11 activists with the group Climate Direct Action were arrested when they tried to shut down pipelines in North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and Washington state. They did it to protest fossil fuels and as a show of support for people demonstrating against the Dakota Access pipeline, which was still under construction.</p> <p>The activists broke into private property and turned shutoff valves on five pipelines operated by Enbridge, Spectra Energy, Kinder Morgan and TransCanada that move oil from Canada to the U.S.</p> <p>The protesters warned pipeline company officials about their intent ahead of time. Company officials said pipelines at four of the sites were temporarily shut down before the protesters could reach the valves. The pipeline in Washington wasn't operating at the time of the attempt.</p> <p><b>WHERE DO THE COURT CASES STAND?</b></p> <p>The first activist to stand trial, Ken Ward, was convicted of burglary in Washington in June. Jurors deadlocked on a sabotage count. Ward was sentenced to the two days he had already spent behind bars, plus community supervision and community service. Prosecutors earlier dropped charges against filmmakers Lindsey Grayzel and Carl Davis, who recorded Ward's pipeline protest.</p> <p>In North Dakota, Foster faces various felony and misdemeanor charges, including criminal mischief, conspiracy, reckless endangerment and criminal trespass. Samuel Jessup, who filmed Foster's protest, will also stand trial.</p> <p>Criminal cases involving similar charges are pending against activists Leonard Higgins and Reed Ingalls in Montana, and against Emily Johnston, Annette Klapstein, Steve Liptay and Ben Joldersma in Minnesota.</p>

## HOW MIGHT THE NORTH DAKOTA CASE PLAY OUT?

There's no question about what Foster did. The mental health counselor from Seattle surrendered peacefully to authorities on the day of his protest and doesn't deny using a bolt cutter to get through a chain link fence so he could turn the pipeline's shutoff valve. He said he did it to make a more forceful statement.

"Not just another parade or a hearing or a petition," he said.

Still, Foster has pleaded not guilty, as has Jessup, of Burlington, Vermont.

If convicted, Foster could face more than 20 years in prison and could be fined more than \$40,000. Jessup would face a maximum sentence of about half that.

## HOW CAN FOSTER DEFEND HIMSELF?

Foster is hoping to use a legal tactic known as the necessity defense - justifying a crime by arguing that it prevented a greater harm from happening.

"I'm going into this to challenge the jury to use their conscience to consider my act of conscience," he said.

The necessity defense is popular among environmental activists. The Climate Defense Project even offers an educational guide on what it calls an area of the law that is "developing rapidly."

However, whether the defense is permitted by law varies from state to state, and in some states including North Dakota it's unclear whether there's a statutory basis, according to University of Mississippi law professor Michael Hoffheimer.

"It's not the most common defense, but it gets raised in high-profile controversial cases where political activists are seeking to challenge the law," he said. "Activists in these cases really want to have an opportunity in the legal system to show the crime they're charged with is prohibiting conduct that's not as bad as the harm they're trying to avoid."

Other suspects in the October pipeline shutdown effort also have turned to the necessity defense.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Police investigate shooting in Lynnwood</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.heraldnet.com/news/police-investigate-possible-lynnwood-shooting/">http://www.heraldnet.com/news/police-investigate-possible-lynnwood-shooting/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>LYNNWOOD — A boy was shot in the hip Friday during a meeting with at least one other person in Lynnwood.</p> <p>They'd arranged to meet in the 20100 block of 48th Avenue West near the Lynnwood Transit Center. Detectives do not know how many people the boy had met with.</p> <p>"The meeting deteriorated and ended up with the victim being shot once," said Lynnwood police Cmdr. Sean Doty.</p> <p>The suspect, or suspects, were gone before officers arrived.</p> <p>Acquaintances took the boy to Swedish hospital in Edmonds around 12:30 p.m. The boy was then transported to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle for additional treatment, Doty said.</p> <p>The boy's age and hometown were not immediately available.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>10/01 OJ Simpson released from prison</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/oj-simpson-released-prison-serving-years-vegas-robbery/story?id=50180766&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_bsq_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/oj-simpson-released-prison-serving-years-vegas-robbery/story?id=50180766&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_bsq_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>O.J. Simpson is a free man.</p> <p>After spending nine years in prison for a Las Vegas robbery, the former NFL star walked out of the Lovelock Correctional Institute at 12:08 a.m. local time on Sunday, according to the Nevada Department of Corrections.</p> <p>Simpson, 70, who served his time at the facility in Nevada, was granted parole at a hearing in July. The earliest date he was eligible for release was Oct. 1.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Probation Portland May Day arsonist</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/crime--law/may-day-arsonist-portland-sentenced-probation/Ityp2i3Gfegk7vxBWqGJaP/">http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/crime--law/may-day-arsonist-portland-sentenced-probation/Ityp2i3Gfegk7vxBWqGJaP/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>PORTLAND, Ore. - A homeless woman with a lengthy criminal record was sentenced to three years probation Thursday for her role in the May Day demonstrations in Portland, OregonLive reported.</p> <p>Sarah Pugh, 36, pleaded guilty to second-degree arson and riot. Pugh was accused of setting one fire and holding a lit flare to a bonfire to help it grow during Portland's May Day riots. Pugh also allegedly urinated in the street and mooned police, OregonLive reported.</p> <p>Pugh hails from Indiana, where she left her two children with family and traveled to multiple states, OregonLive reported. She was arrested on a variety of charges, ranging from assault to disorderly conduct, during her travels. Pugh's criminal record in Portland stems back to September 2016. Police in Portland have cited Pugh for public intoxication 10 times, and arrested her multiple times on a variety of charges, OregonLive reported.</p> <p>Pugh allegedly told police that the May Day demonstrations were the first time she had been involved in an anarchist riot.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Youth w/knife arrested in AFL final day</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/man-with-knife-arrested-in-federation-square/news-story/d775780bdd560fbffbbad94c456fbc32">http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/man-with-knife-arrested-in-federation-square/news-story/d775780bdd560fbffbbad94c456fbc32</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A youth armed with a knife and dressed in black “like a terrorist” has driven erratically near Melbourne’s Federation Square on AFL grand final day, before being arrested amid fears of a another vehicle attack on pedestrians.</p> <p>The youth, described as young male teenager, was Tasered and arrested by Victoria Police after the incident about 8am.</p> <p>Video footage taken by passers-by and posted online shows the green four-wheel drive reversing at speed down Swanston Street in the CBD before spinning 180 degrees.</p> <p>A member of the public threw a hire bike under the 4WD to try to stop it, while police rushed to the area. Officers say they are treating it as a mental health situation and do not believe there was any terrorist link.</p>



	<p>The teenager was wearing a black armoured uniform, black helmet and carrying a black rucksack.</p> <p>He got out of the vehicle and was pacing in circles at the corner of Swanston and Flinders streets when police surrounded him shortly before 8am. He appeared to lunge at one of the officers, who fell back, before the teen was Tasered and subdued.</p> <p>No injuries were reported and the teenager was arrested and is in police custody.</p> <p>The police bomb response unit searched the vehicle as a precaution and the area was cordoned off.</p> <p>The drama came as thousands of people packed the area for the AFL Grand Final between Richmond and Adelaide.</p> <p>Victoria Police Acting Superintendent Wayne Newman said police were treating it as a mental health incident and there were no links to terrorism, news.com.au reported.</p> <p>The youth was taken to hospital to be assessed.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 ICE arrests 26 in Wash. state</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://komonews.com/news/local/immigration-agents-hit-sanctuary-cities-arrest-33-in-seattle">http://komonews.com/news/local/immigration-agents-hit-sanctuary-cities-arrest-33-in-seattle</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SEATTLE -- Federal immigration agents targeted so-called sanctuary cities, including Seattle, this week, making 26 arrests in Western Washington and 498 nationwide.</p> <p>U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said the operation, called "Safe City," focused "on cities and regions where ICE deportation officers are denied access to jails and prisons to interview suspected immigration violators or jurisdictions where ICE detainers are not honored." The four-day effort ended Wednesday.</p> <p>The agency added: "The operation targeted individuals who have violated U.S. immigration laws, prioritizing aliens with criminal convictions, pending criminal charges, known gang members and affiliates, immigration fugitives and those who re-entered the U.S. after deportation. Individuals with active DACA were not targeted for arrest."</p> <p>A spokesperson for ICE says there were five arrests in Everett, four in Auburn and two in Shoreline and two in Bothell. Cities that had one arrest each included Seattle, Tukwila, Bellevue, Burien, Sedro-Wooley, Federal Way, Kenmore, Lake Stevens and Vancouver.</p> <p>ICE arrested seven in the greater Portland, Oregon, area.</p> <p>(The agency's news release said 33 arrests in Seattle but the agency later qualified that to say the Seattle field office made 33 arrests in Washington and Oregon.)</p> <p>Washington Gov. Jay Inslee said the state won't be intimidated by actions of the Trump Administration.</p> <p>"It's very disturbing, it doesn't conform to American democracy, to attempt to punish any city or any state for standing up to our legal rights" Inslee said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Southern prisons cellphone problem</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/news/corrections/southern-prisons-have-smuggled-cellphone-problem-n790251">https://www.nbcnews.com/news/corrections/southern-prisons-have-smuggled-cellphone-problem-n790251</a>

Cellphones smuggled into prisons — enabling inmates to order murders, plan escapes, deal drugs and extort money — have become a scourge in a bloc of states where corrections officers annually confiscate as many as one for every three inmates.

Contraband devices snuck in by visitors or prison staff are a problem at lockups across the nation, but an NBC News review of data from 44 states shows that nine of the 10 states with the highest cellphone seizure rates are in the South.

In South Carolina, prison officers have found and taken one phone for every three inmates, the highest rate in the country. In Oklahoma, it's one phone for every six prisoners, the nation's second-highest rate. Other states in the top 10 are Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Florida and Arkansas and Louisiana; the only one outside the region was California. NBC based its rankings on data provided by the state corrections departments.

Cellphones are prized because they allow inmates to avoid privatized jailhouse phone and visitation services that charge up to \$15 for a two-minute call home to friends and family. "Inmates call their mothers like most of us do on holidays," said Dr. John Shaffer, former executive deputy secretary for the Pennsylvania Corrections Department.

But for some, the phones serve a darker purpose.

"Most of these guys are just chitchatting with their girlfriends, but some of these guys are stone-hardened criminals running criminal enterprises," said Kevin Tamez of the MPM group, a litigation consulting firm that specializes in prison security.

Some prisoners in states with the most seizures have used phones to shake down families of fellow inmates threatened with injury or death. They've hatched complex scams, posing as law enforcement to prey on victims outside.

Meth rings operated by prisoners with cellphones, some with ties to prison gangs like the Aryan Brotherhood, the Irish Mob Gang and the United Blood Nation have been discovered in at least five Southern facilities. Phones have also played a role in breakouts, with one South Carolina inmate dialing up drone delivery of wire cutters and cash for his escape in July.

Cellphones are so prevalent in the prison system, Tamez said, that "if you don't have them, you would look like a loser."

But why are they so common in the South? Experts have linked contraband smuggling to low pay and high turnover for guards — and salaries for corrections officers in the states with the highest smuggling rates are indeed among the lowest in the nation.

"Prison staff in most Southern states are very poorly paid," said David Fathi, director of the ACLU's National Prison Project. "You get what you pay for."

The Mississippi Department of Corrections pays officers an average of \$24,270 a year, one of the lowest salaries for the job in the nation. The 2016 turnover rate was around 47 percent, and the department was understaffed by about 400 slots. Guards who stick around frequently work overtime, but the legislature has twice failed to pass bills to pay them for the extra work that is essential to keeping 19,000 inmates safe and stemming the flood of contraband.

Mississippi ranks sixth in the nation for cellphones per inmate, seizing 1,800 last year — one for every 10 people behind bars. Last year, state officials said they had intercepted more than 9 million texts and attempted transmissions from two state prisons over a five-year period.

<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Germany: poison threats as blackmail</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/germany-man-suspected-making-poison-threats-blackmail-50195597">http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/germany-man-suspected-making-poison-threats-blackmail-50195597</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>German authorities said Saturday they are confident that a 53-year-old man arrested a day earlier is behind a blackmail attempt that saw jars of poisoned baby food placed on store shelves in southern <u>Germany</u>.</p> <p>Prosecutors said investigators found the same <u>poison</u> — ethylene glycol, a compound used in antifreeze — when they arrested the man Friday near the southwestern city of Tuebingen.</p> <p>Chief prosecutor Alexander Boger told a news conference in Konstanz, on Germany's southern border, that the man hadn't confessed but the evidence against him was substantial.</p> <p>DNA found on the baby food jars and pictures taken with a supermarket surveillance camera also pointed to the suspect, who wasn't identified due to German privacy rules, prosecutors said.</p> <p>Authorities and companies received an email this month threatening to poison unspecified food at German retailers inside the country and beyond unless more than 10 million euros (\$11.8 million) was paid by Saturday.</p> <p>The blackmailer alerted authorities that five jars of baby food at shops in Friedrichshafen, near Konstanz, had been tampered with. Officials located the jars and found they contained ethylene glycol but said there's no evidence that anyone was poisoned.</p> <p>Authorities released surveillance camera stills of the suspect Thursday, prompting hundreds of tips from the public.</p> <p>Officials said they believe all of the <u>contaminated food</u> has been found but warned shoppers to remain alert to any possible signs of product manipulation.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 Arrests in Sweden anti-Semitic march</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/20-detained-ahead-wing-rally-sweden-50196442">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/20-detained-ahead-wing-rally-sweden-50196442</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Police said at least 50 people were detained Saturday during a right-wing demonstration in Sweden's second-largest city that left one police officer and several others injured.</p> <p>The rally by the Nordic Resistance Movement in Goteborg, 400 kilometers (248 miles) southwest of Stockholm, featured an estimated 600 people marching in formation in all-black outfits. Some wore helmets and held shields, while others hoisted the movement's green-and-white flags.</p> <p>Police had posted flyers before the event warning people not to act in a way reminiscent of German Nazis demonstrations in the 1930s and 1940s.</p> <p>NMR, which promotes an openly anti-Semitic doctrine, originally sought to pass near a downtown synagogue during the march, which coincided with Yom Kippur, Judaism's holiest day of the year. But Swedish courts intervened and shortened the route to less than one kilometer (0.6 mile.) The rally's ending time also was shortened to avoid clashing with a nearby soccer game.</p> <p>Counter-demonstrators threw fireworks and attempted several times to break police lines, allegedly to confront NMR members, who also tried to get past riot police. Several were detained on suspicion of rioting, police said.</p> <p>"Stones, bottles and sticks were also thrown at us," police spokesman Hans Lippens said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 DOJ charges 3,800 'gang members'</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/feds-announce-charges-3800-alleged-gang-members/story?id=50186138&amp;cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/feds-announce-charges-3800-alleged-gang-members/story?id=50186138&amp;cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A federal operation dubbed "Regional Shield" has resulted in criminal charges against more than 3,800 alleged gang members in the U.S. and Central America, the Department of Justice announced today.</p> <p>Dismantling one particularly violent gang, the El Salvador-based group MS-13, has become a priority for the Trump administration, especially U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, the department said in a press release.</p> <p>"[It] is one of the most violent and ruthless gangs in America today, endangering communities in more than 40 states," Sessions said in a statement. "More than 70 of these defendants were living in the United States ... MS-13 coordinates across our borders to kill, rape and traffic drugs and underage girls."</p> <p>Over the past six months, law enforcement officials in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras have assisted the Justice Department in filing the charges.</p> <p>"Studying their modus operandi, we realized tackling [the gangs] would require working jointly with the United States, Guatemala, and El Salvador," Honduran Attorney General Chinchilla Banegas said. "This approach has allowed us to share information and strike the financial structures of the gangs."</p> <p>Although the joint effort -- four nations working together to obtain evidence and share information -- has resulted in over 3,000 criminal charges this year, the U.S. response itself has focused mainly on the enforcement of immigration laws, according to a Congressional Research analysis on MS-13.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Tenn. church suspect had note in car</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/tenn-church-suspects-car-note-referencing-retaliation-dylann/story?id=50127618">http://abcnews.go.com/US/tenn-church-suspects-car-note-referencing-retaliation-dylann/story?id=50127618</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A 25-year-old accused of opening fire at a Tennessee church last weekend allegedly had a note in his car referencing some sort of retaliation for the Charleston church attack carried out by white supremacist <u>Dylann Roof</u> two years ago, a law enforcement official said.</p> <p>Police said on Sept. 24, 25-year-old Emanuel Samson shot and killed a 39-year-old woman in the parking lot of the Burnette Chapel Church of Christ in Antioch. Police said Samson then went into the main doors of the church sanctuary, shooting and wounding six people, who are all in their 60s or 80s.</p> <p>Police said Samson, who is black, had allegedly been to this church -- which has racially diverse parishioners -- one to two years ago.</p> <p>Police have not released a motive, according to The Associated Press.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/29 Officer killed in 'suspicious vehicle' call</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/georgia-officer-shot-dead-pulling-suspicious-vehicle-suspect/story?id=50184507">http://abcnews.go.com/US/georgia-officer-shot-dead-pulling-suspicious-vehicle-suspect/story?id=50184507</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>An officer in Polk County, Georgia, was shot dead after responding to a report of a suspicious vehicle today, officials said, in what authorities are calling a "senseless killing."</p>

	<p>The slain officer, Det. Kristen Hearne, was a five-year veteran, officials said. She leaves behind a husband and a 3-year-old son.</p> <p>A second officer, David Goodrich, a rookie, was shot in his bulletproof vest and survived, officials said.</p> <p>Officials said the officers responded to a call about a suspicious vehicle and then located a Ford Escape stolen from Tennessee on the side of the road.</p> <p>Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) Director Vernon Keenan said the suspects, Seth Spangler and Samantha Roof, walked out of the woods and up to the officers. A conversation ensued, after which Spangler allegedly pulled out a handgun and shot both officers, Keenan said.</p> <p>The suspects ran from the scene sparking a manhunt, Keenan said.</p> <p>Roof was quickly apprehended, after which Spangler was captured, Keenan said.</p> <p>Keenan said Spangler is facing charges of felony murder and felony aggravated assault. Roof will be charged with felony offenses, Keenan said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>09/30 SWAT shoots man firing at vehicle</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/769784/police-swat-officer-shoots-man-who-fired-at-armored-vehicle/">http://mynorthwest.com/769784/police-swat-officer-shoots-man-who-fired-at-armored-vehicle/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SEATTLE (AP) — Seattle authorities say a 66-year-old man is in custody after he shot at police during a standoff and police returned fire, striking him in the lower half of his body.</p> <p>Officials say a standoff started at about 9:30 p.m. Friday after the man threatened a neighbor with a gun.</p> <p>Police say the man at about 4:30 a.m. Saturday fired a shotgun and struck a SWAT armored vehicle, and a SWAT officer fired several rounds in return.</p> <p>Police say the man went back into the residence but surrendered an hour later.</p> <p>Officials say the man was treated at the scene and transported to Harborview Medical Center with injuries not considered life-threatening.</p> <p>His name hasn't been released.</p>
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