

Washington State Fusion Center
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THURSDAY – 5 OCT 2017



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Event Calendar

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	http://www.ialeia.org/2018_conference.php
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Events, Opportunities

HEADLINE	10/04 Claim: Seattle city attorney broke rules
SOURCE	http://www.thestranger.com/slog/2017/10/04/25452457/defense-lawyer-says-seattle-city-attorney-broke-ethics-rules-asks-judge-to-throw-out-sex-buyer-cases
GIST	<p>A local defense lawyer has asked a municipal judge to throw out at least four cases against accused sex buyers caught up in Seattle Police Department stings. In a forcefully written brief, attorney Tim Leary argues that Seattle City Attorney Pete Holmes sabotaged these cases by writing a letter to municipal court judges explaining his policy of not offering diversion to men accused of soliciting sex workers.</p> <p>Leary claims that letter, which was also sent to the mayor, police chief and The Stranger, was intended to sway judges and jurors in favor of Holmes' policy. He calls the letter an act of prosecutorial misconduct. Holmes wrote to judges that 90 percent of "prostituted people" in Seattle work in the sex trade by force, coercion, or exploitation, and that eliminating the option for accused johns helps end demand for paid sex. Steven Hsieh and I published a piece last month describing how Presiding Municipal Court Judge Karen Donahue challenged Holmes' policy in one of these sex buyer cases, a decision that the city is now appealing in court.</p> <p>Leary's motion, filed on behalf of four men caught in Seattle Police Department stings, says that Holmes "crossed a significant legal and ethical line" by sending the letter, which Leary says constitutes "ex parte" communication. "Ex parte" refers to communication with a judge without the other party's counsel present—a breach of ethics rules. "The letter can only be described as self-serving propaganda," the motion reads.</p> <p>A spokesperson from the Seattle City Attorney's office said that the office "strongly dispute(s) the motion's assertions."</p> <p>"The letter to the judges was not an improper ex parte submission because it was an open letter available to the public and addresses general office policies rather than specific cases," the statement from the City Attorney's office reads. "This is consistent with Washington Supreme Court case law. It has also been sent to defense counsel in the pending sexual exploitation cases."</p> <p>But that argument, Leary says, "is frankly hooey."</p> <p>"I don't know how he characterizes it as a public letter," Leary, a former King County deputy prosecutor, says. "The only place I was able to find the letter was a hyperlink on your website."</p> <p>To back up that point, Leary then forwarded an e-mail from Judge Karen Donahue sent just today alerting Leary to the existence of Holmes' letter. "After reviewing the letter, the bench feels it is appropriate to forward it to those of you who are currently representing clients on Sexual Exploitation charges," the e-mail reads.</p> <p>The city's response to Leary's motion is due on October 12.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Shooting spurs Vietnamese activism
SOURCE	http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-tommy-le-police-vietnamese-20171005-htmstory.html
GIST	<p>In many ways, it was a familiar story. Neighbors reported a man out in the streets at night making threats with a weapon. Police showed up. They thought they saw a knife, and told the man to drop it. They said he didn't obey, and as he moved toward them, an officer fired his Taser and then his gun, hitting the man in the back and killing him.</p> <p>He was 20 years old, 5 foot 4, 123 pounds with tan skin, and turned out to be unarmed.</p> <p>But there were no viral videos. No protests. No arrests.</p> <p>The killing of Tommy Le by police in a Seattle suburb remained a largely private affair at first.</p> <p>His parents, immigrants from Vietnam, spent 48 days attending Buddhist services. They rarely spoke to journalists who showed up at their door, or to a small cadre of activists that wanted to promote the case.</p> <p>“Many immigrants and refugees in our community never had a mind for resisting or challenging authority as they were more concerned about survival and gratitude for a new country,” said one activist, Jefferey Vu, a Boeing engineer who works with Le’s uncle. “This national movement around police shootings is new to the Vietnamese.”</p> <p>But in the nearly four months after the killing, the Vietnamese American community in Seattle — among the largest in the country — has experienced a political awakening around Le.</p> <p>His death has become a catalyst for a campaign by activists to make it easier in Washington state to prosecute police officers in shooting cases. It has also emerged as a key example in a wider push to require police dash and body cameras, which were not in place when Le was killed.</p> <p>His family too has now joined the movement against police violence.</p> <p>“I don’t want my son’s honor to be violated,” said Le’s father, Hoai Le, who settled in the U.S. in 1991 after fleeing persecution in Vietnam. “I want justice. I believe in government.... But my hate for police was really deep when I heard my son was killed.”</p> <p>Le grew up as the youngest of six children in the city of Burien, about 30 minutes south of Seattle, in a simple house they shared with two aunts, a cousin and his grandmother, whom he helped tend to gardens filled with lilies and Buddha statues.</p> <p>Incense was burned each day for relatives who had died. Visitors from Vietnam regularly shuffled in and out. Le’s parents had separated when he was younger, and his father, who worked in landscaping, ran the household with help from the elder children and extended family.</p> <p>Enrolled in an alternative public school after struggling in big classrooms, Le was an avid chess player. He was reading “Faust” and “The Count of Monte Cristo.” He dreamed of a career as a scientist, welder or firefighter.</p> <p>A few months ago, he told his father he wanted independence and moved into a house with friends just down the street. He worked part time at a casino.</p> <p>On the afternoon of June 13, Le passed his history final exam, picked up his cap and gown and went home ecstatic for graduation the next day.</p> <p>Ten hours later, he was dead.</p> <p>Deputies from the King County Sheriff’s Office said they responded that night to a 911 call reporting that an Asian man was chasing people with a knife in the streets of Burien and yelling that he was “the</p>

creator.”

A homeowner fired a warning shot into the ground to scare the man and ran back into his house, police said. Le then began stabbing that resident’s door with the knife, according to police reports. A 911 caller said Le had loudly declared himself to be “the killer.”

When three cops arrived, Le refused to let go of the object in his hand, leading officers to fire Tasers twice, they said. He charged toward them before an officer hit him with a single shot, according to police. Hospitalized, he died the next day.

At his graduation, classmates unaware of his death cheered when his photo appeared on the big screen during a slideshow.

It was around the same time that the family set up an altar for Le in the living room, lighting incense and candles each day. His photos were surrounded by his favorite foods: lemon-lime Gatorade, Flamin’ Hot Cheetos, Oreos, Kit Kats, chocolate chip granola bars and shrimp-flavored puffed wheat chips.

More than a week later, the police changed their account and said the object Le held when they arrived was a pen, not a knife.

They suggested he had stashed a knife at his home a few doors away before their arrival, but they couldn’t say which of those found there it might have been.

Marks on the door of the homeowner who fired the warning shot “could have come from a knife,” police said.

They also announced that Le had been shot three times, not once.

A spokeswoman for the King County Sheriff’s Office said its investigation of the incident could end as soon as this week.

The killing is one of several fatal police shootings over the summer in the Seattle area. Two back-to-back cases — both of them killings of black residents — received the most attention. One was a 30-year-old woman with mental health issues who police said pulled a knife on an officer after calling 911 to report a burglary. The other was a 20-year-old college student whose car was stopped on the incorrect suspicion that he had stolen it.

Those killings spurred demonstrations that typified the efforts of the Black Lives Matter movement to highlight racism in policing. Le’s death wound up sparking a quieter kind of activism, one informed by Vietnamese immigrant culture, where word can spread quickly through the ethnic press, and by Buddhist tradition.

The emerging activists — many of whom work in technology or politics or at pho restaurants — are thinking over how to transform their anger over Le’s death into change on immigration and civil rights. They network on Facebook using names that play off on their heritage, such as “Viets Give a Shiet.”

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HEADLINE	10/04 Seattle secretive white nationalist groups
SOURCE	http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/Seattle-s-secret-white-supremacist-groups-12239219.php
GIST	Seattle, one of the most progressive cities in the country, appears to be a hotbed for racists after two separate undercover reports shed light on the local white nationalist movement. The first came in September from Swedish graduate student Patrik Hermansson, who ingratiated himself with racist groups in Europe. After infiltrating some of London’s most notorious white nationalist

organizations, he was invited by Seattle-area white nationalist leader Greg Johnson to take a trip to the Pacific Northwest, where "there actually are some quite extreme white supremacist groups," according to Hermansson.

"They talk about Seattle being very liberal and how unaware people were of reality as they perceive it," Hermansson told KUOW in an interview on Sept. 22, "how liberals will lead Seattle or the U.S. more largely to destruction."

Hermansson was invited to the home of well-known ceramic artist Charles Krafft, a Holocaust denier known for producing a Hitler teapot. Hermansson said Krafft's home contained "plenty of old European fascist literature, Nazi symbols, busts of dictators and quite absurd imagery on the walls."

Hermansson attended a June meeting of Johnson's Northwest Forum, an ideological conference that invited different white nationalist speakers to address the group, at the Queen Anne Masonic Lodge. (Organizers told the Masons they were a writing group.)

Local journalist David Lewis went undercover at an Aug. 26 meeting of the Northwest Forum for a piece published Wednesday by The Stranger that included details of the "secret agent" racism plan outlined by Johnson, a former college philosophy professor.

"Basically, white nationalists meet in secret at conventions like Northwest Forum while paying 'lip service to diversity' at their day jobs," Lewis wrote. "They move into positions of power where they can hire other racists and keep non-whites from getting into the company."

"Two years ago, this method would have seemed like a total joke, but these guys really do mostly work in tech, and they were doing a lot of networking. When talking about the people he has counseled on the 'secret agent' method ... Dr. Johnson has written that they include 'college professors, writers, artists, designers, publishers, creative people working in the film industry, businessmen, and professionals, some of them quite prominent in their fields.'"

The notion that Seattle is suddenly swarming with white nationalists isn't accurate. After all, at least two of the people at the Queen Anne meeting, which Lewis estimated at 70-80 people total, were undercover reporters. But the idea that there are racist groups operating quietly and easily inside the city is chilling.

"Former skinhead movements fizzled out because, in addition to requiring fanatical racism from their followers, they also required severe lifestyle changes like going off to live in survivalist compounds or being a Nazi 24/7," Lewis wrote. "The Johnson Seattle approach to racism is more like, 'let's get a cake for Hitler's birthday after picking the kids up from soccer practice,' making it more compatible with the way a lot of these people already live and the way they grew up."

In the interview with KUOW, Hermansson didn't advocate for violence against neo-Nazis or white nationalists. He also advised against media outlets having them on to try and explain their views. Rather, he suggested continually countering their "non-democratic" positions repeatedly and forcefully.

"That in the long term will make it very socially costly to become a Nazi, basically," Hermansson said. "Because what we saw in Charlottesville, for example, is that these people don't feel like it's a big deal. It's no big deal to show up without a mask next to a swastika."

"They're not afraid of repercussions or losing their jobs and so on, and they should be. It shouldn't be OK to have these ideas."

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HEADLINE	10/04 Sheriff breaks down timeline of shooting
SOURCE	http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/las-vegas-sheriff-gives-timeline-of-shooting-discovery-of-

	gunman/ar-AAsVf6c?li=BBnb7Kz&ocid=HPCDHP
GIST	<p>Las Vegas sheriff Joseph Lombardo broke down the timeline of the 75 chaotic minutes Sunday night between when shots first rang out and when police found gunman Stephen Paddock dead in his hotel room 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay.</p> <p>The first shots were fired at 10:05 p.m., Lombardo said at a Wednesday evening press update. The shooting continued for 10 minutes, until 10:15 p.m. Fifty-eight people were killed in the shooting, and 489 injured, Lombardo said.</p> <p>The first officers arrived on the 31st floor -- one floor below where Paddock was firing -- at 10:12 p.m. Officers arrived at the 32nd floor at 10:17 p.m. Lombardo said it was "phenomenal" they reached the 32nd floor within 12 minutes of when shots rang out.</p> <p>One minute later, a security officer told Las Vegas police officers he was shot and gives them the exact location of the shooter.</p> <p>Between 10:26 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., eight additional officers arrived on the 32nd floor and moved systematically through the hallway, clearing the rooms and looking for any more injured.</p> <p>At 10:55 p.m., eight officers arrived in the stairwell at the opposite end of the hallway nearest to the Paddock's room. They saw the room service cart, which Lombardo said it was apparent there were cameras.</p> <p>The officers spent the next 30 minutes formulating a plan to enter Paddock's room. The plan was "purposeful and no shots were being heard at this point," Lombardo said.</p> <p>At 11:20 p.m., officers first breached Paddock's room. They observed the suspect on the ground and noticed a second door they could not access. At 11:27 p.m., the second breach was set off, allowing officers to enter the second room. Officers quickly realized there was no one else in their rooms and announced that information over the radio.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Sheriff: secretive life, calculated planning
SOURCE	https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/girlfriend-of-vegas-shooting-suspect-it-never-occurred-to-me-that-he-was-planning-violence
GIST	<p>The man who unleashed terror on the Las Vegas Strip brought a hammer to break the windows, 23 firearms to inflict the damage and video cameras to capture officers' arrival — all of which point to a calculated plan by a “disturbed and dangerous” individual who lived a “secret life,” police said Wednesday.</p> <p>As investigators try to unlock a motive, they're looking into whether 64-year-old Stephen Paddock also took extraordinary measures to make his life a mystery. After all, his brother and ex-wife seem equally baffled by his actions, Metro Police Sheriff Joe Lombardo said.</p> <p>“So don't you think the concealment of his history of his life was well thought out?” Lombardo said Wednesday evening. “And it's incumbent upon us as professionals to figure that out.”</p> <p>Three days after the deadly rampage that claimed 58 lives and injured 489 others, authorities urged patience as they untangle the clues that might offer insight into the mind of the killer, who authorities also intimated Wednesday had a plan to survive before he committed suicide.</p> <p>“Usually there's a telltale sign associated with these types of actions — reclusive, a plethora of things associated with this mindset — and we have not found that yet,” Lombardo said.</p>

Police and the FBI want the public to know they'll continue searching for answers until they learn what motivated Paddock to open fire on a crowd of 22,000 people attending a country music festival from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino. FBI Special Agent in Charge Aaron Rouse said the agency is pursuing multiple leads across the country and world.

"Our resolve is firm," Rouse said. "We will get to the bottom of all of this, no matter how long it takes."

Lombardo said that while police have evidence that the suspect was gambling prior to the shooting, they have not seen proof that an accomplice or companion was with him. But the sheriff said it was hard to believe that he carried out the attack entirely on his own.

"You look at the weapon obtaining, the different amounts of tannerite (commonly used in exploding shooting targets) available, do you think this was all accomplished on his own self value, face value," Lombardo said. "You've got to make the assumption that he had to have some help at some point."

His live-in girlfriend, Marilou Danley, has denied any knowledge or complicity in the attack, describing Paddock as "a kind, caring, quiet man" and adding that "I loved him and I hoped for a quiet future together with him." FBI officials interviewed her Wednesday in Los Angeles.

"He never said anything to me, or took any action that I was aware of, that I understood in any way to be a warning that something horrible like this was going to happen," Danley said in a statement read by her attorney during a brief press conference in Los Angeles. "It never occurred to me in any way whatsoever that he was planning violence against anyone."

Her statement explained that Paddock told her about two weeks ago that he found a cheap ticket so she could visit her relatives and friends in the Philippines, and wired her money, telling her to buy a house for herself and her family.

"I was grateful, but honestly I was worried that first, the unexpected trip home, and then the money was a way of breaking up with me," she said in the statement.

Danley added that she was cooperating with police and was "devastated" by the shooting.

"I have faith in God, and I will continue to pray for everyone who has been harmed or hurt," she said. "I am a mother and grandmother and my heart breaks for all those who have lost loved ones."

Lombardo largely dodged questions about Danley, saying he hadn't been fully briefed on the interview. But he did make this observation: "I think any person put in her situation would probably answer the same way."

Police are also exploring whether Paddock had surveilled or been targeting other venues.

Lombardo confirmed Wednesday that Paddock used Airbnb to rent a room at the Ogden, a high-rise condominium building in downtown Las Vegas overlooking the annual Life Is Beautiful music festival, which was held the weekend before last. He was unable to specify why Paddock rented the room and said police are reviewing video footage from the property.

He also said it was "amazing" that the security guard who assisted police as they attempted to locate Paddock on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino didn't sustain additional injuries. The gunman fired more than 200 rounds into the hallway outside the hotel suite, Lombardo said.

Investigators have formalized a timeline of events, which began with shots fired by the suspect at 10:05 p.m. Sunday. Seven minutes later, officers had arrived on the 31st floor of the hotel and realized the gunfire was coming from directly above them.

Paddock fired his last shots at 10:15 p.m., and as officers were arriving on the 32nd floor, the hotel

	<p>security guard told police he had been shot.</p> <p>Eight officers continued moving down the hallway, clearing rooms and looking for injured people. They considered it a barricade situation at this point given the absence of gunfire.</p> <p>“Keep in mind that the delay was not undo,” Lombardo said. “It was purposeful, and no shots were being heard by the suspect at this point.”</p> <p>Officers deployed the first breach at 11:20 p.m. and entered the shooter’s room, where they found him dead on the ground. Seven minutes later, they set off another breach to open a second door to another room in the suite, which did not have anyone else inside.</p> <p>The gunman’s suicide, however, may not been part of his original plan. Lombardo said investigators found evidence in the room indicating that Paddock planned to survive the incident, although the sheriff declined to provide details.</p> <p>Paddock did not leave a suicide note, he said.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Puerto Rico facing govt. shutdown
SOURCE	https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-04/puerto-rico-will-run-out-of-cash-on-oct-31-treasurer-says
GIST	<p>Puerto Rico faces a government shutdown on Oct. 31, including halting its hurricane recovery, if Congress doesn’t provide billions in emergency funds, said Treasury Secretary Raul Maldonado.</p> <p>The U.S. commonwealth’s bankrupt government is burning through the \$1.6 billion it had on hand before Hurricane Maria ravaged the island, destroying decayed infrastructure and killing 34 people. With widespread damage to telecommunications systems and the electricity grid, Maldonado doesn’t expect to begin collecting sales tax for at least another month, he said Wednesday.</p> <p>“I don’t have any collections, and we are spending a lot of money providing direct assistance for the emergency,” he said in an interview in San Juan. “Without the assistance from Congress, Puerto Rico’s government will not be able to operate next month.”</p> <p>While attention has focused on the commonwealth’s staggering \$74 billion debt, Puerto Rico faces a more immediate crisis in the wake of the storm. It’s running short of money for fuel, salaries of recovery workers and food aid. Meanwhile, only 8.6 percent of customers have electricity, mobile-phone service is sharply curtailed and many mountainous rural areas remain inaccessible.</p> <p>“You have conservatively over 100,000 homes that are destroyed here,” Governor Ricardo Rossello said an interview Wednesday.</p> <p>“Essentially you’re looking at zero revenue for the next couple of months,” he said. “While you have zero revenue, you still have expenditures, plus emergency expenditures. That means the money is going to run out very quickly.”</p> <p>Maldonado said he has requested between \$6 billion and \$8 billion in aid from Congress to keep the government running for “a few months.”</p> <p>The treasurer said he has set aside funds to make payroll and pension payments in October. But if Congress fails to act, he said the island is facing a "total shutdown" on Nov. 1 that would curtail essential services and the distribution of aid.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Qatar continues to prepare World Cup
SOURCE	http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/oct/4/qatars-world-cup-organizers-block-out-arab-dispute/
GIST	<p>DOHA, Qatar — Officials here are working overtime to prevent a bitter feud with Qatar’s Persian Gulf neighbors from spilling over into a critical arena: the soccer pitch.</p> <p>Organizers insist in interviews that the blockade imposed by Saudi Arabia and other Arab states since June has had no negative impact on preparations for a centerpiece of their nation’s rise on the global stage: playing host to the World Cup, the sport’s quadrennial showcase, in 2022.</p> <p>“The blockade has not changed any of our plans or timelines,” said Fatma Al-nuaimi, head spokeswoman for the Qatari outfit managing preparations for the global extravaganza that brings with it dozens of national teams and as many as a half-million fans from around the globe for a month of competition.</p> <p>Russia hosts the tournament next year, so the Qataris have plenty of time to get ready. Officials with FIFA, the soccer world’s organizing body, say they are optimistic that the diplomatic crisis dividing the region will be resolved by 2022.</p> <p>But while construction is ahead of schedule on a slate of stadiums in Doha, some here say they are worried about an entirely different kind of crisis when Qatar becomes the first Arab nation ever to host the event.</p> <p>“I’ve got to be honest,” said one British resident in the Qatari capital, who asked not to be named. “How the heck is this conservative Islamic country, where booze is only allowed at high-end hotels, going to manage all the drunken Brits who come for the World Cup?”</p> <p>The Qataris say they aren’t worried.</p> <p>“We’ll be ready,” said one official, a member of the nation’s ruling royal family, who laughed out loud when asked about the concerns over coffee on a recent morning in Doha.</p> <p>“We’re well aware of this issue and are taking steps to prepare,” said the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, adding that Qatari Ministry of Interior officials have traveled to the United Kingdom for special training with the Manchester police force on “how deal with British soccer hooligans and game day shenanigans.”</p> <p>On a more official note, Ms. Al-nuaimi said that “alcohol is not part of our culture, but hospitality is, and alcohol will be available in designated areas during the tournament.”</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Iran, Turkey vow ‘decisive action’
SOURCE	http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/oct/4/iran-turkey-vow-decisive-action-against-iraqi-kurd/
GIST	<p>Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani on Wednesday vowed to take “decisive action” against leaders in Iraqi Kurdistan over last week’s historic independence referendum vote.</p> <p>Both leaders declined to provide specifics on what types of actions either Ankara or Tehran could take against the semi-autonomous region in northern Iraq, instead telling reporters that other regional powers must stand with Iran and Turkey to prevent the disintegration of the Iraqi state.</p> <p>“As far as we are concerned, Iraq is one single country. We do not accept any geographical changes,” Mr. Rouhani said during a joint press conference with Mr. Erdogan in Tehran. The Turkish president was in</p>

	<p>Iran as part of a diplomatic visit focusing on the regional response to the Kurdish referendum vote in Iraq.</p> <p>Mr. Erdogan called the Sept. 25 vote, which could pave the way for members of the Kurdish Regional Government to secede from Iraq over the next two years, “an illegitimate referendum” threatening regional stability in the Middle East.</p> <p>“From this moment forward, more decisive steps will be taken,” he added, which could include a shutdown of the Turkish-Iraqi border and a increased military buildup on the Turkish side of the line.</p> <p>While in opposition to an independent Iraqi Kurdistan, Mr. Rouhani took a softer approach to efforts by Irbil, saying Tehran “does not mean any harm” to Iraqi Kurds despite its objections to the referendum.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 CIA: NKorea Kim ‘not crazy’; very rational
SOURCE	http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/oct/4/cia-kim-jong-un-north-korea-dictator-not-crazy-ver/
GIST	<p>A top CIA official called North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un a “very rational actor” who doesn’t want a war with the United States, despite a string of provocations that has sent tensions soaring across East Asia.</p> <p>“The last person who wants conflict on the [Korean peninsula] is Kim Jong-un,” Yong Suk Lee, the deputy assistant director of the CIA’s newly created Korea Mission Center, told a Washington audience Wednesday.</p> <p>In rare public remarks that appeared to contrast President Trump’s assertion that Mr. Kim is a “madman,” Mr. Lee said the 35-year-old dictator actually “wants what all authoritarian rulers want ... to rule for a very long time and die peacefully in his own bed.”</p> <p>“We have a tendency in this country and everywhere else to kind of underestimate the conservatism that runs in these authoritarian regimes, and it’s probably the greatest circuit-breaker in any kind of conflict,” he said, adding that, all “bluster and rhetoric aside,” Mr. Kim has “no interest in going toe to toe” with the U.S. military and its allies.</p> <p>Mr. Trump and Mr. Kim has traded increasingly angry insults as tougher U.S.-backed sanctions and military moves have failed to stop Pyongyang from conducting test of nuclear weapons and the ballistic missiles that could deliver them to the U.S. mainland. Mr. Trump has repeatedly derided the young North Korean leader as “Rocket Man” who is risking the annihilation of his own nation with his policies.</p> <p>But the CIA’s Mr. Lee, speaking at he CIA Ethos & Profession of Intelligence conference, an annual event at George Washington University, said that Mr. Kim’s “long-term goal” is “to come to some kind of big-power agreement with the United States and remove U.S. forces from the peninsula.”</p> <p>CIA Deputy Assistant Director for East Asia Michael Collins and Ambassador Joseph DeTrani, the former U.S. special envoy to talks on North Korea, agree with Mr. Lee that Pyongyang’s goal is not to launch such a missile at the U.S., but to achieve legitimacy and broader freedom of action on the Korean peninsula, where U.S. troops have been positioned in South Korea since the early 1950s.</p> <p>The North Koreans “see the U.S. objective in the region as regime change [in Pyongyang], and they’re talking about survival,” said Mr. DeTrani. “They want to survive, and they feel with these nuclear weapons no one’s going to mess with them.”</p> <p>“Are they going to use [the weapons]?” he said. “No, they’re not suicidal.”</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Local training teaches how 'Stop the Bleed'
SOURCE	http://q13fox.com/2017/10/04/local-training-teaches-people-how-to-stop-the-bleed-in-an-emergency/
GIST	<p>When a gunman shot into a crowd of people in Las Vegas this week, bystanders quickly became first responders. Time was critical, and getting people to medical help was challenging. Complete strangers jumped into action to aid the injured. Loved ones stayed with the wounded, waiting for help to arrive. Others carried victims to ambulances. If faced with the same circumstances, would you be ready?</p> <p>The people at that country music festival may have wondered in those terrifying moments, how do you stop the bleeding? How do I treat this wound? Can I save a life?</p> <p>These are the skills trauma surgeons at Seattle's Harborview Medical Center are teaching people in a free, "Stop the Bleed" training course.</p> <p>Dr. Eileen Bulger, Chief of Trauma at Harborview says a person who is bleeding can die from blood loss in less than five minutes. She says learning how to stop that bleed is just as important as knowing CPR. Dr. Bulger says when people lose a lot of blood, they go into shock. The blood pressure drops and people don't get enough blood to the brain.</p> <p>Dr. Bulger says a tourniquet that's not tight enough can actually make the bleeding worse. In the "Stop the Bleed" training they show people how to apply a tourniquet and how to pack a wound. Here's an excerpt from the "Stop the Bleed" training website.</p> <p><i>Blood loss is the leading cause of preventable death in multiple casualty events, like mass shootings, terrorist attacks and earthquakes. Significant external bleeding can also result from everyday events such as a motorcycle crash, or industrial accident. Rapid control of bleeding at the scene of the event can be life-saving. That's why we're teaming up with Harborview Medical Center, the American College of Surgeons Washington State Committee on Trauma, and Seattle and King County EMS to ensure that:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Bystanders have skills and knowledge to provide immediate bleeding control to victims at the scene of an event.</i> 2. <i>Bleeding control supplies are located in all public gathering locations next to Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs).</i> 3. <i>Bleeding control education is incorporated into our schools and workplace.</i> 4. <i>People know what to do in an active shooter situation</i> <p>Enrollment is open for "Stop the Bleed" training starting in January 2018. http://depts.washington.edu/hiprc/stop-the-bleed-washington/#1471390062902-1c45631d-78ce</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Alaska reduces payout from oil fund
SOURCE	https://apnews.com/badd9c494b114fde8ad97d326dc3d694/Alaska-to-make-reduced-payout-to-residents-from-oil-fund
GIST	<p>ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Nearly every Alaskan will wake up \$1,100 richer Thursday, thanks to this year's payout from the state's oil wealth investment fund.</p> <p>The distribution from the Alaska Permanent Fund is essentially free money for residents, who already don't pay a state income tax or statewide sales tax. But it's just half of the expected \$2,200 windfall, which was reduced for the second straight year to help the state pay its bills amid a recession due to continued low oil prices.</p> <p>Unlike previous distributions, the amount of this year's payout was quietly announced in mid-September in a short news release. Gone was the usual announcement made with great fanfare in other years.</p>

	<p>A record payout of \$2,072 was distributed to qualifying Alaskans in 2015. Last year, the amount was estimated to be a bit higher until Gov. Bill Walker stepped in and shrunk the amount because of the state's multibillion-dollar budget deficit, a situation exacerbated by chronically low oil prices. Walker's action was challenged in court, and ultimately the governor prevailed. In August, the state Supreme Court ruled that Walker acted within his authority in reducing the amount set aside for checks from the fund.</p> <p>The checks are distributed annually to Alaskans who apply for them after living in the state for at least one calendar year, or were born in Alaska by the Dec. 31 deadline of the previous year. This year, about 640,000 Alaskans will receive checks, most through direct deposit. Altogether, the checks total \$672 million. The amount of the checks is based on a five-year average of the fund's investment earnings.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Bellevue light-rail tunnel on schedule
SOURCE	https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/transportation/bellevue-light-rail-tunnel-advances-on-schedule-without-the-help-of-a-big-drilling-machine/
GIST	<p>The soil is holding firm and construction remains on schedule below downtown Bellevue, where Sound Transit's future light-rail tunnel is one-third excavated.</p> <p>More than 700 feet have been hollowed in the 2,000-foot grotto, between Main Street and Bellevue Transit Center.</p> <p>From there, the trackway will emerge through the east-facing slope and cross over Interstate 405 on the way to Overlake. Service between Seattle and the Eastside is scheduled to begin mid-2023.</p> <p>During a tour Tuesday, dirt was scraped out by a heavy excavator, with a rotating arm and five talons that gouged the gray surface ahead. Conversation was drowned out by a growling loader machine that carried scoops outside to a waiting dump truck.</p> <p>The laborious technique, called "sequential excavation method," entails digging 4 feet, spraying concrete on the naked earth, then affixing an arched steel lattice, followed by another layer of concrete.</p> <p>After a slow start, Atkinson Construction is advancing 5½ feet on good days. Digging began in February and will go until early 2019. After that, the team will attach a waterproof membrane, pour a smooth cast-in-place concrete wall and build a hard floor for the trackway, by June 2020.</p> <p>There's no Bertha-like mammoth tunnel drill, and not even a standard 21-foot tunnel-boring machine like the ones that dug to University of Washington Station.</p> <p>It didn't make sense, given the relatively short Bellevue passage, to build a launching pit as long as a football field, and assemble a boring machine — perhaps a year's extra work, said Chad Frederick, a Sound Transit project manager. Also, some steel rods protrude into the path from nearby parking garages, an obstacle that can harm a boring machine but not the swiveling scraper.</p> <p>The soil is behaving so well that crews have stretched out their sequence to scrape out an extra 3 inches per stage, for a total 4 feet, 3 inches, said Jake Cobion, an Atkinson project manager.</p> <p>"The ground here is phenomenal compared to other parts of town," Cobion said. "It's not like building a tunnel along the waterfront, or next to the [sea] wall."</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 US Marines test small 3D-printed drones
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Defense-News/2017/10/04/Marines-test-3D-printed-small-

	drones/5401507135216/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ts&utm_medium=19
GIST	<p>Oct. 4 (UPI) -- U.S Marines have tested small 3D-printed drones to demonstrate their flexibility and usefulness to troops in the field.</p> <p>The testing of the additive-manufactured vehicles, supplied by the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, took place late last month at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.</p> <p>"At this point we are focusing on intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions," Eric Spero, a team leader in the vehicle technology directorate of the U.S. Army Research Lab, said in a press release. "We have different cameras such as an infrared and a day camera; there are different things we can do like stream the video to systems or a heads up display and record it for later viewing."</p> <p>Unlike systems already in use by the U.S. military, the 3D-produced unmanned aircraft can be quickly manufactured.</p> <p>A catalogue of drones from researchers enables troops to select an SUAS tailored to fit the needs of their mission, download information on the aircraft, and then 3D-print its parts before constructing the drone -- all within 24 hours.</p> <p>"Basically what we are doing is combining two emerging technologies," said John Gerdes, a mechanical engineer at the U.S. Army Research Lab. "We have taken 3D printing and quad-copters and created a means of giving troops a customized vehicle right when they need it, with the capabilities they need from it, on demand."</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Study: need more charging stations in US
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Energy-News/2017/10/05/The-US-needs-at-least-twice-as-many-charging-points-for-EV-study-finds/4301507195768/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ts&utm_medium=22
GIST	<p>Oct. 5 (UPI) -- The number of plug-in ports for electric vehicles would need to increase more than 130 percent to meet future growth, a U.S. Energy Department study found.</p> <p>The U.S. Energy Department's National Renewable Energy Laboratory estimates there are 16,000 charging stations for plug-in electric vehicles nation-wide, with 43,000 actual plugs available as of June. That number supports the more than 500,000 plug-ins on the road in the United States, which accounts for about a quarter of the global market.</p> <p>NREL examined market growth scenarios where that number increased to 15 million to quantify what's necessary to support emerging trends.</p> <p>"In a plug-in vehicle market with 15 million vehicles, the total number of non-residential charging outlets, or plugs, needed to meet urban and rural demand ranges from around 100,000 to more than 1.2 million," the report read.</p> <p>The federal study followed the signing of a memorandum of understanding by the governors of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming that envisions an Intermountain West Electric Vehicle Corridor "that will make it possible to seamlessly drive an electric vehicle" across the major transportation corridors of the parties involved.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 West states to expand charging stations
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/10/04/Western-states-to-expand-electric-vehicle-charging-network/7521507141564/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ts&utm_medium=3

GIST	<p>Oct. 4 (UPI) -- The governors of seven states in the western United States announced they signed an agreement Wednesday to create a network of charging stations in order to expand electric vehicle use in the region.</p> <p>The leaders of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming signed the memorandum of understanding encouraging wider use of the vehicles on a combined 5,000 miles of regional highways.</p> <p>"This state-led effort shows how western states continue to work together to find innovative solutions and plan for a future where increasing numbers of people and families are traveling the West in electric vehicles," Montana Gov. Steve Bullock said. "I am pleased to sign onto this bipartisan effort to take practical steps to realize the economic and environmental benefits of coordinated infrastructure planning that will benefit us now and well into the future."</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 US winter forecast
SOURCE	https://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/2017-2018-us-winter-forecast/70002894
GIST	<p>Some chilly winter weather is in store for the Northeast and mid-Atlantic, with January threatening to bring the coldest air of the season. Although however cold, low temperatures will pale in comparison to those in the northern Plains where the mercury is set to dip to minus 30 degrees Fahrenheit at times.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the southern Plains, Southwest and California can expect a milder and drier winter than last season.</p> <p>Cold and snow to strike Northeast, mid-Atlantic</p> <p>A chilly winter is in store for the Northeast and mid-Atlantic, particularly when compared to last year. For most of both regions, this will translate to an above-normal snow season.</p> <p>“Areas in the I-95 corridor will average close to normal, within a few inches,” AccuWeather Lead Long-Range Forecaster Paul Pastelok said. “Areas away from the I-95 corridor have a better chance at a big snowfall.”</p> <p>New York City and Boston, Massachusetts, may be the exceptions to this, with early predictions calling for 6 inches of snowfall or more above normal in both cities.</p> <p>Areas prone to lake-effect snow will also see high totals, including Cleveland, Ohio; Erie, Pennsylvania; and Buffalo, New York.</p> <p>“I think this year is going to bring a good ski season in the Northeast,” Pastelok said. “And around the holidays we should have some snow for the interior Northeast.”</p> <p>Severe weather may threaten Southeast, Tennessee Valley</p> <p>Farther south, air temperatures will face an east-west divide. “The Southeast is going to run above normal, especially in Florida and Georgia,” Pastelok said. Both states will be at a lesser risk for a damaging freeze this year.</p> <p>Additionally, Florida will remain mostly dry — good news for those recovering from Irma’s impact in the fall. Meanwhile, western areas are more likely to receive bouts of colder weather.</p> <p>“We are expecting a few ice storms to develop based on the pattern we’re seeing right now,” Pastelok said. Two to three are predicted to hit from the Tennessee Valley to northeast Texas.</p> <p>Tornadoes are not out the question for either region. The area from Texas to Georgia was hit with 137 tornadoes last January. This year, frequent tornadic activity may spin up in February.</p>

Frigid air to take hold in northern Plains

Arctic blasts are set to freeze the northern Plains this winter with temperatures sinking to subzero levels on a regular basis. Temperatures could plummet to minus 30 F at times in the Dakotas, Pastelok said.

However, the frigid conditions are a trade-off for less snowfall. The winter of 2016/2017 spawned colossal storms, dropping 140 percent of normal snowfall over the northern Plains and northern Rockies, according to Pastelok. This year will feature much less snow and drier conditions overall.

Temperatures to bounce back and forth across southern Plains

The southern Plains will experience back-and-forth temperatures this season, with the middle of the winter being most likely to bring chilly conditions. "Colder air masses will bleed down and lead to freezes in later January," Pastelok said.

Though the wintry air will be memorable, a cold winter isn't predicted overall. Some areas, such as southwest Texas, will average above normal for the season. Dry periods will dominate over stormy weather overall.

"We do feel there are going to be some storms in northwest Texas at times," he said. "Southwest Texas could see some but not as frequent as in past winters." Dry periods will be welcomed by many following the havoc wreaked by Harvey near Houston.

Abundant snowfall to bury Northwest, Rockies

With a weak La Niña predicted to develop this winter, the Northwest and the Rockies are set to receive an abundance of precipitation.

"I think the Bitterroot chain all the way down to the Wasatch region in the central and northern Rockies has a good shot to be above normal on snowfall this season," Pastelok said.

The Cascades are also predicted to benefit from abundant snowfall. "It's a good area to head out to if you're a big skier," Pastelok said.

Drier, less snowy season in the offing for California

After a big season for snowfall in central and Northern California last year, both regions are predicted to be less wet and snowy in the upcoming months. However, it won't spell bad news for ski season.

Ski resorts will receive enough snowfall to create good conditions, but not so much that people struggle to get to them, he said.

In the Southwest, drier and warmer weather will dominate. According to Pastelok, warmth will bookend the winter with temperatures capable of reaching into the 90s by early 2018.

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HEADLINE	10/04 San Diego hepatitis outbreak grows
SOURCE	http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-hepatitis-san-diego-20171004-story.html
GIST	<p>Add 20 more cases and 22 more hospitalizations to San Diego County's ever-growing hepatitis A outbreak.</p> <p>Tuesday afternoon the county Health and Human Services Agency raised the number of the outbreak's confirmed cases to 481 from 461 and hospitalizations to 337 from 315. The death count associated with the outbreak, which started in November 2016, remained at 17 for a second straight week.</p> <p>For the last two weeks, the health department has reported having more than 40 cases under investigation awaiting confirmation from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that they suspect are</p>

caused by the same unique strains associated with other outbreak cases.

No information on the number of cases under investigation was available Tuesday. All of those who have died during the outbreak have had underlying medical conditions such as liver disease. Most were also homeless and/or drug users.

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HEADLINE	10/04 India's economy downward spiral
SOURCE	http://money.cnn.com/2017/10/04/news/economy/india-economy-modi-slowdown/index.html
GIST	<p>India's economy, once hailed as a global bright spot, is down in the dumps.</p> <p>Growth in the South Asian nation fell during the first six months of 2017 from 7% to 5.7%, its slowest pace in three years, and analysts say the road to recovery is steep.</p> <p>"We're on a downward spiral," said Mohan Guruswamy, head of the Center for Policy Alternatives in Delhi, and a former official at India's finance ministry.</p> <p>Prime Minister Narendra Modi swept into power in 2014, promising to take India's economy to new heights. But many reforms have yet to materialize and some changes that have been enacted are hurting growth.</p> <p>Modi defended his performance in a speech Wednesday, claiming his government had helped several industries.</p> <p>"It is true that there has been a reduction in growth, but it is also true that the government is fully committed to reversing this trend," he said. "Our fundamentals are strong."</p> <p>India is still reeling from two shocks within 12 months -- Modi's sudden ban last November of 86% of the country's cash, and a sweeping overhaul of the tax system aimed at turning the country's 29 states into a single market.</p> <p>The cash ban "was a massive blow, just when the economy looked at a point of inflection last year and the decline had started leveling off," Guruswamy said.</p> <p>Modi's signature reform -- a national goods and services tax implemented in July -- has been widely hailed as a positive step because it should simplify business in the long run. But the implementation caused major disruption.</p> <p>"My fear was that if people didn't understand how to do the tax system, then they would stop doing business with one another," said Shailesh Kumar, South Asia analyst at the Eurasia Group. "You did see some of that...as companies didn't really know what to do."</p> <p>The government has said it expected a growth slowdown, but appears to have been blindsided by the sharp drop.</p> <p>Top financial institutions are worried that the economy will struggle to regain its momentum in the near term. The central bank has just slashed its growth forecast for the current fiscal year to 6.7% from 7.3%.</p> <p>"The implementation of the [tax reform] appears to have rendered short-term prospects uncertain," Reserve Bank of India Governor Urjit Patel told reporters.</p> <p>The State Bank of India, which is owned by the government, was more blunt. The slowdown, it said in a report last month, is "not short term in nature or even transient."</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Oxford to strip Suu Kyi of honor
SOURCE	http://www.cnn.com/2017/10/04/europe/aung-san-suu-kyi-oxford/index.html
GIST	<p>(CNN)Aung San Suu Kyi is to be stripped of the Freedom of Oxford by the city's council for her response to the Rohingya crisis.</p> <p>Myanmar's de facto leader was bestowed with the honorary title in 1997 in recognition of her long struggle for democracy and her ties to Oxford where she studied.</p> <p>City councilors considered a cross-party motion to withdraw the honor on Monday night and concluded that that it was "no longer appropriate" for her to hold it.</p> <p>The council said that it had written to Suu Kyi and asked her to "do whatever she can to stop the ethnic cleansing in her country" but had not received a response.</p> <p>Over the years, Suu Kyi has often spoken of the warmth and kindness she received during her time in Britain. It was while studying at Oxford University between 1964 and 1967 that she met her late husband, Michael Aris, before starting a family there.</p> <p>"The most important thing for me about Oxford was not what I learnt there in terms of set text and set books we had to read, but in terms of a respect for the best in human civilization," she reportedly said after receiving an honorary doctorate in civil law from her alma mater in 2012.</p> <p>In recent weeks, Suu Kyi has come under fire for her response to the plight facing the Rohingya Muslim minority. Almost half a million people have fled violence in Rakhine state to neighboring Bangladesh since August 25.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 UN chief: extreme storms new normal
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/scientists-say-extreme-storms-will-be-new-normal-u-n-chief-says/
GIST	<p>UNITED NATIONS -- Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is heading to the hurricane-battered Caribbean, where he said Wednesday that scientists predict the extreme storms during this year's Atlantic hurricane season "will be the new normal of a warming world."</p> <p>The U.N. chief told reporters that Hurricane Irma, which devastated Barbuda, was a Category 5 storm for three consecutive days -- "the longest on satellite record" -- and its winds that reached 300 kilometers per hour for 37 hours were "the longest on record at that intensity."</p> <p>Hurricanes Harvey and Irma marked the first time two Category 4 storms made landfall on the United States mainland in the same year, Guterres said, and Hurricane Maria, a Category 5 storm, followed up by decimating Dominica and devastating Puerto Rico.</p> <p>The secretary-general said "scientists are learning more and more about the links between climate change and extreme weather."</p> <p>A warmer climate "turbocharges the intensity of hurricanes," which pick up energy as they move across the ocean, he said. "The melting of glaciers, and the thermal expansion of the seas, means bigger storm surges" and with more people living along coastlines "the damage is, and will be that much greater."</p> <p>Guterres said the world has "the tools, the technologies and the wealth to address climate change, but we must show more determination in moving towards a green, clean, sustainable energy future" -- and in stepping up implementation of the 2015 Paris climate agreement.</p> <p>Guterres made the point during the recent General Assembly that the world - and the U.S. in particular -</p>

	<p>need to stick with the Paris climate agreement, CBS News' Pamela Falk reports from the U.N.</p> <p>The recent severe hurricane system gave the U.N. chief an added platform to make the point, Falk said.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Local firefighters with ballistic vests
SOURCE	http://www.king5.com/news/local/local-firefighters-equipped-with-bulletproof-vests/480947910
GIST	<p>Outside of East Pierce County Fire and Rescue in Bonney Lake, the U.S. flag is lowered to half-staff after the Las Vegas shooting.</p> <p>On Sunday, as thousands ran to escape gunfire in Las Vegas, paramedics and firefighters rushed in to help.</p> <p>Fire Chief Bud Backer says the mass shooting reinforces the safety precautions he started making months ago. He received approval to purchase 32 sets of ballistic vests and helmets. It is a \$75,000 expense, and the vests will have to be replaced every five years. The goal is to be able to reach patients quickly and keep firefighters safe during dangerous calls.</p> <p>“I wish we never had to think about it,” said Backer. “That’s where the world is right now.”</p> <p>Backer explained, “If we are going to send our people into an environment to treat injured people and the scene is not entirely secure yet, that kind of scenario is referred to as a warm zone. If we are going to operate in the warm zone, state law requires that we provide ballistic protection for our firefighters.”</p> <p>Chief Backer wants firefighters to work with local police agencies on a full-scale exercise on an active shooter incident. He hopes that training can happen sometime next year.</p> <p>Dennis Lawson, president of the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters, says in the last five years more departments across the state have purchased ballistic vests.</p> <p>“It is a good step to make sure we protect our people,” said Lawson.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Gun buyers scoop up ‘bump fire stocks’
SOURCE	https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-04/gun-buyers-bid-up-bump-fire-stocks-used-in-las-vegas-massacre
GIST	<p>“Bump fire stocks,” devices that allow semi-automatic weapons to be fired as if they are fully automatic, were allegedly used by the gunman who killed almost 60 people at a Las Vegas concert Sunday. The question now being asked is why such items, which are being scooped up by gun buyers fearing new regulations, are so easily purchased when an automatic firearm is so hard to get?</p> <p>More than 500 people were injured in the attack on the Route 91 Harvest festival when Stephen Craig Paddock allegedly opened fire from a 32nd floor room in the Mandalay Bay Resort. Among several weapons found at the scene were the devices that allowed him to fire more rapidly, killing and injuring more concertgoers than would be possible with a semi-automatic rifle alone.</p> <p>The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives is tasked with deciding whether bump fire stocks are legal under existing federal statute. The classification depends on whether “they mechanically alter the function of the firearm to fire fully automatic,” said Jill A. Snyder, ATF special agent in charge, during a press conference on Tuesday evening. “Bump fire stocks, while simulating automatic fire, do not actually alter the firearm to fire automatically, making them legal under current federal law.”</p> <p>A semi-automatic weapon releases one round of ammunition per trigger pull. A bump fire stock expedites</p>

the process. “The user generates a forward activation force that urges the firing unit forwardly so that the trigger collides with the stabilized finger, stimulating the first round of ammunition in the receiver,” states the website of Slide Fire Solutions Inc., one maker of such devices. “A recoil force from the discharging ammunition pushes the firing unit rearwardly so that the trigger separates from the stabilized finger.” Other manufacturers include Bump Fire Systems LLC and Fostech Outdoors LLC.

In less technical terms, the bump fire stock effectively increases the rate of fire of a semi-automatic gun, said Kristen Rand, legislative director of the Violence Policy Center. “In the case of these bump fires, the ATF has made the determination that the shooter is repeatedly working the trigger. It just makes the gun fire faster but the trigger is being pulled for each round,” she said. A 2010 letter from the ATF notes that “the stock has no automatically functioning mechanical parts or springs and performs no automatic mechanical function when installed.” (The ATF didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment.)

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HEADLINE	10/04 Festival security can’t stop every lone wolf
SOURCE	https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2017/10/04/las-vegas-shooting-festival-security-cant-stop-every-black-swan-event/733952001/
GIST	<p>PALM SPRINGS, Calif. — In a world of copycat killers, music festival organizers and public officials must grapple with the possibility that America’s major entertainment venues may, in moments, be transformed into killing grounds.</p> <p>Although authorities from Coachella to Bonnaroo have taken precautions and devised elaborate contingency plans, the massacre at the Route 91 Harvest festival in Las Vegas underscored a devastating reality: No amount of planning and preparation is guaranteed to stop every lone wolf.</p> <p>Chris Robinette, president of Los Angeles-based Prevent Advisors, which specializes in arena and stadium security, offered a sobering assessment of the Las Vegas tragedy, which left 59 dead and more than 580 wounded.</p> <p>“I don’t think a lot could have been done to prevent this,” Robinette said, given that gunman Stephen Paddock didn’t appear to have any kind of criminal or mental health history that would have suggested to authorities that he should be watched.</p> <p>“This was a vicious and nightmarish black swan event,” Robinette said.</p> <p>After the Manchester, England, terrorist attack at an Ariana Grande concert, entertainment events company Live Nation — promoter of the Route 91 Harvest festival — announced that it was stepping up security efforts, including banning backpacks and bags, at all its venues. But such measures proved futile as the gunman shot at the crowd from his hotel room on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino.</p> <p>“We are heartbroken over the tragedy that took place at the Route 91 Harvest festival,” the Beverly Hills company said in a statement. “To think that anyone would want to inflict harm on a gathering of music lovers is beyond our comprehension. And while we are stunned and grieving over this incomprehensible act of violence, we know that this is a moment when we must come together to prevent more tragedies like this from occurring.”</p> <p>Meanwhile, with every tragedy, concert planners around the country continue to evaluate and re-evaluate their venue safety plans.</p> <p>The Nashville Convention and Visitors Corp. has re-examined safety protocols for the outdoor events and concerts it operates following deadly incidents at concerts in recent years.</p> <p>After a motorist drove into a crowd at the SXSW festival in Austin, killing four and injuring dozens, the CVC and Nashville police altered the security barriers on the perimeter of the downtown July 4 and New</p>

Year's Eve parties. Typically held in Nashville's honky tonk district on lower Broadway, the July 4 celebration features live music and fireworks and attracted 240,000 people in 2017.

The CVC moved its New Year's Eve bash to a nearby public park instead of on lower Broadway, which is surrounded by historic buildings that house bars and restaurants.

Since the SXSW festival, Nashville has used a combination of hydraulic barriers that can open and close, stationary barriers and strategically arranged police cars on side streets that would prevent a runaway vehicle, but allow access to fire trucks and ambulances if necessary.

Following the shooting in Las Vegas, Nashville CVC President and CEO Butch Spyridon said he was communicating with the Nashville police and mayor's office about how to restrict who has access to buildings that surround the crowd during those large-scale gatherings.

Spyridon said the city also wants to be sure the state law that allows bar owners to ban firearms is properly enforced so that a gunman could not gain access to a building perched above the throngs below.

The CVC also co-promotes the annual CMA Fest along with the Country Music Association. That event draws upwards of 80,000 people to the streets of downtown Nashville.

"Anything outside poses a much greater opportunity for an event of this magnitude," Spyridon said. "So we're always looking at how we can improve, what can be done better."

Outside Nashville at Bonnaroo, organizers have implemented strict security safeguards for years, including searching vehicles that drive onto the rural Tennessee farm that hosts the annual music festival, mandatory metal detectors at each entrance to the festival grounds and armed security, including local police, throughout the property.

In Phoenix, where later this month the inaugural three-day Lost Lake Festival is expected to draw tens of thousands to the 75-acre Steele Indian School Park north of downtown, law enforcement officials say they do not anticipate any major security changes.

"We always work with event organizers to ensure city emergency services are available as part of their overall security plans," Phoenix Police Sgt. Jonathan Howard said in a statement.

Barnett English, promoter of the global-themed Joshua Tree Music Festival in the Southern California desert, said his festival's health and safety protocol will remain unchanged. The festival, running Friday through Sunday, will have a support crew of 200 people for an expected crowd of 2,500 people, and English said the staff will have "a heightened sensitivity to the feelings of all those around us at the fest."

The inaugural Desert Oasis Music Festival, running Saturday and Sunday at Empire Polo Club in California, announced on Facebook and Twitter that it will run as scheduled with 24 bands, led by Damian Marley, Rebelution, Steel Pulse, Los Lobos and Kinky. Producer Alex Haagen IV has said the festival expects to attract 10,000 people.

As for the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, which attracts over 100,000 visitors each weekend to Indio, Calif., event organizer Goldenvoice is required to have a safety operation plan that includes medical, police and fire services. The city of Indio coordinates police, contracted security, medical services and outside law enforcement, but Goldenvoice is required to reimburse it for any out-of-pocket costs. Private security guards patrol nearby neighborhoods and campgrounds and the city has a concert hotline set up that locals can call with questions or concerns.

Indio police Sgt. Dan Marshall and Community Services Supervisor Jim Curtis have said they couldn't disclose the details of their safety planning, but Marshall said there are contingency plans for everything from a natural disaster to a mass shooting.

“We have staging areas throughout the city; we have plans to get people out as fast as possible; we have plans to shelter people in place,” he said. “We’re definitely not a soft target like somebody might think.”

Robinette applauded efforts of first-responders in their handling of what happened in Vegas, but now all involved need to have more discussions of where any needed improvements can be made, including evacuating people.

“It’s now incumbent upon the professionals to analyze and evaluate and put measures in place” that would prevent a similar incident to occur, Robinette said.

One of the factors organizers and security professionals may have to consider is whether festivals and concerts in urban settings, like Las Vegas or Nashville, pose different—and more complicated—problems than those in more isolated outdoor venues like Coachella or Joshua Tree.

As the Las Vegas shooting suggests, urban settings provide attackers far more vantage points from which to launch their deadly assaults. Like modern urban warfare, contemporary urban concert security may have become a strategic nightmare.

With all this in mind, does Robinette expect Sunday’s massacre to keep people from concerts or sporting events?

“If you look at what happened in the past, what happened on 9/11 and at the Boston Marathon (bombing), we see that Americans are very resilient and defiant,” he said. “I don’t see fear reducing the number of concerts or where they take place.”

Still, Robinette said, concertgoers have a “reasonable expectation that promoters, law enforcement and other first-responders will be looking at this incident for areas and ways they can improve security measures to better ensure their safety.”

He added: “The public wants to know how we have learned and made appropriate adjustments.”

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HEADLINE	10/04 Puerto Rico fundraising lags behind
SOURCE	https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2017/10/04/puerto-rico-donations-lag-behind-fundraising-harvey-irma-victims-vegas-shooting/731955001/
GIST	<p>Hurricane Maria has wrecked the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico, causing a near shut-down of the island’s economy and leaving most of its 3.4 million citizens without power and other vital goods and services.</p> <p>But as contributions soar to homegrown fundraising efforts for victims of Sunday’s Las Vegas shooting, those devastated by Maria have seen comparatively small donations especially when compared to money raised for those affected by hurricanes Harvey and Irma, according to groups contacted by USA TODAY.</p> <p>— The Red Cross reports that it has collected \$350 million in donations and pledges so far to help those affected by Hurricane Harvey, which slammed Houston and environs. It has received \$45 million for Irma victims, and \$9 million for Maria.</p> <p>— Catholic Charities reports that it has distributed \$2 million to its agencies in Texas, \$2.4 million in Florida \$10,000 in Louisiana and \$1.2 million to Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands.</p> <p>— U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation statistics indicate that so far corporations have donated \$270.8 million for Hurricane Harvey and Irma relief efforts in cash and in-kind donations, while the Maria tally currently stands at \$32.4 million.</p> <p>Why the big Maria gap?</p>

Those raising money say a prime reason for lower Maria numbers has to do with its damage coming after devastating storms hit the U.S. mainland in Texas and Florida, which means donors are more apt to be either financially or even emotionally tapped out.

Media attention is also a huge factor in generating contributions, and the supersaturated coverage that greeted Harvey and Irma tapered for Maria.

Puerto Rico's woes now also sit in the shadow of the mass killings in Las Vegas on Sunday, which left 58 innocent people dead and hundreds wounded. Tellingly, Americans, who remain riveted by the tragedy of the event so far have donated \$8.5 million to a GoFundMe campaign started by Las Vegas local Steve Sisolak.

And while the word "racism" is brushed aside as inappropriate by most relief organization experts, many are quick to admit that having some sort of personal or cultural connection to disaster victims often drives the levels of funding. Of note is a recent poll by Morning Consult revealed that half of respondents were not aware that Puerto Ricans were U.S. citizens.

Tricia Wachtendorf, director of the University of Delaware's Disaster Research Center, says "research shows that people are more likely to give if they are in close physical proximity to the event," which may be one reason why Maria donations are down.

She adds that "people also give when there's social affinity to the affected group, so where the (Puerto Rican) diaspora lives (New York, Chicago), there will likely be continued giving."

Cultural affinity reasons may resonate, but they shouldn't get in the way of helping fellow human beings who fly the same flag, says Daniel Borochoff of the relief organization rating group Charity Watch.

"It's a humanitarian crisis down there and they are U.S. citizens," he says. "It would be like helping people in Hawaii."

Bob Ottenhoff, CEO of the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, notes that as devastating as the damage to Puerto Rico was, the island had the misfortune of being of not being part of the U.S. mainland and being hit after days of non-stop media coverage before and after Harvey and Irma hit coastal cities.

"Houston is the fourth largest city in the U.S., Florida is a big state, but there are relatively few people living in the Caribbean, 3 million or so in Puerto Rico and a few hundred thousand in the Virgin Islands," he says. "That means there aren't as many people with friends and family, or as many corporations with employees. There aren't as many personal connections, and personal connections are often the key to donations."

That said, Americans traditionally do not shy away from giving to victims of natural disasters overseas, says Stacy Palmer, editor of The Chronicle of Philanthropy.

"I find the notion that we need to give more because people are Americans a bit uncomfortable, simply because we have a tradition of giving all over the world when things happen, like earthquakes in Mexico and tsunamis in Asia," she says.

"In this instance, there may be some lack of understanding about Puerto Rico being part of the U.S., but mainly the factors have to do with being a third disaster that is now battling with the Las Vegas shooting for our giving."

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HEADLINE

10/04 Hurricane duty effects military deployments

SOURCE	http://www.newsmax.com/US/navy-deployment-hurricanes-duty/2017/10/04/id/817744/
GIST	<p>The Navy's deployment of cargo planes and ships for hurricane relief is having a ripple effect throughout the military that is being felt in the Middle East, the Korean peninsula, and other locations where America's military is needed.</p> <p>CNN reported the deployments to the Gulf of Mexico, off the coast of Florida, and the Caribbean Sea in the wake of several strong hurricanes, are putting planned deployments to overseas destinations at risk. And the need for the Naval ships and planes close to home means some troops and ships could see their deployments in other parts of the world lengthened.</p> <p>Secretary of Defense James Mattis appeared in front of the Senate Armed Services Committee this week and said the military will keep resources in Puerto Rico until they are no longer needed.</p> <p>"We are ready to go even to the point that it's going to impact the deployments, perhaps, of some of these troops overseas next year because we've interrupted their preparation," Mattis said, CNN reported.</p> <p>Military planners are now working to reconfigure deployments or determine how they are going to get resources to the Middle East and the Korean peninsula. The threat of war with North Korea is real, and the U.S. military has sent several ships and other assets to the region in a show of force — and to respond to any attacks from North Korea.</p> <p>The deployment of cargo planes to deliver hurricane relief supplies could leave soldiers in the Middle East on the ground a few weeks longer than planned. And when they are ready to leave, they might have to catch a non-military flight back to the U.S.</p> <p>In addition to Naval assets, the National Guard has mobilized thousands of troops and is using helicopters, troops, and planes to ferry supplies around and deliver them to hard-hit areas.</p> <p>Helicopter crews from the National Guard, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, and other agencies and branches of service rescued thousands of people stranded in floods because of the hurricanes.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Venezuela seeks Russia military alliance
SOURCE	http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/venezuela-maduro-will-discuss-military/2017/10/04/id/817758/
GIST	<p>Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said Wednesday he will discuss increased military cooperation with Russia in the wake of President Donald Trump's remarks that he would not rule out a "military option" in response to a power grab by Maduro, according to the Miami Herald.</p> <p>Trump made the comments in August as Venezuela was in the midst of chaos. The South American country had been troubled for weeks by charges of election fraud and protests, and the U.S. soon after imposed sanctions meant to punish Maduro's government for knocking out democratic institutions.</p> <p>"We have many options for Venezuela, including a possible military option if necessary," Trump said.</p> <p>"We are all over the world and we have troops all over the world in places that are very, very far away," the president added. "Venezuela is not very far away and people are suffering and dying."</p> <p>Russia has stepped in to help stem the economic crisis – Venezuela's debt stands at \$3.5 billion and the country is struggling to meet those payments. Maduro on Wednesday thanked Russian President Vladimir Putin for his support in difficult times.</p> <p>He says he will now discuss the possibility of military support with the Russian government during his visit in Moscow this week.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 EU: Amazon owes \$295M back taxes
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/eu-tells-luxembourg-295-million-taxes-amazon-50271697?cid=clicksource_79_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed
GIST	<p>Amazon has to pay \$295 million in back taxes to Luxembourg, the European Union ordered Wednesday, in its latest attempt to tighten the screws on multinationals it says are avoiding taxes through sweetheart deals with individual EU states.</p> <p>Margrethe Vestager, the EU official in charge of antitrust issues, also took Ireland to court for failing to collect a massive 13 billion euros (\$15.3 billion) in back taxes from Apple Inc.</p> <p>She argued that, like in Amazon's case, the company had profited from a deal with the country that had allowed it to avoid paying most of the taxes the EU felt were due.</p> <p>The EU has taken aim at such past deals, which member states had used to lure foreign companies in search of a place to establish their EU headquarters. The practice led to EU states competing with each other and multinationals playing them off one another.</p> <p>EU states are now trying to harmonize their tax rules, but Wednesday's and previous rulings seek to redress years of tax avoidance.</p> <p>Vestager said that U.S. online retailer Amazon had unfairly profited from special low tax conditions since 2003 in tiny Luxembourg, where its European headquarters are based.</p> <p>As a result, almost three quarters of Amazon's profits in the EU were not taxed, she said.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Some Vegas injured unaware being shot
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/injured-vegas-massacre-shot-50293832?cid=clicksource_26_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Some of the people injured in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history didn't initially realize they had been shot, a hospital official said.</p> <p>"We have gotten calls from people, from home, to ask if they can have bullets removed," said Dr. Sean Dort, a trauma surgeon and the trauma center medical director at the Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican Hospital's Siena campus. "There are people who are shot and don't know at first. If it's not a very high-speed velocity, it doesn't hurt."</p> <p>Fifty-eight people were killed and more than 500 were injured Sunday night in a shooting at the Route 91 Harvest Festival. Police say Stephen Paddock perched himself on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay casino hotel and opened fire for at least nine minutes on the crowd of 22,000 people attending the outdoor country music festival on the Las Vegas Strip.</p> <p>The injured landed in 13 hospitals scattered across southern Nevada. Most have been treated and released.</p> <p>The most seriously wounded were being treated at trauma centers, with about 50 people still in critical condition Wednesday.</p> <p>Some knew they were hurt but rushed home anyway out of sheer terror, just to be somewhere safe.</p> <p>Dort, citing privacy reasons, couldn't say how many people came to the hospital after initially being unaware they were shot. But he said the hospital even received patients who had first gone to see their</p>

	<p>family doctors for something like a graze wound on their foot.</p> <p>"These are very minor," Dort said.</p> <p>The doctor said the process of treating a bullet wound, regardless of how minor or extensive the damage, is mostly predicated on where it lands on the body.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Puerto Rico: mental health concerns
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/mental-health-concerns-aftermath-puerto-rico-hurricane-50296312?cid=clicksource_26_2_hero_headlines_bsq_hed
GIST	<p>The hurricane that pummeled Puerto Rico two weeks ago and the scarcity-marked aftermath are taking a toll on islanders' equilibrium. The U.S. territory's government counted two suicides among the death toll, which now stands at 34, and with many communities still waiting for power and clean water, there is concern about others reaching a breaking point.</p> <p>Students and staff at Ponce Health Sciences University are visiting shelters and people in the hardest-hit communities to provide psychological help, among other services, said Alex Ruiz, special assistant to the university's president.</p> <p>"People's whole worlds were taken from them," he said. "People will need the proper psychological help to get through this."</p> <p>At a news conference on Wednesday, Gov. Ricardo Rossello said the death toll jumped to 34 from 16 on the basis of a report that he commissioned to consult with hospitals and gain a more complete picture of the number of victims. He said 20 deaths resulted directly from the storm, including drownings and those killed in mudslides.</p> <p>The count also includes sick and elderly who died in the aftermath of the hurricane, including some who died because oxygen could not be delivered amid power outages. There were also two suicides, but Rossello did not provide details of those.</p> <p>Dr. Olga Rodriguez, the dean of the Ponce Health Science University's school of medicine, said mental health problems have increased after the hurricane and need to be dealt with swiftly.</p> <p>"This is very important so as to minimize the impact and emotional effects," she said. "It's not easy. We're reaching some people, but the island needs more mental health professionals. If we don't act, the situation can become problematic."</p> <p>"People are unable to go to work, they cannot produce, they do not know when they can return to work," she said. "There's widespread despair."</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Thousands DACA recipients yet to renew
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/thousands-dreamers-lose-protection-daca-deadline-arrives/story?id=50279564
GIST	<p>Some 48,000 eligible unauthorized immigrants have yet to renew their immigration status as a part of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, despite this week's Oct. 5 deadline to renew.</p> <p>Of the 154,200 individuals whose DACA status is set to expire between Sept. 5, 2017, and March 5, 2018, just over 106,000 either have renewal requests currently pending with the federal immigration agency or have already had their renewal requests adjudicated, according to the Department of Homeland Security</p>

(DHS), which manages the program.

The deadline is part of what DHS is calling an "orderly wind down" of the program, which the Trump administration announced at the beginning of September that it was rescinding. The program will phase out over the next six months, leaving the fate of Dreamers in the hands of Congress.

No new applications were accepted after the announcement on Sept. 5 and renewals will only be accepted until Thursday for certain categories of recipients. If legislative action is not taken, DACA recipients could begin to lose benefits on March 6, 2018.

Eligible DACA recipients have until this Thursday, Oct. 5th to "properly file their renewal request and associated application for employment authorization to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)," DHS said in a press release Tuesday.

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HEADLINE 10/04 Sheriff: shooter may have planned escape

SOURCE <http://abcnews.go.com/US/investigators-delve-deeper-las-vegas-shooting-chilling-details/story?id=50273390>

GIST Here's the latest on the investigation into the Las Vegas shooting:

- There is evidence the gunman, Stephen Paddock, planned to escape, Clark County Sheriff Joseph Lombardo said.
- At least 59 people, including the shooter, died after Sunday night's attack at a Las Vegas music festival.
- The motive remains unknown, but the city's police chief said the assault was "obviously premeditated."
- Paddock was seen gambling for eight hours straight on the night before the shooting.
- Paddock reportedly had been stockpiling firearms since 1982 and purchased 33 guns in the past year.
- Authorities said they have recovered 47 firearms so far from three locations connected to Paddock.
- Paddock's girlfriend returned to the U.S. from the Philippines and will be questioned by the FBI this afternoon.
- Paddock may have visited several music festivals in the Vegas area, investigators say.

As investigators delve deeper into how Sunday night's massacre in Las Vegas unfolded, more chilling details have emerged about the suspected gunman and how he allegedly carried out the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

Authorities said Paddock opened fire on a music festival crowd from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, killing 58 people and injuring 530 others. The shooting lasted nine to 11 minutes, with the first reports of gunshots beginning Sunday at 10:05 p.m. PT and the final shots being fired at 10:15 p.m.

Paddock is believed to have been solely responsible for the attack, according to police.

Speaking this evening, Lombardo said that there is evidence that indicates Paddock, a 64-year-old resident of Mesquite, Nevada, planned to escape.

However, Lombardo did not provide any details on what the evidence was or why he believes that.

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HEADLINE	10/04 Union: unarmed guard took on shooter
SOURCE	https://www.thedailybeast.com/unarmed-security-guard-jesus-campos-took-on-las-vegas-killer-stephen-paddock
GIST	<p>LAS VEGAS — Jesus Campos had no firearm when he found Stephen Paddock and approached his room on the 32rd floor of Mandalay Bay on Sunday night.</p> <p>Paddock, who had rigged cameras in the hallway and on the peephole of the door, saw Campos coming and fired through the door, hitting him in the leg, said Dave Hickey, president of the International Union, Security, Police and Fire Professionals of America. The union represents Campos and hundreds of security guards at Mandalay Bay.</p> <p>When Campos was hit, he radioed casino dispatch and told him his location — and Paddock’s.</p> <p>“We received information via their dispatch center...that helped us locate where this individual was sequestered,” Clark County Sheriff Joseph Lombardo told reporters Tuesday.</p> <p>Police officers who subsequently approached the room received gunfire and backed off until SWAT responded, Lombardo said.</p> <p>“We would not have engaged this individual in the time lapse we did without their assistance,” Lombardo later added.</p> <p>Paddock had somehow blocked stairwell doors leading to the hallway outside of his room, Hickey said, meaning Campos had to take the elevator on his quest to find the source of the gunfire that was killing dozens below. The door to the room itself was also barricaded, Campos found when he tried to open it, just before the bullets came through the door.</p> <p>About an hour after Paddock quit firing, a SWAT team gained entry to the suite by blowing the doors off with explosives. Paddock was found dead inside from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Without Campos’ action, the mass murderer’s rampage that killed 58 people could have been even more deadly.</p> <p>Hickey lauded Campos’ bravery on Wednesday afternoon.</p> <p>“I think we need to recognize the position that these officers hold,” Hickey said. “Security professionals in those kind of venues—whether it’s a bank or a hotel or Disney World—I’m telling you that I don’t think that our officers are recognized enough for the valuable role that they play in protecting property, people and even the nation.”</p> <p>Campos was struck in the right leg where the bullet remains, Hickey said, and will be removed by surgery at a later date. Campos was well enough to try to leave the hospital not long after the shooting, but was kept there by staff and police who wanted to monitor his injury and interview him about his ordeal.</p> <p>“We just want to make sure that Mr. Campos and all of our officers are recognized for what they do every day, which is protect people,” Hickey said.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Smokiest summer in over 100 years
SOURCE	http://mynorthwest.com/774527/yes-this-was-the-smokiest-summer-weve-experienced/
GIST	No need to keep wondering if this was the smokiest summer you’ve ever experienced in Western Washington. Most of us haven’t seen one this bad in our lifetimes.

According to data from the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, which measured atmospheric particulates, August had the highest values in the past 17 years for that record. You can see the graph for yourself on Cliff Mass' blog.

Mass writes that August was the smokiest month out of any over the past 17 years.

“Very impressive,” he added.

Which means, “for the younger folks around Puget Sound ... summer 2017 was the smokiest you have experienced. This is probably true for those of you who have gray hairs.”

You would have to go back about 100 years or more to find a smokier summer — or smokier events — Mass says.

The reason for all the smoke? A combination of the record heat wave, wildfires east of the Cascades, and smoke drifting down from more than 100 wildfires in British Columbia. To top it off, stagnant air kept the smoke trapped in areas of Western Washington.

There were stretches of time in Western Washington, especially along the I-5 corridor, when the Air Quality Index was rating the quality of our air as “unhealthy for sensitive groups,” or simply “unhealthy” at times. The air quality was compared to stagnant winter air and was so bad that the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency issued a burn ban that prohibited barbecuing.

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HEADLINE	10/04 Food trucks roll into SEA airport
SOURCE	https://www.seattletimes.com/life/food-drink/food-trucks-roll-into-sea-tac-airport/
GIST	<p>Sea-Tac Airport now has food trucks twice a day, seven days a week.</p> <p>The 3-month pilot program for food trucks launched this week at the cellphone lot at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. (The lot is located at South 170th Street off the Airport Expressway exit between Air Cargo Road and International Boulevard.)</p> <p>Vendors including Ezell's Express II, The Grilled Cheese Experience, Boss Mama's Kitchen, The People's Burger and Romin Rome are taking part. They'll be at the airport on a rotating schedule, with trucks scheduled to operate between 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Each day's vendors can be found at BestFoodTrucks.com.</p> <p>The food trucks will not take away from any of the 180 parking spaces on the lot, according to the Port of Seattle.</p> <p>The port, which sees this as an opportunity to get more local, small businesses at the airport, is partnering with the Washington State Food Truck Association on program. The food truck association is looking for more vendors to sign up; those interested can contact the association through its website at www.wafoodtrucks.org.</p> <p>The port will evaluate whether there's enough demand to expand the program to other areas of the airport.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Columbus Day 'confederate monument'?
SOURCE	https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2017/10/04/confederate-statues-come-down-what-columbus/730644001/
GIST	Columbus Day controversy has flared up every fall since, this year with new fervor: Columbus statues

from New York to Minnesota to California have faced vandalism or removal amid newly heightened debate on Confederate monuments, sweeping up the 15th century figure tied to genocide and slavery. In an age of toppling statues, what happens to Columbus?

While historians caution against lumping in Columbus with Confederates who came three centuries later, they say Columbus' holiday and monuments remain ripe for reassessment — whether they stay, change or vanish entirely.

Columbus Day became a national holiday in 1937, decades after Italian-Americans began honoring the Genoa-born explorer as a point of pride. At the time, Columbus served as a canvas for 19th-century ideas of individualism, Lane explained, a man of science who bucked authority as he ventured forth into the unknown.

Historical records show Columbus as less extraordinary, he said, a deluded navigator who stumbled upon the Americas and carried out colonization as usual — no more or less interested in slavery than others of his time. He didn't seem to arrive with ideas of genocide, Lane said, but massive death stemmed from his encounter.

"Columbus is so ambivalent because he's so far back in time," said Lane.

He likens Columbus less to Robert E. Lee than to the more ambiguous Thomas Jefferson, who "owned slaves, was human and had warts. But people agreed to ignore that in order to select somebody who could be a founding father, who represented enough good things we could agree on."

The horrors of slavery can't be scrubbed from America's past, said Douglas Blackmon, a historian and senior fellow at University of Virginia's Miller Center, but it can be fully factored into the remembrances of figures like Columbus.

And if doing so brings enough dishonor, Blackmon said, it's OK to stop celebrating them.

"The one argument that has absolutely no validity is that simply because a monument has been standing for a long time, it is 'a part of history' and therefore can never be changed," he said.

"By that logic, it was wrong to have taken down the 'White Only' signs over water fountains and restrooms all over the South."

Similarly, many places have retooled Columbus Day to still mark the date without honoring the man. The Bahamas, where Columbus landed, called it Discovery Day. South Dakotans called theirs Native American Day. Several cities celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day.

Such re-evaluations don't change history, but they do change how we remember it. That's according to James Grossman, executive director of the American Historical Association.

America looks remarkably different than it did that first Columbus Day, he said, and so its collective memory — what matters to citizens — will look different, too.

"Revision is not the same as lying, which people think it is," Grossman said.

"Revisionism happens when we find new information or ask new questions, when you come up with a different narrative."

And when monuments aren't allowed to match our memories, they can burst out all at once, Blackmon said, as seen with debates on Columbus and Confederates today.

"The reason this broad re-evaluation is happening right now is because for most of the past 150 years—while a revolution was occurring in the way most Americans perceive race—there was also an absolute

	<p>refusal to seriously reconsider how we remember these historical figures,” he said.</p> <p>Leaving Columbus monuments up lets viewers reckon with his whole legacy, Lane said, good and bad. But, as Indigenous Peoples Day shows, that doesn’t mean the focus can’t be shifted.</p> <p>“You still have to deal with Columbus,” he said. “But the idea of reckoning, commemoration as reckoning as opposed to celebration is distinct.”</p> <p>One option is adding statues, said Alfred Brophy, a law professor at the University of Alabama who studies historical memory.</p> <p>Place a statue of a indigenous woman holding her child at Columbus Circle in New York City, he said, reminding viewers of the those Columbus encountered and enslaved. New plaques could put the brutal parts of Columbus’ story in daylight for all to see.</p> <p>Lane and Grossman also preferred altering monuments over removing them, whenever possible.</p> <p>“Burying history is the worst way,” Brophy said. “We’re having this conversation now because the monuments still exist.”</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Puerto Rico’s bankrupt power utility
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-puertorico-utility-specialreport/special-report-the-bankrupt-utility-behind-puerto-ricos-power-crisis-idUSKBN1C92B5
GIST	<p>SALINAS, Puerto Rico/NEW YORK (Reuters) - In the rural village of Salinas in southern Puerto Rico, frayed electric lines hanging from a utility pole blew in the breeze last week near the town square.</p> <p>But the damage didn’t come from Hurricane Maria.</p> <p>“Those wires were actually there before,” said Fermin Seda, 68, a Salinas resident who said he has grown accustomed to downed lines and power outages.</p> <p>Two weeks after the storm plunged the island into a blackout, less than 10 percent of Puerto Rico’s 3.4 million people have seen power restored - and many will wait months.</p> <p>Restoring the grid after the worst storm to hit here in nine decades would be a monumental task even for a well-run utility. It will be much harder for the chronically underfunded Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA), which went bankrupt in July amid mounting maintenance problems, years-long battles with creditors, a shrinking workforce and frequent management turnover.</p> <p>Interviews with more than two dozen officials and consultants who work for or with the U.S. territory’s government, PREPA or its creditors reveal a utility that was unprepared for a major storm despite the ever-present risk to this Caribbean island. When Maria hit, PREPA was trying to simultaneously finance an operational overhaul and dig out from about \$8 billion in debt.</p> <p>Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rossello, in an interview with Reuters on Saturday, said none of the utility’s storm response plans could account for years of poor maintenance of the dilapidated electric network.</p> <p>”The emergency plan was as follows: There is no way to fix the nature of the grid,” Rossello said.</p> <p>He added that the network was so feeble it would have collapsed even in a much weaker storm than the one that hit Puerto Rico at Category 4 wind strength - the second highest level in the five-tier U.S. storm gauge.</p>

“If you have an old grid susceptible to collapse, there is no way - until you change it completely - that it can sustain the winds of a Category 4, or even really a Category 2,” the governor said.

A host of chronic problems at PREPA left the island’s electric grid vulnerable to collapse in a major storm, Reuters found. They include:

* Frequent turnover in management and board leadership, which has long failed to prioritize grid maintenance, according to reports prepared in 2015 and 2016 for utility regulators by the consultancy Synapse Energy Associates. The deferred upkeep, according to a PREPA assessment in April, led to a “degraded and unsafe“ grid that needed at least \$4 billion for modernization of an “isolated system, in challenging terrain“ that is “subject to natural atmospheric events.”

* Falling revenues that failed to cover operating expenses because of poor collection of utility bills and declining energy sales through a decade-long recession.

* A lack of regulatory oversight prior to 2014, and a rough transition of power from former utility board members and officials to a new energy commission created that year by legislation, with little handoff of disaster-preparedness plans.

* A staff diminished from 8,628 workers in 2012 to 6,042 this year, according to the April PREPA report. The talent drain reflects a larger exodus of residents from Puerto Rico - especially skilled workers - as the U.S. territory lost 300,000 people, or 8 percent of its populace, between 2010 and 2016, according to U.S. Census data.

Ricardo Ramos, who took over as the utility’s chief executive in March, told Reuters that the number of employee departures over the past five years is actually closer to 4,000 - with the vast majority being key operational workers such as linemen, power plant operators and mechanics.

They were exactly the kind of workers the utility couldn’t afford to lose.

“PREPA did not invest in new power plants or new generation, so our power plants are very, very old; our distribution system is very, very old,” Ramos said in an interview on Monday.

One pivotal question now is whether the United States will work merely to patch the existing network or allocate billions of dollars in federal funds to overhaul it. The government is open to spending money on modernization, Homeland Security Advisor Tom Bossert said at a briefing last week.

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HEADLINE	10/04 Saudi king arrives in Moscow
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/saudi-king-arrives-moscow-historic-1st-visit-russia-50282772?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Saudi King Salman arrived in Moscow Wednesday on the first ever visit by a Saudi monarch to Russia.</p> <p>As part of the four-day trip, the king is due to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday for talks in the Kremlin expected to focus on the global oil market and the conflict in Syria.</p> <p>Ties between the two countries were often strained in the past. During Cold War times, the Saudis helped arm Afghan rebels fighting against the Soviet invasion.</p> <p>More recently, tensions were high over the war in Syria, in which Russia has staunchly backed Syrian President Bashar Assad while Saudi Arabia has supported his foes.</p> <p>However, relations have begun to improve in recent years and King Salman's heir, Crown Prince</p>

	<p>Mohammed bin Salman, has held several meetings with Putin.</p> <p>A thaw between Moscow and Riyadh helped reach November's deal in which OPEC and 10 other oil-producing countries, including Russia, agreed to cut their production in a bid to combat a supply glut and shore up crude prices.</p> <p>The king has brought a massive delegation of Saudi businessmen with him, and the two parties are expected to negotiate new investment deals, including in the energy sector. The Saudis also have been eyeing Russian nuclear power technologies and appear ready to expand food imports from Russia, which is set to remain the world's biggest wheat exporter this year.</p> <p>While Riyadh has maintained its strategic alliance with the U.S., it has also sought to improve ties with Russia in a bid to counter the influence of its arch-rival, Iran and dissuade the Kremlin from too close a partnership with Tehran.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Puerto Rico: 95% still without power
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/US/hurricane-maria-95-percent-puerto-rico-power/story?id=50276834&cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Two weeks after Hurricane Maria made landfall, only 5.4 percent of citizens on the island have electricity, while 12.1 percent have cell service, the Department of Defense said on Wednesday.</p> <p>A press release, detailing the department's latest hurricane relief efforts, acknowledged that "communications remain a challenge" on the island but that the department is delivering AT&T mobile cell towers.</p> <p>The Department of Defense is also focused on distributing food and supplies, producing and distributing clean water, delivering generator fuel to hospitals, clearing roadways, and mitigating spillway from the Guajetaca Dam, the release said.</p> <p>As of Wednesday, only 14 of Puerto Rico's hospitals had electricity, while 51 were "degraded" and in need of generators for power.</p> <p>To relieve the stress on hospitals, the USNS Comfort, a floating U.S. Navy hospital ship, arrived in San Juan on Tuesday. It's expected to move offshore between Ceiba and Ponce on the south side of the island on Thursday, Navy officials told ABC News.</p> <p>The Comfort is capable of tending to 200 people every day with 800 medical personnel and civilian support staff on board.</p> <p>While power and communications continue to pose challenges, the island has made progress with all 10 airports and nine ports operating. About 65 percent of supermarkets and 156 banks are open for business, while more than 750 of 1,100 retail gas stations are also open, the release said.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Japan won't shoot down missiles
SOURCE	http://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/latest-news/649730/japan-north-korea-missiles-shoot-down-kim-jong-un-itsunori-onodera
GIST	<p>The communist state has risked war by launching ballistic missiles over northern Japan twice in recent months.</p> <p>One of the rockets was an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) fired towards the US territory of Guam</p>

	<p>in the Pacific Ocean.</p> <p>On both occasions Japan did not attempt to shoot down the missiles despite sparking mass evacuations across the nation.</p> <p>Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has branded North Korea an “unprecedented threat” to the country’s security.</p> <p>But today minister of defence Itsunori Onodera said neither missile launch posed any threat to Japanese territory.</p> <p>He said: “The recent missile tests by North Korea passed at high altitude and there was no fear of them falling in our territory or territorial waters so we did not shoot them down.”</p> <p>Onodera has ruled out shooting down missiles in the future – giving Kim free rein for future tests.</p> <p>He said: “Whether it is Japan or any other country, I think that shooting down a ballistic missile could be construed as a military action.</p> <p>“Unless you judge it is an attack on your own country, I think it is difficult to shoot down such missiles.”</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 New hurricane to hit Gulf Coast?
SOURCE	http://www.miamiherald.com/news/weather/hurricane/article176926726.html
GIST	<p>A tropical depression that formed in the southern Caribbean Wednesday could become Tropical Storm Nate later today, on track to hit the Gulf Coast, and possibly Florida, as a hurricane by the weekend.</p> <p>In their latest advisory, National Hurricane Center forecasters said the storm will move over warm waters and encounter light wind shear, allowing quick intensification. It’s possible sustained winds could reach 80 mph by Saturday, marking it a weak Category 1 storm as it approaches the U.S. coast.</p> <p>Another tropical depression, the 16th cyclone in a record-breaking season, formed in the southern Caribbean Wednesday morning and could be a weak Category 1 hurricane when it reaches the U.S. coast.</p> <p>At 2 p.m., the depression was located 45 miles west-southwest of San Andres Island off the coast of Nicaragua, where it could dump up to 20 inches of rain, National Hurricane Center forecasters said. A hurricane hunter plane investigating the storm confirmed sustained winds of 35 mph.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Las Vegas shooter sent girlfriend away
SOURCE	https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/las-vegas-shooting/las-vegas-shooter-sent-girlfriend-marilou-danley-away-spare-her-n807341
GIST	<p>The Las Vegas gunman bought his girlfriend a ticket to the Philippines and “sent her away” to spare her life, her distraught sisters said Wednesday.</p> <p>Stephen Paddock bought Marilou Danley “a cheap ticket” to her home country two weeks before he opened fire on a country music concert on the Las Vegas Strip.</p> <p>Investigators believe Danley, 62, who arrived back in the U.S. late Tuesday escorted by FBI agents, could fill in some of the blanks as to why Paddock assembled an arsenal of guns and killed 58 people.</p> <p>Clark County, Nevada Sheriff Joe Lombardo described her as “a person of interest.”</p>

	<p>Her sisters, who live in Australia, believe she knew nothing of Paddock's deadly intentions.</p> <p>"She didn't even know that she was going to the Philippines, until Steve said 'Marilou, I found you a cheap ticket to the Philippines,'" one of the sisters, who spoke on condition they not be identified, told NBC's Australian partner, Channel 7.</p> <p>"She was sent away," the woman said of Danley, "so that she will not be there to interfere with what he's planning." She added that with her sister out of the country, Paddock could plan "without interruptions."</p> <p>Paddock, 64, wired \$100,000 to an account in the Philippines in the week before Sunday's shooting, senior law enforcement officials told NBC News. It was not known whether the money was for Danley, her family or another purpose.</p> <p>The officials said Paddock gambled with at least \$160,000 in the past several weeks at Las Vegas casinos.</p> <p>Investigators believe the couple lived together in Mesquite, Nevada.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Catalan leader blames Spain's king
SOURCE	http://www.cnn.com/2017/10/04/europe/catalan-president-tv-address-spain-crisis/index.html
GIST	<p>(CNN)The Catalan President vowed to implement the results of the region's contested independence referendum on Wednesday and criticized the King of Spain for failing to bring the divided factions together.</p> <p>In a TV address from the headquarters of the Catalan government in Barcelona, northeast Spain, Carles Puigdemont said King Felipe had missed an opportunity to mediate in the political and constitutional crisis that has engulfed the country.</p> <p>"You disappointed many people in Catalonia who were expecting a call to dialogue," Puigdemont said, after an unexpectedly hardline TV address by the King on Tuesday night.</p> <p>"We need mediation," he said. "This conflict needs to be resolved in a political way, not with police."</p> <p>He directed parts of his address to Spaniards in other parts of the nation, to the king, and to Catalonians.</p> <p>Puigdemont is expected to formally declare independence on Monday, after 90% of voters in last Sunday's referendum opted for a split -- a result that was followed by clashes between citizens and Spanish police.</p> <p>The President urged calm.</p> <p>His remarks came as the Catalans' standoff with Madrid deepened Wednesday. Spain's highest court summoned the chief of the Catalan police to answer accusations of sedition, or provoking a rebellion against the state.</p>
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Cyber Awareness

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HEADLINE	10/04 Hack in Texas resembles Montana hack
SOURCE	http://www.nbcmontana.com/news/kcfw/hack-in-texas-resembles-cyberattack-at-columbia-falls-schools/631983029

GIST	<p>KALISPELL, Mont. - Hackers have compromised personal information from a school district server just outside of Houston, Texas. School officials say the cyberattack is reminiscent of a hacking that occurred in Columbia Falls.</p> <p>The Columbia Falls attack shut down more than 30 schools for three days.</p> <p>Officials aren't saying whether the two cases are linked, but Columbia Falls Superintendent Steve Bradshaw says he was contacted by school officials in Texas, and they believe the case is similar.</p> <p>A statement from the Splendora School District says:</p> <p>"We continue to receive threats from the group/individual responsible for hacking our network. They have threatened a tiered escalation which could include direct messages to parents, students, and staff. We do not know the exact information that they have but it could contain specific names and confidential information such as phone numbers and addresses. In previous cases, these messages have been via text and/or email, and have been violent and graphic. The point of this is to incite fear and panic for parents. We will continue to keep you updated as this process continues. Law enforcement at the local and federal level are involved and we are increasing security presence across all campuses. If you receive threatening emails or texts from a number you do not recognize, do not engage..."</p> <p>It's similar to a message the Flathead County Schools Superintendent's Office sent out to parents, staff and students.</p> <p>Threats on schools extend to Alabama. The FBI notified Crenshaw School District officials of a social media post making physical threats, forcing schools to close their doors.</p> <p>NBC Montana reached out to its sister station there, and they told us the hardest part is the uncertainty.</p> <p>"It's so vague, and so little has been released about what this threat actually said and what this person posted to social media," said reporter Lindsey Rogers.</p> <p>The investigation continues as local law enforcement officials work with the FBI to figure out what information was obtained in the Columbia Falls hack affecting 2,400 students. Bradshaw says they know several servers were hacked, and now analysts are working to find any clues as to who the hackers might be.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Claim: 70M saw Russia Facebook ads
SOURCE	http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/oct/4/russian-facebook-ads-70-million-people-may-have-se/
GIST	<p>Facebook estimates 10 million Americans saw the advertisements that Russian groups purchased to try to influence the presidential election last year, but analysts said that undersells the reach of the ads, which may have been seen by as many as 70 million.</p> <p>That kind of reach is stunning given the relatively modest budget of \$100,000 spent by Russian trolls linked to the ads. The Russian-linked groups spent less than \$3 on about half of the ads and never spent more than \$1,000 on a single ad, Facebook said.</p> <p>"The impact is vastly disproportionate to the amount spent," said Benjamin G. Edelman, who teaches the economics of online markets at Harvard Business School. "That is what makes this such a brilliant, if not terrible, tactic."</p> <p>The vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence said Wednesday that he wants the company to release the ads publicly.</p>

“At the end of the day, it’s important that the public sees these ads,” said Sen. Mark R. Warner, Virginia Democrat.

He and committee Chairman Richard Burr, North Carolina Republican, said the goal of the ads seemed to be to exploit divisions and sow chaos in American politics.

Facebook said 56 percent of the ads were displayed only after the election and that 1 percent of them were geared toward specific people using Facebook’s Custom Audiences advertising platform.

The messages were tailored to be seen by people who had visited particular advertisers’ sites. None was targeted based on “personal information such as email addresses,” the company said.

But the posts, which dealt with hot-button issues such as immigration and gay rights, had the potential to be viewed and shared millions of times beyond the initial ad “impressions,” analysts said — likely boosting the viewership well beyond the 10 million estimate.

Every time a Facebook user comments on, shares or likes an ad, it can vastly multiply the number of people who see it, said Dennis Yu, founder of BlitzMetrics, an advertising agency that deals exclusively with Facebook.

Using his own analysis of Facebook traffic and other indicators, Mr. Yu said 70 million is a likelier figure than Facebook’s official release.

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HEADLINE	10/04 Israel firm offers police WiFi intercept
SOURCE	https://www.hackread.com/israeli-firm-wispear-wifi-interception-law-enforcement-agencies/
GIST	<p>Israel has some most advanced surveillance tools industry and at the same time, it has most active, strong and somewhat notorious security firms who sell malicious software and malware to governments across the globe, and their business is growing day-by-day. Cellebrite is one good example.</p> <p>Now it is time to welcome a new entrant at the Israeli digital mafia spectrum called WiSpear. It is a firm that is focusing on capturing the Wi-Fi interception domain of the market. It is a technology that is in great demand nowadays, and every state-owned institution including intelligence agencies, law enforcement, and military agencies pay hackers to infiltrate the networks of their targets.</p> <p>“WiSpear designs and develops Wi-Fi intelligence and interception products that enable Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), Intelligence and Homeland Security organizations to overcome Wi-Fi intelligence challenges,” claims the firm.</p> <p>Intelligence Online discovered the new Israeli firm, and as per reports, the firm was launched in 2016. Ex-commander of the Special Operations Unit of Israeli Defense Force’s Intelligence Corps was responsible for selling the “SpearHead Wi-Fi Man-in-the-middle platform,” reports CyberScoop.</p> <p>Israeli firm WiSpear offering WiFi interception for Law Enforcement Agencies</p> <p>The software was capable of easily intercepting any required Wi-Fi signal from longest possible ranges and steal information from the networks such as social media passwords and other communications. The software can integrate with “any infection” method while the program’s USP (unique selling point) is its capability of interception a connection from distance of kilometers.</p> <p>It is worth noting that WiSpear was established by 25-year IDF veteran Tal Dilian who is responsible for the 2009 launch of Circles, another company that was founded to perform real-time interception of data from 3G networks. Circles, now owned by another Israeli hacking firm NSO Group, performed its task in</p>

	a variety of ways such as exploiting Signalling System No. 7 vulnerabilities, which is a 50-year old protocol that is probably part of a majority of cell phones and text messages in the world.
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HEADLINE	10/04 Greek court rules hacker extradition to US
SOURCE	http://www.securityweek.com/greek-court-orders-extradition-russian-over-bitcoin-laundering
GIST	<p>A Greek court ruled on Wednesday that a Russian national accused of helping criminals launder billions of dollars using Bitcoin should be extradited to the United States.</p> <p>Alexander Vinnik, who headed BTC-e, an exchange he operated for the cyber currency, was <u>indicted by a US court in July</u> on 21 charges ranging from identity theft and facilitating drug trafficking to money laundering.</p> <p>"These accusations have nothing to do with me," Vinnik, 37, said after the ruling by a court in the northern city of Thessaloniki.</p> <p>He said he would appeal.</p> <p>"We have not yet seen the reasons for the judgement but the legal conditions for extradition have not been met," said Vinnik's lawyer Alexandros Lykourezos.</p> <p>The Greek Supreme Court will name the date of the appeal proceedings within 20 days, according to a judicial source.</p> <p>But the final decision on whether to extradite Vinnik will be made by the Greek justice minister.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Sonic Drive-In confirms credit card breach
SOURCE	http://www.securityweek.com/fast-food-chain-sonic-confirms-card-breach
GIST	<p>Sonic Drive-In, a fast food restaurant chain with more than 3,500 locations across the United States, confirmed on Wednesday that cybercriminals may have stolen customers' credit and debit card information using a piece of malware.</p> <p>The company has provided only little information about the incident, but says it's working with law enforcement and third-party forensics firms to investigate the breach. Sonic said it delayed notifying customers of the intrusion at the request of law enforcement.</p> <p>"Sonic Drive-In has discovered that credit and debit card numbers may have been acquired without authorization as part of a malware attack experienced at certain Sonic Drive-In locations," the company stated.</p> <p>Customers who used their cards at Sonic Drive-In locations this year are being offered 24 months of free fraud detection and identity theft protection services via Experian. Consumers can enroll until December 31.</p> <p>While it's unclear which locations were hit by the malware attack and how many customers are impacted, security blogger Brian Krebs last week learned of a cybercrime marketplace selling a batch of 5 million cards, at least some of which appear to come from Sonic's systems.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 FBI issues flash alert Apache Struts flaws
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SOURCE	https://www.scmagazine.com/fbi-is-warning-businesses-to-patch-flaws-that-lead-to-equifax-breach/article/697879/
GIST	<p>The FBI issued a flash alert warning people to patch the Apache Struts vulnerabilities warning that it enabled an unnamed corporate breach.</p> <p>Although unnamed, researchers believe the notification references the Equifax breach in which the vulnerability was remotely exploited by an attacker to deploy web shells which allowed for wide access within the compromised network, according to a Sept. 29 alert obtained by Cyberscoop.</p> <p>The vulnerability referred to in the alert was CVE-2017-5638 which could allow an attacker to remotely run code on a web server, access files and bypass security controls by sending unauthenticated web requests to an unpatched machine.</p> <p>“These vulnerabilities affect numerous industries, including financial firms and third-party vendors on which financial firms rely,” the alert said. “Vulnerabilities associated with Apache Struts can exist on Web applications hosted on traditional servers as well as be embedded in hardware devices such as multifunction printers which support a Web interface for configuration and management.”</p> <p>Equifax executives were notified of the vulnerabilities and twice searched for any issues in its networks only to leave the flaw unpatched in its Consumer Dispute Portal. The alert urges companies to take proactive steps to prevent similar attacks.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Russia anti-privacy laws go into effect
SOURCE	https://www.scmagazine.com/russian-anti-privacy-laws-go-into-effect/article/697882/
GIST	<p>Russia's anti-privacy laws began taking effect October 1 – with another deadline on November 1 – just as the country pledged to block Facebook if the company refuses to store Russian citizens' data on Russian servers.</p> <p>Laws under the earlier effective date enable faster blocking of all proxies and mirrors of banned websites – all without the sanction of the courts – and search engines won't be allowed to advertise the sites.</p> <p>After November 1, Russia will block VPN services, all of whom must register with the government, that are not in compliance with the laws. If the VPNs fail to restrict access to blocked sites they will be shut down.</p> <p>“We stand for freedom of speech, and we feel it's our duty to provide Russian people with the access to thousands of websites that are currently blocked, including major sources of information. Reddit and Wikipedia have to remove the content that the government tells them to - or they will be blocked,” NordVPN said in a statement, noting that hundreds of thousands of people use the company's services to have “free and unrestricted access” to the Internet.</p> <p>“There are also websites of political dissent that are added to the blocked list, such as sites of Putin critics Gary Kasparov and Alexei Navalny. We believe that special targeting could be especially dangerous for political activists who are able to stay anonymous by using a VPN. We will continue to operate in Russia to the best of our technical abilities.”</p> <p>Human Rights Watch quoted Russia's Internet Ombudsman Dmitry Marinichev as referring to the law as “madness” in an RBC interview. “All this goes against common sense. The bill refers to technologies that allow you to bypass the lock. First of all, this is VPN and anonymizers,” said Marinichev. “How will they separate the VPN that is used for commercial purposes from the VPN that is used to bypass the locks? This cannot be determined.”</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Utilities fear major cyberattack within 5yrs
SOURCE	https://www.scmagazine.com/cyberattack-to-cause-power-disruption-within-five-years-utility-execs-fear/article/698063/
GIST	<p>Three-quarters of North American utility executives believe there is at least a moderate chance that the electrical grid in their nation will be interrupted by a cyberattack sometime in the next five years.</p> <p>A worldwide study by Accenture of 100 power utility executives from 20 countries found that 63 percent believe there is a moderate likelihood a cyberattack would cause power interruptions with this figure increasing to 76 percent among North American executives.</p> <p>When it comes to what those surveyed most fear it is an attack that causes injury to customers or employees, 53 percent, while almost as many, 51 percent, worry about sensitive customer or employee data being stolen. Forty-five percent believe company data could be stolen. Around 30 percent have a high degree of concern their system will be hit with a ransomware attack.</p> <p>Attacks sponsored by nation-states, or by an affiliated agent, are at the top of many power utility executive's worry list with 29 percent forecasting such an attack on their power distribution network. Of slightly less concern, 27 percent, are attacks initiated by cybercriminals and another 18 percent worry that a group looking for notoriety might do something less serious like defacing the utilities website.</p> <p>Although at this time there is no known way an IoT device might be used to impact a utility company, the possibility is causing some alarm with 51 percent of those surveyed are worried to some extent that one might be used to cause a power outage.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Russians hacked 4,000 NATO cellphones
SOURCE	https://www.scmagazine.com/russians-hacked-smartphones-of-4000-nato-troops/article/698095/
GIST	<p>NATO troops' smartphones are under attack by Russian hackers bent on obtaining information on and exploiting soldiers as well as getting a handle on NATO military capabilities.</p> <p>The hackers have so far accessed the phones of 4,000 NATO troops in Europe, the Wall Street Journal reported, using the phones in conjunction with surveillance drones to eavesdrop on troops in the Baltic states and Poland who are guarding the Europe-Russia border.</p> <p>The report cited U.S. Army Lt. Col. Christopher L'Heureux as among the troops hacked. L'Heureux said that when he recently returned to his truck after participating in shooting drills, he found his phone hacked and reported lost.</p> <p>"They were geolocating me, whoever it was," the Journal quoted the officer, who plots troop positions to defend against a Russian attack, as saying. "I was like, 'What the heck is this?'"</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 DNS 'victim of own success'
SOURCE	http://www.darkreading.com/perimeter/dns-a-victim-of-its-own-success--/d/d-id/1330048?
GIST	<p>It's been nearly one year since the massive DDoS attack on Domain Name Service (DNS) provider Dyn that disrupted major websites including Amazon, CNN, Netflix, Okta, Pinterest, Reddit, and Twitter, but DNS security remains an enigma for many businesses.</p> <p>According to a new study conducted by Dimensional Research on behalf of Infoblox, some three out of 10 companies have been hit with cyberattacks on their DNS infrastructure, 93% of whom suffered downtime - 40% of them for an hour or more. But that likely just scratches the surface of the volume of attacks on</p>

DNS, experts say, because many DNS attacks are tough to detect.

"That number [of attacks] seems a little low," says DNS pioneer Paul Vixie, CEO and founder of DNS security firm FarSight Security, of the new data. Vixie, who is the principal author of the pervasive BIND DNS server software and creator of several DNS standards, notes that it's difficult for some organizations to pinpoint an attack came via their DNS.

Downtime costs, too, are likely higher than the Dimensional/Infoblox study data shows. Some 54% of organizations in the study say they lost \$50,000+ to a DNS attack, while nearly a quarter lost \$100,000+. "There are things you can count, but you don't know about every attack that happens or every actual cost because it isn't always" quantifiable, so the losses could be more, Vixie notes.

Prakash Nagpal, vice president at network and DNS security firm Infoblox, concedes that there likely are more DNS attacks that just aren't discovered. "I do think more companies have been" hit than that, he says of the data. The most well-known DNS threats are distributed denial-of-service attacks, of course, he says. But "DNS is not just about DDoS attacks," Nagpal says.

"In a lot of cases they [victims] don't know they were subjected to DNS attacks because they [the attacks] are so subtle ... I don't think people make the connection between DNS and malware" distribution and data exfiltration, he says.

An infected machine has to "call home" at some point, he says, and one of the most common types of DNS attacks is where attackers use the DNS to siphon data from the victim organization. The infected machine is forced to make DNS requests to the attacker's server, which in turn pulls the stolen data from that machine during those interactions. So if an executive's laptop is infected, the attackers can pull sensitive data such as financial reports, for example, via those DNS queries, he says.

"While DDoS remains a big source of downtime and a huge source of attack, where DNS is being used in data exfiltration" should also be of concern, according to Nagpal.

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HEADLINE	10/04 Hackers hack other hackers for tools
SOURCE	http://www.darkreading.com/threat-intelligence/nation-state-attackers-steal-copy-each-others-tools/d/d-id/1330052?
GIST	<p>New research indicates cybercriminals are making attacker attribution increasingly complex by re-using tools and tactics from other hacker groups.</p> <p>Researchers on the Kaspersky Lab Global Research and Analysis Team (GREAT) found evidence that sophisticated threat actors are hacking other attack groups to steal victim data, borrow tools and techniques, repurpose exploits, and compromise the same infrastructure.</p> <p>The result is a major attribution challenge. Reliable threat intelligence is based on identifying patterns and tools associated with a specific threat actor. These signs help security researchers map the targets and behaviors of different attackers. When hackers start hacking one another, using the same tools, and targeting the same victims, the model breaks down.</p> <p>Kaspersky believes these types of attacks are most likely to be used among nation-state backed groups targeting foreign or less competent actors. IT security researchers should know how to detect and interpret these attacks so they can present their intelligence in context.</p> <p>The idea behind this research was to better understand the practice of fourth-party collection through signal intelligence (SIGINT), which involves the interception of a foreign intelligence service's computer network exploitation (CNE) activity. Researchers observed attackers' actions and in doing so, found evidence showing they actively steal from one another.</p>

	"In less technical terms, fourth-party collection is the practice of spying on a spy spying on someone else," explain GREAT researchers Juan Andrés Guerrero-Saade and Costin Raiu in a post on Kaspersky's SecureList blog.
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Terror Conditions

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HEADLINE	10/04 Russia FSB: ISIS seeks rebranding
SOURCE	http://www.newsweek.com/next-isis-already-works-says-russian-security-chief-677432
GIST	<p>The Islamic State militant group (ISIS) will try to regroup and form a new “global terrorist network” even if it is defeated in Syria and Iraq, Russia’s security services chief said Wednesday.</p> <p>Speaking in the Russian city of Krasnodar at a summit of 74 law enforcement agencies, Alexander Bortnikov, head of Russia’s Federal Security Service (FSB), said the jihadi group’s efforts to set up a “caliphate” had by now “practically endured defeat,” referring to the shrinking control over territory ISIS has in the two Middle Eastern countries.</p> <p>The failed attempt to secure a caliphate does not mean the group will no longer be a threat, the security chief said. The leadership of ISIS and groups it supports has likely already given its operatives a “global strategic task” to rebrand their jihadi cause internationally, Bortnikov said.</p> <p>“Evidence for this is the nature and the expanding geography of their most recent terrorist attacks,” Bortnikov said, according to state news agency Tass. “Over the course of this year, the number of victims of attacks in Afghanistan, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Egypt, Mali, Turkey, Russia, Great Britain, Spain, Sweden, Finland and in other countries number in the hundreds.”</p> <p>The FSB chief did not explain what had changed about the nature, scale or spread of the attacks. A recent report by IHS Markit estimated that the group may have altered its tactics, as worldwide attacks by ISIS increased 38 percent in the first half of 2017, hitting new targets such as London and Manchester in the U.K. However, despite this huge increase in number, the deadliness of these attacks is falling, killing 17 percent fewer civilians.</p> <p>The group's change is geared at showing “its current and potential members, as well as its sponsors, the continuum of and capability to carry out future activities,” Bortnikov said.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Russia: AQ Syria leader ‘critically injured’
SOURCE	http://www.newsweek.com/russia-says-strike-left-al-qaeda-leader-syria-abu-mohammed-al-jolani-one-arm-677176
GIST	<p>Russia said Wednesday that one of its strikes had left the leader of Al-Qaeda in Syria Abu Mohammed al-Jolani in a "critical condition" and that he had lost an arm.</p> <p>Russian Defense Ministry spokesperson Igor Konashenkov said the strike killed 12 commanders of the faction Jabhat Fateh al-Sham that claimed to have disbanded from Al-Qaeda last year in a move that Western officials said was only to improve its image internationally. The group is now the predominant force in the jihadist coalition in northern Syria known as Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS.</p> <p>Moscow said the closed military aide of Jolani, Ahmad al-Ghizai, was killed in the strike. It added that it had received intelligence of the men's whereabouts on Tuesday and acted when they arrived for a meeting. It did not disclose the precise location of the strike.</p>

	<p>"As a result of the strike, the leader of Jabhat al-Nusra Abu Mohammed al-Jolani received multiple serious shrapnel wounds, lost an arm and is in a critical condition, according to several independent sources," Konashenkov said in a statement.</p> <p>Russian authorities said that the strike, carried out by Sukhoi Su-34 and Su-35 jets, was in retaliation for an attack by jihadists against Russian military police in the northwest Syrian province of Idlib on September 18.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Iraq PM urges Kurds to keep fighting ISIS
SOURCE	http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/10/05/latest-iraqi-pm-urges-kurds-to-keep-up-fight-against-is.html
GIST	<p>Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi is urging Kurdish peshmerga forces to keep working with Iraqi forces in the fight against Islamic State extremists despite tensions over the Kurds' independence referendum.</p> <p>Al-Abadi, speaking in Paris on Thursday, made an appeal to his compatriots saying "we don't want armed confrontation" among Iraqi forces at a time when the government is ousting IS from its last strongholds.</p> <p>Al-Abadi met Thursday with French President Emmanuel Macron, who offered mediation in the Kurdish tensions.</p> <p>Iraq and its neighbors have rejected the Kurdish region's independence referendum last month, and Baghdad has banned international flights and threatened to take control of the autonomous Kurdish region's borders.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Syria forces enter US buffer zone
SOURCE	http://www.cnn.com/2017/10/04/politics/syria-russia-us-assad-at-tanf/index.html
GIST	<p>(CNN) Forces aligned with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad made an incursion Wednesday into the 55km "de-confliction zone" surrounding the US base located at the At Tanf garrison in southeastern Syria, according to the US-led military coalition fighting ISIS.</p> <p>"There was an incursion into the de-confliction zone," coalition spokesman US Army Col. Ryan Dillon told CNN, adding that after the pro-regime troops entered the zone, the US-led coalition used the pre-established de-confliction hotline and communicated the incursion to the Russians. Following that communication, the pro-regime forces withdrew.</p> <p>But the apparent successful use of the de-confliction channel comes amid new accusations by Russia that the US military is aiding ISIS.</p> <p>The incident comes the same day as the Russian Ministry of Defense said the US was the "the main problem" preventing the defeat of ISIS in Syria," accusing the US military of providing "support and overtures" to ISIS.</p> <p>The ministry's statement said that ISIS fighters had attacked Syrian regime checkpoints located alongside the highway from Palmyra to Deir Ezzor and that those ISIS fighters launched their attack from the de-confliction zone surrounding At Tanf.</p> <p>"The above mentioned terrorist attacks have the only common feature -- they were conducted from 50-kilometer zone round the settlement of al-Tanf, (near the) the Syrian-Jordan boarder. That is the site where the 'US military mission' is deployed," the Russian Ministry of Defense said.</p>

	<p>The Russians added that its air forces were "ready" to strike the area around At Tanf to eliminate the groups that attacked the regime outposts.</p> <p>Dillon rejected the Russian claims, saying the US-led coalition's goals were "to kill ISIS or compel them to surrender," adding that the coalition does not negotiate with the terror group.</p> <p>He also denied the idea that ISIS fighters were able to operate in the area surrounding At Tanf.</p> <p>"We are hyper aware of what is inside At Tanf and near our forces" Dillon said, saying the coalition would go after them and kill ISIS fighters wherever they were.</p> <p>Coalition officials have said that US troops continue to conduct patrols in the area and use the base to train local anti-ISIS fighters. A group of such fighters left At Tanf in July due to the coalition's insistence that they only fight ISIS and not the regime of Assad, opting to leave and conduct independent operations against the regime.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Iraq captures key town from ISIS
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-hawija/iraqi-military-captures-hawija-from-islamic-state-idUSKBN1CA0FJ
GIST	<p>BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Iraqi forces have captured the town of Hawija and the surrounding area from Islamic State, though some fighting still raged in a pocket to the north and east of the town where the militants were surrounded, the military said on Thursday.</p> <p>With the capture of Hawija, the militants' last stronghold in northern Iraq, the only area that remains under control of Islamic State in Iraq is a stretch alongside the western border with Syria. Hawija is near the Kurdish-held oil city of Kirkuk.</p> <p>"The army's 9th armored division, the Federal Police, the Emergency Response division and (..) Popular Mobilization liberated Hawija," said a statement from the joint operations commander, Lieutenant-General Abdul Ameer Rasheed Yarallah.</p> <p>The offensive on Hawija was carried out by U.S.-backed Iraqi government troops and Iranian-trained and armed Shi'ite paramilitary groups known as Popular Mobilization.</p> <p>The capture of Hawija brings them into direct contact with Kurdish Peshmerga fighters who control Kirkuk, a multi-ethnic region claimed by both Baghdad and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG).</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Amnesty: Europe returning more Afghans
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/amnesty-europe-returning-afghans-violence-50293622?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>European countries are returning many more Afghan asylum seekers to their homeland even as violence in the war-torn country escalates, Amnesty International said in a new report Thursday.</p> <p>The rights group says Europe's governments remain willfully blind to the dangers faced by the returnees and with the European Union are pressuring Afghanistan tremendously to accept the large numbers of returnees.</p> <p>From 2015 to 2016, the number of Afghan citizens returned to their native country from Europe nearly tripled from 3,290 to 9,460, according to Amnesty's report, citing EU statistics.</p>

Meanwhile, civilian casualties remained high, with, 11,418 people killed or injured in 2016, according to the U.N. Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. That's up from 11,002 civilian casualties in 2015, according to UNAMA.

Amnesty called for a moratorium on Afghan returns until they can take place with "safety and dignity."

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HEADLINE	10/04 ISIS latches onto global attacks
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/latches-global-attacks-fights-survival-50284075
GIST	<p>Just hours after Stephen Paddock unleashed a hail of bullets on a country music festival in Las Vegas, the Islamic State group issued a flurry of statements claiming the 64-year-old gunman as one of its own. The quick responsibility claim — discounted by FBI officials — is the latest in a series of dubious or seemingly fake IS claims, reflecting the extremists' eagerness to latch onto global attacks it can tout as its own as it fights for survival in its Mideast base.</p> <p>Three years after it declared its so-called Islamic caliphate across huge swaths of Syria and Iraq, IS has lost most of the territory and is on the run in its few remaining bastions. Far from the confident propaganda it pumped out when it controlled a pseudo state, the group now justifies its losses to its supporters and urges them not to give up the fight.</p> <p>"It really reflects the existential crisis facing ISIS," said London-based Mideast analyst Fawaz Gerges, using an alternate acronym for the group.</p> <p>Investigators are still looking for clues to explain what drove Paddock, a high-stakes gambler and retired accountant, to gun down 58 people from his high-rise hotel room in the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history. The IS statement did not provide a shred of evidence to support its claim that he was a "soldier" from its ranks, saying only that the man, who it identified by the alleged pseudonym "Abu el-Bar al-Amriki," had converted to Islam three years ago. The Associated Press reported the IS claim, but noted the group provided no evidence of a link.</p> <p>Unlike previous attacks claimed by IS, there is no indication Paddock had religious or political inclinations, nor did he leave a video message of himself pledging allegiance as some attackers have. Paddock killed himself as police closed in, making it easier for IS to make the claim.</p> <p>The group has a history of exaggerated, unsubstantiated or false claims, but these have picked up in frequency as its position at home became more tenuous.</p> <p>In an apparent attempt to raise morale, IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi released an audio message last week, the first since November, vowing to continue fighting and lavishing praise on his jihadis for their valor in the battlefield. He also urged followers to step up attacks and "burn" their enemies everywhere.</p> <p>Gerges said the Las Vegas attack claim illustrates the extremely difficult position IS faces at home and its lack of strategic coordination.</p> <p>"To take responsibility for a deranged American, a criminal American, tells you exactly that this is about media narrative. This is about trying to remain in the news cycle, trying to say we are still here," he said.</p> <p>Experts say the group, which has called for lone wolf attacks in the Las Vegas strip among other landmark Western targets, has nothing to lose by making such claims.</p> <p>"ISIS is essentially trying to piggyback on the atrocity in Las Vegas," said Colin P. Clarke, an expert at the RAND Corporation. "This is merely a way to garner more attention ... even though the claim is patently ... false."</p>

	"More likely, ISIS's supporters will believe what the group says and not what is proven beyond a doubt by the Western media," Clarke added.
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HEADLINE	10/05 Russia targets AQ positions in Syria
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/russia-targets-al-qaida-positions-syria-days-row-50296310?
GIST	<p>Russia's military says its jets have been targeting positions of an al-Qaida-linked group in Syria for two straight days, killing seven militant commanders and dozens of fighters.</p> <p>Moscow blamed the al-Qaida-linked Levant Liberation Committee for attacking Russian military police last month.</p> <p>The Defense Ministry said Thursday that seven of the group's commanders and 49 militants were killed in the airstrikes in the Idlib province on Wednesday. The strikes also destroyed a major ammunition depot at a militant-controlled air base.</p> <p>On Wednesday, the Russian military reported that its airstrikes critically wounded the group's leader a day earlier.</p> <p>Russia has been waging an air campaign in support of Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces since 2015, helping them to make major advances against the Islamic State group, al-Qaida-linked insurgents and mainstream rebels.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 US: 3 service members killed in Niger
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/us-military-service-members-killed-niger/story?id=50293782&cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed
GIST	<p>Three U.S. military service members were killed and two others were wounded Wednesday in an ambush in Niger, according to a U.S. official. The American troops were on a regular joint patrol with Nigerien troops in a border area known for radical terror activity.</p> <p>A group of about 10 to 12 American service members were accompanying Nigerien soldiers on a regular patrol late Wednesday afternoon when they came under attack according to the U.S. official.</p> <p>Three American service members were killed in the ambush and two others were wounded, said the official. The wounded Americans were taken to Niamey, Niger's capital, for medical treatment.</p> <p>The ambush took place about 200 kilometers (125 miles) north of Niamey, close to the border with Mali in an area where Al Qaeda in the Maghreb and other ISIS affiliated groups have been active. The official said it is unknown who attacked the joint U.S.-Nigerien patrol.</p> <p>President Trump was briefed on the attack by John Kelly, the White House Chief of Staff, according to White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders</p> <p>U.S. Africa Command acknowledged that U.S. forces had come under attack on Wednesday, but did not confirm any U.S. casualties.</p> <p>"We can confirm reports that a joint U.S. and Nigerien patrol came under hostile fire in southwest Niger," said Lt. Commander Anthony Falvo, a spokesman for U.S. Africa Command. "We are working to confirm details on the incident and will have more information as soon as we can confirm facts on the ground."</p>

	There are about 400 U.S. military personnel in Niger most of whom work at two drone bases, in Niamey and Agardez in northern Niger, providing reconnaissance information to the Nigerien military to counter violent extremist groups.
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HEADLINE	10/04 Inside ISIS bomb-making factory
SOURCE	https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/4606391/isis-suicide-bomb-making-factory-pictures/
GIST	<p>CHILLING footage of ISIS bomb-makers painstakingly creating powerful suicide vests has been released on social media.</p> <p>Photos of the factory, said to be close to Baghdad in Iraq, show masked bomb-makers assembling devices designed to kill or horribly maim as the doomed death-cult plots a last ditch murder campaign.</p> <p>Wearing latex gloves, the ISIS jihadis are seen laying out plastic explosive and ball bearings as shrapnel before binding it up and stuffing it into a camouflage vest.</p> <p>Another shot shows a room with several finished bombs.</p> <p>A picture then shows a fighter fitted with the deadly cargo and what appears to be two triggers on the vest.</p> <p>Last week it was revealed the terror group is on the run across the Middle East, according to the US led-coalition.</p> <p>Col Ryan Dillon said: "ISIS is losing on all fronts, and they are losing their grip on their few remaining strongholds in both Iraq and Syria."</p> <p>The coalition and its partners on the ground - the Iraqi security forces and the Syrian Democratic Forces - remain committed to defeating the enemy, he said.</p>
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Suspicious, Unusual

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HEADLINE	10/04 New scam pops up southwest Montana
SOURCE	http://www.abcfomontana.com/story/36524868/new-scam-in-bozeman-linked-to-international-organized-crime
GIST	<p>BOZEMAN - A new scam targeting two types of victims is popping up in the southwestern part of the state, but police say they believe it has ties to organized crime overseas.</p> <p>Bozeman Police Detective Robert Vanuka says the scammers, who are based in the country of Georgia, take people's identity leaked in a recent breach and by things online from Amazon, Best Buy and other big retailers.</p> <p>Then, they have those items shipped to people in the same communities as the stolen identities who think they are working for gift wrapping companies.</p> <p>Vanuka says the ads for these 'work from home' jobs are very convincing-- with nice websites, paper work and even pay schedules.</p> <p>After the scammed employee re-wraps the gifts they ship them to an address provided by the company, which is typically on the East Coast.</p>

	<p>Vanuka says the goods, which have included iPads, Xboxs, even a welder, are packed on ships and sent to Eurasia where they are re-sold.</p> <p>“The first one wreaks of organized crime,” Vanuka said. “Hopefully we can stop it and we can protect people's credits, get this property back, to the rightful people or get credits issued to the companies and so forth and then hopefully let the FBI do their job and go after these people internationally.”</p> <p>Vanuka says recently police responded to a shipping depot where a person was trying to send goods purchased with a stolen credit card.</p> <p>When police arrived, they found that person was not a criminal but a victim themselves employed by the bogus wrapping service.</p> <p>The big warning Vanuka sends people-- if you see any suspicious activity on your credit accounts report it right away.</p> <p>As for the job postings, take a lot of care in what you sign up for online. Vanuka says if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Santa Claus tomb discovered in Turkey?
SOURCE	http://time.com/4970103/santa-claus-tomb-discovery-turkey/?xid=homepage
GIST	<p>The original tomb of Saint Nicholas, the progenitor of Santa Claus, may have been found beneath a church in Turkey.</p> <p>Archeologist’s uncovered burial grounds beneath the Saint Nicholas Church in Demre in southwestern Turkey, where St. Nicholas is believed to have lived during the 4th century, the BBC reports.</p> <p>“We have obtained very good results but real works start now,” Cemil Karabayram, Antalya Director of Surveying and Monuments, told local media outlet the Hurriyet. “We will reach the ground and maybe we will find the untouched body of St. Nicholas.”</p> <p>The remains of St. Nicholas were said to have been taken to Bari, Italy, in 1087 when the former Greek town of Myra (now Demre) was invaded by the Seljuk Turks. But a recent re-examination of old documents suggests those bones may have belonged to another priest. Now archaeologists will work on the final stages of the excavation.</p> <p>Archaeologists will now work on the final stages of the excavation. “The world’s eyes will be set on here. We claim that St. Nicholas has been kept in this temple without any damage,” Karabayram told Hurriyet.</p> <p>"We are at the last stage. If we get the results, Antalya’s tourism will gain big momentum."</p> <p>The Saint Nicholas church in Demre is already a popular pilgrimage destination. Known for his generosity, the saint gave rise to the contemporary lore of Santa Claus.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Grout to fill collapsed Hanford tunnel
SOURCE	http://mynorthwest.com/774524/crews-start-injecting-grout-into-collapsed-hanford-tunnel/
GIST	<p>SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Workers at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation have started injecting grout into a partially collapsed tunnel that contains radioactive wastes left over from the production of nuclear weapons, the U.S. Department of Energy said Wednesday.</p>

	<p>The grout is intended to improve the stability of the 360-foot-long (110 meters) tube, which dates to 1956, and help prevent any radioactivity from escaping into the environment.</p> <p>It will take an estimated 650 truckloads of grout to fill the tunnel adjacent to the closed Plutonium Uranium Extraction Plant, which produced most of the plutonium for the nation's nuclear arsenal, the agency said. The complicated work should be completed by the end of the year.</p> <p>"There is no question about the difficulty of the work, but we will work safely and methodically to fill up the tunnel," said Doug Shoop, manager of the agency's Richland Operations Office.</p> <p>The roof of the tunnel, which was sealed in 1965, partially collapsed on May 9, forcing about 3,000 workers to shelter in place for several hours.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Tylenol deaths 35yrs ago still unsolved
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/10/05/35-years-later-Tylenol-deaths-still-unsolved/9661507150232/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ls&utm_medium=3
GIST	<p>Oct. 4 (UPI) -- In 1982, cyanide-laced Tylenol capsules killed seven people in the Chicago area, sparking one of the first massive recalls in the United States and revolutionizing packaging for over-the-counter medications sold in the country. But the case has never been solved.</p> <p>The deaths began on Sept. 29, when 12-year-old Mary Kellerman died within hours of taken a capsule of Extra-Strength Tylenol. Later that same day, a postal worker, Adam Janus died. Both had been poisoned with potassium cyanide, which investigators later determined had been put inside the capsules of Tylenol.</p> <p>Another five people would die, including Adam Janus' brother, Stanley Janus and sister-in-law Theresa Janus, who had taken capsules from the same bottle of Tylenol that killed the postal worker. Mary McFarland, Paula Prince and Mary Reiner, all living in or near Chicago, also died. Tylenol samples taken from each of the victims' homes tested positive for cyanide.</p> <p>The results of the test prompted one of the first massive recalls in U.S. history. Thirty-five years ago today, on Oct. 5, 1982, Johnson & Johnson, the maker of Tylenol, pulled millions of dollars worth of product off store shelves, reducing the company's earnings by \$50 million. There was nationwide panic as worried consumers went to hospitals out of fear of poisoning. The Food and Drug Administration counted hundreds of copycat incidents nationwide, including one in 1986 in which two people in died after taking cyanide-laced Excedrin capsules.</p> <p>Investigators believe someone pulled packages of the capsules off the shelf, opened up the capsules and replaced the drug inside with cyanide before putting the packages back on the shelf. The ease with which capsules can be contaminated prompted drugmakers to move away from capsules and instead produce solid caplets. Companies also began implementing the use of tamper-resistant packaging for the drugs.</p> <p>Despite the far-reaching impact of the case, the FBI never solved the question of who was responsible for the tampering.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Longest quake swarm at Yellowstone
SOURCE	http://www.newsweek.com/yellowstone-supervolcano-earthquake-swarm-longest-ever-recorded-677387
GIST	Updated The ongoing earthquake swarm at the Yellowstone National Park supervolcano is now one of the longest ever recorded, having started on June 12. Over the past three and a half months, almost 2,500 earthquakes have been recorded in the western part of the national park. This puts it on a par with the

<p>Return to Top</p>	<p>biggest swarm ever recorded, where more than 3,000 earthquakes took place over three months.</p> <p>The swarm in no way signals an impending eruption, and it appears now to be coming to an end. However, experts at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) say it has been “fascinating” to monitor and are eager to learn more about it in their analysis of the event.</p> <p>In a monthly update about activity at Yellowstone, the USGS said 115 earthquakes had been reported in the park during September. Of these, 78 were part of the ongoing swarm 6 miles north of West Yellowstone. The biggest event in the swarm last month was magnitude 2.3.</p> <p>“Including the events from the prior three monthly reports beginning on June 12, total swarm seismicity includes one earthquake of magnitude 4.4, 12 in the magnitude 3 range, and 185 earthquakes in the magnitude 2 range,” the statement said.</p> <p>Earthquake swarms account for about 50 percent of the seismic activity recorded at Yellowstone. Swarms occur when many earthquakes take place over several weeks or months, with no clear sequence—unlike traditional earthquakes, where there is a main event, then a series of aftershocks.</p> <p>Mike Poland, the scientist-in-charge at the USGS’s Yellowstone Volcano Observatory, tells Newsweek that it is a “bit too soon” to say whether the swarm has ended. “But the activity has certainly waned drastically since August, and the swarm appears to be winding down, if not completely over,” he says. “It will probably take a little while longer to declare it ‘over.’”</p> <p>He says that the actual number of earthquakes that have taken place is difficult to ascertain because quakes can overlap or are too small to be recorded. However, there are ways to retrospectively locate some of these events, so it could be that there have been “many times more earthquakes” than initially reported.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Las Vegas: ‘mystery woman’ sought
SOURCE	https://www.aol.com/article/news/2017/10/05/investigators-looking-for-mystery-woman-seen-with-vegas-shooter-stephen-paddock/23233439/
GIST	<p>Investigators are trying to identify a mystery woman seen with Stephen Paddock in the days before the Las Vegas massacre, several law enforcement officials told NBC News.</p> <p>They don't know if she has any connection to the attack, but they would like to speak with her as they build a timeline of Paddock's last days, the officials said.</p> <p>Paddock's longtime girlfriend, Marilou Danley, was not in Las Vegas when he turned a room at the Mandalay Bay hotel into a sniper's nest and murdered 58 people attending an outdoor music festival 32 floors below.</p> <p>Her sisters have said Paddock sent her to the Philippines, where she is from, more than a week before the mass shooting. She returned to the U.S on Wednesday and was interviewed by the FBI.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Group: sarin traces in Syria attack
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/chemical-weapons-watchdog-sarin-traces-syria-attack-50296589?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>The global chemical weapons watchdog says it has found traces of sarin following an attack in northern Syria in late March, days before a deadly strike using the same nerve agent in another Syrian town.</p> <p>The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons said Thursday that tests found traces of "sarin</p>

	<p>or sarin-related chemicals" in Ltamenah after a March 30 attack that injured 50 people. No deaths were reported. The organization didn't release further details.</p> <p>Days later, an April 4 attack in the northwestern town of Khan Sheikhoun killed nearly 100 people. Syria has denied responsibility for that attack. An OPCW-United Nations probe is expected to apportion blame later this month for the Khan Sheikhoun attack.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Negotiator Iran nuke deal jailed
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/report-iranian-nuclear-negotiator-year-sentence-50272177
GIST	<p>A member of Iran's team of nuclear negotiators that struck the 2015 deal with world powers has been sentenced to five years in prison after being convicted in Iran of espionage, a semi-official news agency reported on Wednesday.</p> <p>While unnamed in the report, the only negotiator known to be facing criminal charges is dual Iranian-Canadian national Abdolrasoul Dorri Esfahani.</p> <p>His detention, if confirmed, would make him the latest dual national to be arrested in Iran, part of what a <u>United Nations</u> panel has called an "emerging pattern" since the atomic accord.</p> <p>The sentencing was only reported by Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency, which is believed to be close to Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, a hard-line force answerable only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah <u>Ali Khamenei</u>. The Guard has been involved in nearly every case involving dual nationals or those with Western ties being detained.</p> <p>"The conviction of a member of the nuclear negotiation team who has been arrested before and released on bail has been confirmed in the Tehran provincial appeals court," the short report read. "This person has been sentenced to five years in prison."</p> <p>Philip Hannan, a spokesman for Global Affairs Canada, said Canadian officials were "aware of media reports that a dual national has been sentenced in Iran." He declined to elaborate.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Cats kill 1M birds in Australia daily
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Science_News/2017/10/04/Cats-kill-more-than-one-million-birds-per-day-in-Australia/6001507126479/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ts_pi&utm_medium=16
GIST	<p>Oct. 4 (UPI) -- Cats in Australia kill more than 1 million birds every day, according to a new study. The study, a survey of 100 studies conducted across the continent, was published this week in the journal Biological Conservation.</p> <p>Data pooled from the dozens of studies showed some 316 million birds are killed by feral cats every year in Australia. Another 61 million birds are killed by pet cats.</p> <p>Previous surveys have focused on the impact of cats of Australia's mammals. This is the first to measure the impact on birds.</p> <p>"Everyone knows that cats kill birds, but this study shows that, at a national level, the amount of predation is staggering, and is likely to be driving the ongoing decline of many species," John Woinarski, professor and researcher at Charles Darwin University, said in a news release.</p> <p>Cats have the greatest impact on bird mortality on Australia's coastal islands and among the continent's</p>

	<p>remote, arid hinterlands.</p> <p>The death total included members 338 native bird species, 71 of which are threatened.</p> <p>"We found that the birds most likely to be killed by cats are medium sized birds, birds that nest and feed on the ground, and birds that occur on islands or in woodlands, grasslands and shrublands," Woinarski said. "For Australian birds, cats are a long-standing, broad-scale and deeply entrenched problem that needs to be tackled more effectively."</p> <p>Previous studies of the impacts of feral cats on Australian wildlife have been used to guide conservation plans and researchers hope the latest findings will inspire new strategies for mitigating the ecological threat posed by feral felines.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Claim: NKorea workers prep US food
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/north-korean-workers-prep-seafood-us-stores-restaurants-50286460
GIST	<p>Americans buying seafood for dinner may inadvertently have subsidized the North Korean government as it builds its nuclear weapons program, an Associated Press investigation has found. Their purchases may also have supported forced labor.</p> <p>At a time when North Korea is banned from selling almost anything, the country is sending tens of thousands of workers worldwide to bring in an estimated \$200 million to \$500 million a year. That could account for a sizable portion of North Korea's nuclear weapons and missile programs, which South Korea says have cost more than \$1 billion.</p> <p>While North Korean workers have been documented overseas, the AP investigation reveals that some products they make go to the United States. AP also tracked products made by North Korean workers to Canada, Germany and elsewhere in the European Union.</p> <p>At Chinese factories, North Korean workers aren't allowed to leave their compounds without permission, and must step from housing to factories in pairs or groups, with North Korean minders. They receive a fraction of their salaries, while the rest — as much as 70 percent — is taken by the North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's government.</p> <p>John Connelly, president of the National Fisheries Institute, urged its 300 members, including the largest seafood importers in the U.S., to "ensure that wages go to the workers, and are not siphoned off to support a dangerous dictator."</p> <p>Besides seafood, AP found North Korean laborers making wood flooring and sewing garments in Chinese factories. Those industries also export to the U.S., but AP did not track specific shipments except for seafood.</p> <p>American companies aren't allowed to import products made by North Korean workers anywhere in the world, and companies doing business with them could face criminal charges for using North Korean workers or materially benefiting from their work.</p> <p>Western companies involved that responded to AP said forced labor and potential support for North Korea was unacceptable in their supply chains. They said they'd investigate, and some said they'd already cut off ties with suppliers.</p> <p>Meanwhile, as many as 100,000 North Koreans continue to work in construction in the Gulf states, shipbuilding in Poland, logging in Russia and on fishing boats in Uruguay. New U.N. sanctions bar countries from expanding their North Korean workforce. Despite the pay and restrictions, the jobs abroad</p>

are highly coveted among North Koreans.

Roughly 3,000 North Koreans are believed to work in Hunchun, a Chinese industrial hub near the North Korean and Russian borders.

It's unknown what conditions are like in every factory, but AP reporters saw North Korean laborers living and working in several facilities, including joint venture Hunchun Dongyang Seafood Industry & Trade Co. Ltd. & Hunchun Pagoda Industry Co. Ltd., distributed globally by Ocean One Enterprise; Yantai Dachen Hunchun Seafood Products, and Yanbian Shenghai Industry & Trade Co. Ltd.

They're getting their seafood from China, Russia and the U.S.

Despite AP seeing North Korean workers, Hunchun Dongyang's manager Zhu Qizhen denied that they hire them and refused to give details. The other Chinese companies didn't comment.

Shipping records show more than 100 cargo containers of seafood were sent to the U.S. and Canada this year from the factories where North Koreans were working in China, including packages of snow crab, salmon fillets and squid rings.

Often the fish arrives in generic packaging. But some were already branded in China with familiar names like Walmart or Sea Queen, which is sold exclusively at ALDI supermarkets. There's no way to say where a particular package ends up, nor what percentage of a factory's products wind up in the U.S.

Walmart spokeswoman Marilee McInnis said company officials banned their suppliers from getting seafood processed at a Hunchun plant a year ago after an audit revealed potential issues with migrant workers.

"Combatting forced labor is a complex problem that no one company, industry, or government can tackle alone," she said.

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HEADLINE	10/04 Regions in EU seek independence
SOURCE	https://www.yahoo.com/news/eyeing-more-independence-eu-095728556.html
GIST	<p>Paris (AFP) - Catalonia, which has threatened to declare independence from Spain, is only one of several regions in the European Union demanding more autonomy or even independence.</p> <p>Here is a rundown of some of the others.</p> <p>- Scotland, Britain -</p> <p>An historic 2014 referendum on leaving the United Kingdom shook the country to the core and resulted in a narrow 55 percent vote against a split.</p> <p>First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, head of the pro-independence Scottish National Party, wants a second referendum once the outlines of the deal for Britain's exit from the European Union become clear.</p> <p>Scotland, home to 5.2 million people, has been semi-autonomous since 1998 with a devolved parliament that handles matters of education, health, environment and justice, while diplomacy and defence remain the domain of London.</p> <p>After scores of people were injured in Catalonia during its banned referendum on independence on Sunday, Sturgeon called on Spain to "change course" and condemned the police intervention.</p> <p>- Flanders, Belgium -</p>

Born in 1830 as an independent state to act as a buffer between France and Germany, Belgium is an uneasy mix of a Flemish-speaking, conservative north and a French, left-leaning south.

With Flemish nationalist sentiment more powerful than ever, the separatist New Flemish Alliance (N-VA) has emerged as the biggest party in the country and a key partner in the coalition government.

Aiming for the eventual creation of a Flemish republic, the N-VA believes it could emerge strengthened from elections in 2019.

On Sunday Flanders' Minister-President Geert Bourgeois called on Madrid to start talks with "the legitimate leaders of a peaceful people".

- Basques, Spain -

The separatist group ETA was founded in 1959 to promote the culture of the Basque region straddling the French-Spanish border but veered into a violent independence campaign blamed for 829 deaths.

The group carried out its last attack in 2010 and disarmed in April this year.

Some former ETA members have joined a Franco-Spanish Basque political party called Sortu that is working for "full freedom" for the region's 2.2 million people.

On Sunday 40,000 people demonstrated in Bilbao in support of Catalonia's referendum. The regional president, Inigo Urkullu, called on September 24 for the recognition of the Catalan and Basque nations.

- New Caledonia, France -

The South Pacific archipelago with a population of around 280,000 is due to hold a referendum by November next year on independence from France.

A French possession since 1853, it reached an agreement in 1998 with Paris for greater autonomy although activists say this has yet to yield concrete results.

New Caledonia boasts a quarter of the world's known resources of nickel but wealth is not evenly spread and backers of independence want major economic reform.

- Corsica, France -

The Mediterranean island of 330,000 people is a part of France with its own language and a troubled history.

The separatist National Liberation Front of Corsica (FLNC) ended its armed struggle in June 2014 in favour of a political process and since 2015 nationalists have been leading the island's assembly.

Corsica today has a special administrative status that grants its certain powers and retains a strong sense of autonomy.

On September 22 the Corsica assembly underlined "the indisputable legitimacy of the government of Catalonia".

- Faroe Islands, Denmark -

Denmark's Faroe Islands, home to 48,000 people, will hold a referendum in April 2018 on a new constitution that would grant self-determination.

	<p>The islands have been autonomous since 1948, although foreign affairs and defence are still the domain of Copenhagen.</p> <p>- Lombardy and Veneto, Italy -</p> <p>These wealthy regions in northern Italy are to hold non-binding consultative referendums on October 22 to ask voters if they favour more autonomy from Rome.</p> <p>Politicians in Lombardy and Veneto, which together account for nearly a third of Italy's economy, are fighting for a bigger share of tax income and, in some cases, for secession.</p>
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Crime, Criminals

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HEADLINE	10/04 TV actor pleads guilty to child porn
SOURCE	http://time.com/4969889/mark-salling-glee-child-pornography-prison/?xid=homepage
GIST	<p>Former Glee star Mark Salling faces up to seven years in prison and an additional 20 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to child pornography possession charges.</p> <p>The 35-year-old actor accepted a plea deal with federal prosecutors that lowers his potential sentencing from 20 years in jail and a lifetime of supervised release, according to documents obtained Tuesday by celebrity news site The Blast. As part of the agreement, Salling must register as a sex offender and avoid places frequented by minors such as schools and playgrounds upon his release.</p> <p>"I am pleading guilty because I am guilty of the charges and wish to take advantage of the promises set forth in this agreement, and not for any other reason," Salling said in a statement, according to the documents.</p> <p>Salling, who played core character Noah "Puck" Puckerman in the Fox show, was arrested in December 2015 and indicted in May of the following year. Authorities discovered thousands of images and videos of child pornography on his laptop and a separate flash drive.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Paddock secretive life thwarts investigators
SOURCE	http://time.com/4970162/las-vegas-shooting-stephen-paddock-motive/?xid=homepage
GIST	<p>(LAS VEGAS) — The gunman behind the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history led a secret life that has so far thwarted investigators trying to figure out a motive for the attack.</p> <p>In an effort to try to crack Stephen Paddock's state of mind, the FBI spent hours on Wednesday interviewing his longtime girlfriend, who returned Tuesday from a weeklong overseas trip and said she had no inkling of the massacre he was plotting when he sent her to see family in her native Philippines.</p> <p>"He never said anything to me or took any action that I was aware of that I understood in any way to be a warning that something horrible like this was going to happen," Marilou Danley, 62, said in a statement read by her lawyer outside FBI headquarters in Los Angeles.</p> <p>Clark County Sheriff Joseph Lombardo said it's difficult to believe Paddock acted alone in the attack Sunday that killed 58 and injured nearly 500 people at a country music concert on the Las Vegas Strip.</p> <p>"Maybe he's a super guy," Lombardo said before catching himself and calling it the wrong word. "You know, a super yay-hoo that was working out all this on his own. But it would be hard for me to believe that."</p>

Danley, whom authorities had previously called "a person of interest," had been expected to provide insight into the mind of Paddock, a frustratingly opaque figure who carried out his high-rise massacre without leaving the plain-sight clues often found after major acts of bloodshed.

Lombardo said Wednesday that Paddock had 1,600 rounds of ammunition and several containers of an explosive commonly used in target shooting that totaled 50 pounds (23 kilograms) in his car. But it wasn't clear what, if anything, Paddock planned with the explosives, he said.

Paddock, who set up surveillance cameras in his room and to see anyone approaching outside, also had an escape plan, Lombardo said, though he fatally shot himself as police closed in on his luxury suite on the 32nd-floor of the Mandalay Bay resort casino. Lombardo declined to say what led authorities to believe he planned an escape.

The previous weekend, Paddock had rented a high-rise condo in a building that overlooked the Life is Beautiful alternative music festival featuring Chance the Rapper, Muse, Lorde and Blink-182, said Lombardo, who offered no other details about what led Paddock there.

On Sept. 28, the 64-year-old high-stakes gambler and real estate investor checked into Mandalay Bay and specifically requested an upper-floor room with a view of the Route 91 Harvest music festival, according to a person who has seen hotel records turned over to investigators.

Paddock wasn't able to move into the room until Saturday, said the person, who was not authorized to speak publicly and disclosed the information to the AP on condition of anonymity.

The room, which goes for \$590, was given to Paddock for free because he was a good customer who wagered tens of thousands of dollars each time he visited the casino, the person said.

Paddock wired \$100,000 to the Philippines days before the shooting, said a U.S. official who was not authorized to speak publicly because of the continuing investigation. Investigators are trying to trace that money.

Danley, who was overseas for more than two weeks, said she was initially pleased when she was wired money from Paddock to buy a house for her family in the Philippines. But she later feared it was a way to break up with her.

She said she loved Paddock as a "kind, caring, quiet man" and hoped they would have a future together. She said she was devastated by the carnage and would cooperate with authorities as they struggle to get inside Paddock's mind.

While Paddock had a passion for high-stakes gambling at Nevada casinos, his game of choice was video poker, a relatively solitary pursuit with no dealer and no humans to play against. And while neighbors described Paddock as friendly, he wasn't close to them.

"He was a private guy. That's why you can't find out anything about him," his brother Eric Paddock said from his home in Florida. As for what triggered the massacre, the brother said, "Something happened that drove him into the pit of hell."

Paddock had no known criminal history. Public records contained no indication of any financial problems, and his brother described him as a wealthy real estate investor.

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HEADLINE 10/04 Arrest in fatal West Seattle shooting

SOURCE <http://mynorthwest.com/774982/man-arrested-in-fatal-west-seattle-shooting/>

GIST	<p>SEATTLE (AP) — Police have arrested a man suspected of shooting a West Seattle man who was allegedly lured to his death by his ex-girlfriend.</p> <p>The U.S. Marshals Service says authorities arrested 19-year-old Abel Linares-Montejo in the Seattle suburb of Auburn Wednesday.</p> <p>U.S. Marshals say the man was found at a mobile home park and arrested without incident.</p> <p>Authorities say he'll be booked into King County Jail in connection with the death of 25-year-old Edixon Velasquez.</p> <p>Velasquez's ex-girlfriend, Anna Kasparova, has been charged with murder for her alleged role in the Sept. 19 killing.</p> <p>Charging documents say Kasparova called Velasquez to say she wanted to meet at his house. Charges say his roommates told investigators that when Kasparova arrived she texted Velasquez and asked him to come outside.</p> <p>Documents say he was only gone a few minutes before his roommates heard a gunshot.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Spokane police kill armed suspect
SOURCE	http://mynorthwest.com/775042/1-man-shot-killed-by-spokane-police/
GIST	<p>SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Spokane police say officers shot and killed an armed man outside a Wal-Mart store.</p> <p>KHQ-TV reports Police Chief Craig Meidl said Wednesday the man involved was suspected in a Monday carjacking which involved a shooting.</p> <p>Meidl says police found the stolen car in a Spokane Wal-Mart parking lot Wednesday, called for more officers and set up surveillance on the vehicle, noting that several people were moving in and out of the car.</p> <p>Meidl says when the vehicle started to move, officers moved to block it.</p> <p>Meidl says commands were given and that a passenger got out but the armed driver did not. Meidl says two officers fired on the man, killing him.</p> <p>The Medical Examiner's Office will identify the man.</p> <p>The Spokane Sheriff's Office will lead an investigation.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Everett: fatal shooting of juvenile
SOURCE	http://mynorthwest.com/775069/police-juvenile-shot-killed-at-everett-apartment-complex/
GIST	<p>EVERETT, Wash. (AP) — Authorities say detectives are investigating the fatal shooting of a juvenile male in Everett.</p> <p>Everett police say officers responded just after 5 p.m. Wednesday to a report of a gunshot at an apartment complex.</p> <p>Police say arriving officers found a boy who had been shot outside the building.</p>

	<p>Police say the juvenile was taken to an Everett hospital where he died from his injuries a short time later.</p> <p>Major Crimes Unit detectives are investigating to develop suspect information. Police say no suspect had been identified as of Wednesday night.</p> <p>The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office will determine cause and manner of death as well as identity.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Bikini baristas fearful after robberies
SOURCE	http://komonews.com/news/local/bikini-baristas-fearful-after-continued-break-ins
GIST	<p>KENT, Wash. - When a car slowly pulled up to the Hottie Shots bikini barista stand on Monday morning, the barista got a gut feeling something wasn't right.</p> <p>The car pulled into the parking lot, parked, then made a loop before approaching the coffee stand.</p> <p>"He finally pulled forward through the drive thru, rolled his window down all the way and asked me for water," said barista Madeline Guinto.</p> <p>"I told him that water was \$2 and he told me that was too much to pay for water."</p> <p>The next thing Guinto remembers was a woman, covered head- to-toe, approaching the window of the stand, located at 21237 84th Ave S.</p> <p>"She came into the window with a gun pointed at me telling me that she was going to shoot me if I didn't give her the money," said Guinto.</p> <p>The woman then yanked the cash register and took off.</p> <p>Guinto assumes the suspect left with the man who was driving a white-colored sedan,</p> <p>"We need to make it stop soon," said Sweet Cheeks Espresso owner Alison Dukes.</p> <p>Dukes' stand, located along Pacific Highway, was hit in July, and at least two other stands in Tukwila were hit around the same time.</p> <p>Dukes thinks it's the same suspect based on descriptions-- each time the suspect wears a mask and brandishes a gun.</p> <p>Dukes is concerned that no arrest has been made and she also feels there's been a lack of communication between law enforcement agencies.</p> <p>"The fact that it keeps happening, the fact that we feel completely helpless without the police getting involved," said Dukes.</p> <p>"We need them to kind of step up and take the initiative as far as the investigating goes."</p> <p>During the Sweet Cheeks robbery, the suspect fired a shot and nearly hit the barista. Instead, it lodged into a hard drive where the surveillance video is stored.</p> <p>Police worked with a company that restores hard drives but they weren't able to retrieve the video.</p> <p>Detectives are now waiting for fingerprints to process.</p>

	<p>In Tukwila, police have not released any information about their cases.</p> <p>The victim at Paradise Espresso previously told KOMO her stolen credit card was used immediately after the robbery.</p> <p>In Tacoma, a barista was even shot in the leg at LadyBug Bikini Espresso but police did not have any update on Wednesday.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Drive-by shooting near Rainier Beach
SOURCE	http://q13fox.com/2017/10/04/man-shot-wounded-in-drive-by-shooting-in-rainier-beach-neighborhood/
GIST	<p>SEATTLE — A 34-year-old man at a bus stop was shot in the leg Wednesday night in a drive-by near Rainier Avenue South and Seward Park Avenue South, police said.</p> <p>Gang Unit detectives were investigating, police said.</p> <p>Witnesses began calling 911 just before 8 p.m. after hearing gunshots in the area, police said. Officers found the wounded man at a bus stop and medics took him to Harborview Medical Center for treatment.</p> <p>Police said detectives believe the suspect is a black male who drove away in a black sedan.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 City rewards snitching on drug dealers
SOURCE	https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/city-of-warren-implements-rewards-program-for-information-on-suspected-drug-dealers
GIST	<p>WARREN, Mich. - The city of Warren is trying a new strategy in fighting illegal drugs in the city.</p> <p>A new program was announced Wednesday that rewards residents with \$500 for information leading to a search warrant and arrest involving illegal drug sales from a Warren residence.</p> <p>The program is called People Against Illegal Drugs (PAID).</p> <p>“This program means all Warren residents will be the eyes and ears in our war against drug pushers,” said Warren Mayor Jim Fouts.</p> <p>According to the city, the tips will be confidential.</p> <p>“Our residents have the right to live, work and raise a family in an illegal drug-free neighborhood,” said police Commissioner Bill Dwyer.</p> <p>Dwyer said the rewards will come from drug forfeiture funds.</p> <p>"For years we've been fighting the war on drugs, and quite frankly, we're not winning the war," Dwyer said.</p> <p>Tipsters should provide as much information as possible, including the address of the suspected drug house and a summary of the drug dealer’s activity. Tipster also must provide a contact name and number to receive a cash reward that will be determined on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Both Fouts and Dwyer described the program as “unique and farreaching.”</p>

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HEADLINE	10/05 Sheriff assumes Paddock likely had help
SOURCE	http://www.cnn.com/2017/10/05/us/las-vegas-shooting-investigation/index.html
GIST	<p>(CNN)The gunman in the Las Vegas massacre planned to escape after targeting the country music concert, but instead left behind a note and killed himself, authorities say.</p> <p>Stephen Paddock led such a secretive life, much of it remains unknown days after he killed 58 people, according to Sheriff Joseph Lombardo of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police.</p> <p>Paddock may have had some help planning the attack at the country music festival Sunday night, Lombardo said Wednesday night.</p> <p>He intended to escape after the attack, but he instead turned the gun on himself as authorities closed in on his room on the 32nd-floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino.</p> <p>"He was doing everything possible to see how he could escape at this point," Lombardo said.</p> <p>Before killing himself, Paddock, 64, had set up cameras inside and outside his hotel suite, and in the peep hole.</p> <p>Police also found 50 pounds of explosives and 1,600 rounds of ammunition in his car in the Mandalay Bay hotel parking lot, according to Lombardo. There was also a note in his hotel room, but it was not a suicide note, he said, without providing details on what it said.</p> <p>Nearly 500 concertgoers were wounded either by the barrage of bullets or in the stampede when Paddock opened fire.</p> <p>Lombardo painted a picture of a man who may have had some help in planning the deadliest mass shooting in modern US history.</p> <p>More than 100 investigators have spent the past three days combing through details of his life, looking for answers.</p> <p>"What we know is Paddock is a man who spent decades acquiring guns and ammo, and living a secret life," Lombardo said. "Anything that would indicate this individual trigger point, which would cause him to inflict this harm, we're not there yet."</p> <p>Investigators said something may have happened to Paddock between October last year and September this year that compelled him to purchase more weapons and ultimately lead to the massacre. Paddock bought 33 firearms, mostly rifles, during that 13-month period, authorities said.</p> <p>"Do you think this was all accomplished on his own? You've got to make the assumption he had to have some help at some point," Lombardo said.</p> <p>He highlighted the killer's many weapons and explosives in his car. Investigators say evidence shows Paddock meticulously planned the shooting.</p> <p>"It's troublesome this individual was able to move this amount of gear into a hotel room unassisted," Lombardo said. "It's troublesome for the amount of stuff he had at both residences unassisted."</p>
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HEADLINE	10/05 Gunman's gambling habits reveal motive?
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SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/las-vegas-gunman-stephen-paddock-mass-shooting-gambling-habits-motive/
GIST	<p>LAS VEGAS -- Authorities trying to piece together the final days before Stephen Paddock unleashed his arsenal of powerful firearms on country music fans on the Las Vegas Strip have at least one potential trove of information: his gambling habits.</p> <p>Nevada gambling regulators say they're sorting through documents for clues about him and his girlfriend, Marilou Danley. Those can include suspicious transaction or currency reports, as well as information from a player's rewards card, which the casinos use to track their gambling and offer perks.</p> <p>Paddock's brother has described the gunman as a high-stakes video poker player who was routinely comped rooms, meals and drinks at casinos.</p> <p>"He was a substantial gambler. It was a job to him," Eric Paddock said.</p> <p>Paddock said that his brother wasn't insane or crazy, and described him as a highly "intelligent" and "successful" person.</p> <p>He said it was fun to be friends with his brother because "he was a rich guy" who hung out in casino hotels but didn't have a lot of friends. He called him an independently wealthy man who basically gambled for a living.</p> <p>A person who has seen Mandalay Bay hotel records that have been turned over to investigators said Wednesday they show Paddock was given his room on the 32nd floor for free because he was a good customer who wagered tens of thousands of dollars each time he visited. The individual was not authorized to speak publicly and disclosed the information to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.</p> <p>A.G. Burnett, the head of Nevada's Gaming Control Board, said investigators are looking for enforcement actions, for any disputes Paddock may have had as a casino patron and at any federally required currency reports of transactions he made greater than \$10,000.</p> <p>Paddock didn't leave a suicide note, Clark County Sheriff Joseph Lombardo says.</p> <p>"While we have already spoken to many people who have contacted with Stephen Paddock at hotels and places he frequented, we still have more interviews to conduct," Lombardo said.</p> <p>Lombardo said the evolving profile of Paddock is one of someone he "would call disturbed and dangerous."</p> <p>The massacre has brought new attention to the world of high-limit video poker and casino comps where high-rollers are given all sorts of free items to keep them gambling. The biggest gamblers - often known as whales - can get such perks as chartered planes, butlers and free lodging at a \$35,000-a-night villa.</p> <p>Paddock's brother said he wasn't at that level, but he gambled enough that he got free rooms, poolside cabanas and high-end sushi meals exceeding \$1,000.</p> <p>"He won cars and \$250,000 checks and all this stuff from the hotel," Eric Paddock said.</p> <p>Video poker machines are a mainstay at casinos around Nevada, with most of the machines placed in bars where gamblers can play poker from their bar stools for 25 cents a hand. They look similar to slot machines.</p> <p>Paddock favored the high-dollar variety version of the game, whose machines are separate from the main video poker and slot areas. Players like Paddock use strategies that can minimize the house winnings and in some cases gain a minuscule mathematical advantage.</p>

Michael Shackelford, who runs a gambling strategy website called The Wizard of Odds, said based on what is known of Paddock's life, the gunman seems to have been what the casinos refer to as a "premium mass" player - one who bets in higher amounts, with a better understanding of the game than the typical player.

Premium mass players pay close attention to the odds in the game they're playing and the payout, and they typically need access to a lot of money because they may have long dry spells where they lose exorbitant amounts.

Eventually, Shackelford said, if players stay true to a perfect strategy - one designed to maximize their performance over the long haul, such as by getting rid of potentially decent cards like low pairs to increase chances of a big-payout royal flush - their luck will turn, based on statistics, and they'll break even or come close to it. When you add in the freebies from the casino, the player can come out ahead.

"Vegas is full of people that are basically just gambling for free," Shackelford said. "I think the shooter was one of these people who was basically milking the system, getting free vacations."

Why do the casinos have games where the players can come out ahead?

"It's because there are so many bad players," Shackelford said. "For every skilled player, there are probably 100 lousy players. They subsidize the skilled players."

The stress of having so much on the line isn't for everyone, he said.

"In any form of gambling, you need a strong stomach and you need to have a very cool head about the ups and down," he said. "If this guy was a millionaire, it's quite possible he was not bothered by the ups and down. He probably had steel nerves and was a difficult person to move emotionally."

It's unknown how much he wagered, but he apparently had been wagering more than \$10,000 a day in some cases.

Authorities have said Paddock used Danley's loyalty rewards card with MGM Resorts International. The tiered program allows players to accumulate credits and get perks such as bonuses on points earned playing slots, priority hotel check-in and - for those who belong to the highest and by-invitation-only level - limousine service to and from the airport.

"(The casinos) know whether he lost money because he never would have gambled for a second without putting the card in," Eric Paddock said.

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HEADLINE	10/05 HRW: rape a war tactic in CAR
SOURCE	http://www.newsmax.com/World/Africa/AF-Central-African-Republic/2017/10/05/id/817773/
GIST	<p>DAKAR, Senegal (AP) — Human Rights Watch says armed groups causing unrest for more than four years in Central African Republic have been using rape and sexual slavery as a weapon of war — as revenge for people seen to be supporting the other side — with some of the attacks ordered or committed by commanders.</p> <p>In a report released Thursday, the international rights group said that more than 300 documented cases of rape and sexual slavery have been carried out in Central African Republic by members of armed groups between early 2013 and mid-2017. The stigma of rape has meant there the problem is under-reported.</p> <p>Human Rights Watch said such violence may constitute crimes against humanity, calling for action by and sustained support for the newly established Special Criminal Court.</p>

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HEADLINE	10/05 Turkey: US consulate employee arrested
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/report-us-consulate-employee-arrested-istanbul-50296593?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Turkey's state-run news agency says Turkish authorities have arrested a U.S. Consulate employee in Istanbul over his alleged links to a movement led by U.S.-based cleric Fethullah Gulen.</p> <p>Anadolu Agency says the man, a Turkish citizen identified by the initials M.T., was ordered arrested late Wednesday on charges of espionage and attempts to "destroy" the constitutional order and Turkey's government.</p> <p>Anadolu reported that the man is accused of ties to a former prosecutor and four former police chiefs who are being prosecuted for leading a corruption probe in 2013, which the government says was orchestrated by Gulen in a bid to topple it.</p> <p>Gulen is also accused of masterminding last year's failed coup. Gulen denies the accusations.</p> <p>The U.S. Embassy said a statement would be issued later Thursday.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Serial necklace thieves hit Eastside
SOURCE	http://komonews.com/news/local/serial-necklace-thieves-at-work-on-eastside
GIST	<p>BELLEVUE, Wash. -- Police are warning that a pair of thieves has been targeting expensive necklaces and ripping them from women's necks.</p> <p>The crime has occurred six times in Bellevue from Aug. 31 and Sept. 23. A similar crime occurred in Redmond on Sept. 30.</p> <p>The thieves have targeted South Asian and East Indian women who are wearing expensive jewelry. All the victims have been pedestrians when targeted.</p> <p>Police say the suspects are two African-American men. They are between 20 to 35 years old and have thin builds. One has a bald or shaved head. In one theft, they distracted the woman before stealing the necklace.</p> <p>Police are urging people to be aware of their surroundings and use caution when wearing expensive jewelry in public.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Mass shootings: more often, deadlier?
SOURCE	https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/10/04/las-vegas-orlando-newtown-what-spurs-mass-shooting/728692001/
GIST	<p>The devastation keeps coming – 26 slaughtered in Newtown, Conn., 49 gunned down in Orlando, 59 executed in Las Vegas.</p> <p>In just over five years, six mass shootings in the U.S. each took the lives of 12 or more people, and since the start of 2017, at least 119 people died in such shootings, according to USA TODAY research.</p> <p>Overall, mass shootings have increased in frequency and deadliness according to a Mother Jones database</p>

that focuses on public attacks in which the motive appeared to be an indiscriminate killing.

The Mother Jones data shows some sharp spikes and plummets – a "zigzag," says Maria Tcherni-Buzzeo, a criminal justice professor at the University of New Haven. Overall, there is a rise, which she calls "puzzling" as violence in general trends downward.

There is no single, obvious reason for the increase, she says, but "you can't escape the conclusion that accessibility of weapons of essentially mass destruction definitely makes a contribution."

David Hemenway, a professor at Harvard's Department of Health Policy and Management, also points to firearms. "Our guns are becoming more and more lethal and more militarized," he says. "It's now so much easier to kill large numbers of people."

He also sees mass shootings as "a contagion."

"I think certain crime is contagious," he says. As mass shootings become more publicized and normalized, they become "an option" that a perpetrator perhaps wouldn't have thought of previously.

Some shooters want to create a legacy, says forensic psychiatrist Steven Pitt, an adviser to the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office on the 1999 Columbine High School shooting in Colorado.

"There is the sick mentality as to who can be the biggest and the best or who can go down as committing the biggest number of murders," Pitt says.

Non-stop news coverage and social media posts about these shootings could encourage "disaffected individuals to engage in similar copycat offenses," he says.

Tcherni-Buzzeo has a similar theory. "My guess is that glory or fame that some people see being afforded to these mass shooting probably is not helping," she says. "The next person wants to one up the previous one."

While a desire to create a legacy could be a motive, Pitt also stresses that "it's overly simplistic to simply say one size fits all when it comes to these types of mass shootings. We know that different mass shooters have different ideologies."

Some, for instance, want to make a political statement, he says. Others may be disgruntled office workers, have paranoid delusions or have been dumped by a significant other.

"At the end of the day, you are talking about individuals and individual behavioral choices," he says.

While some statistics point to a rise in mass shooting frequency and deadliness, Northeastern University criminology professor James Alan Fox, says there is no clear evidence, especially since there is a lack of consistent benchmarks and no common definition of a mass shooting used by those gathering statistics.

"Some years are worse than others – it swings up and down for no real reason," says Fox, who is on the USA TODAY Board of Contributors.

He contends the number of mass shootings has not increased, but says there is one thing definitely on the rise: fear.

"Part of that is linked to the way that these cases are covered," he says, pointing to smartphone videos that show the graphic details of the tragedies, as well as around-the-clock news updates.

The preponderance of information on social media and TV "gives you the impression that things are worse," he says.

	<p>And as for those afraid to go to concerts – or casinos for that matter – he says this: "You're more likely to get killed in a car on the way in a traffic accident than you are at a casino when someone pulls out a gun and starts shooting."</p> <p>The risk of dying from a mass shooter is "very very small."</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 Claim: Paddock on anti-anxiety meds
SOURCE	http://www.newsmax.com/Headline/las-vegas-gunman-prescribed-anti-anxiety-drug/2017/10/04/id/817618/
GIST	<p>Stephen Paddock, the man identified as the Las Vegas mass murderer, was prescribed an anti-anxiety drug that can lead to aggressive behavior, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported.</p> <p>According to the newspaper, records reveal Paddock was prescribed fifty 10-miligram diazepam tablets by Dr. Steve Winkler on June 21. He was to take one pill a day.</p> <p>The drug — its brand name is Valium — was purchased by Paddock on the same day it was prescribed, the newspaper reported.</p> <p>"If somebody has an underlying aggression problem and you sedate them with that drug, they can become aggressive," said Dr. Mel Pohl, chief medical officer of the Las Vegas Recovery Center. "It can disinhibit an underlying emotional state. ... It is much like what happens when you give alcohol to some people ... they become aggressive instead of going to sleep."</p> <p>He said alcohol use could further increase the effects of the drug.</p> <p>And Dr. Michael First, a clinical psychiatry professor at Columbia University, told the Review-Journal that finding out why Paddock was prescribed the drug is vital.</p> <p>"That may have more to do with why he did what he did," First said.</p>
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HEADLINE	10/04 ATF: Paddock bought 33 guns past year
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/10/04/ATF-Las-Vegas-gunman-bought-33-firearms-in-past-year/5911507115127/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ls&utm_medium=1
GIST	<p>Oct. 4 (UPI) -- The gunman who killed 58 people in Las Vegas bought 33 of his 50 firearms in the past year, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said Wednesday.</p> <p>Jill Snyder, special agent in charge of the ATF, told CBS This Morning that Stephen Paddock had been amassing his collection of guns since 1982.</p> <p>"From October 2016 to September 28, 2017, he purchased 33 firearms, majority of them rifles,"</p> <p>None of the purchases set off an alarm for the ATF because there is no federal law requiring it.</p> <p>"We wouldn't get notified of the purchases of the rifles, we would only get notified if there was a multiple sale, which would be two or more handguns in an individual purchase," Snyder said.</p> <p>Snyder said Tuesday that 12 of the guns recovered from the hotel room were equipped with a legal device known as a "bump stock," which increases a weapon's rate of fire.</p> <p>"A semi-automatic rifle with a bump-fire stock on it is not a illegal machine gun," she said. "The ammo</p>

	clip capacities ranged from 60 rounds to 100 rounds." Snyder said the agency was investigating whether Paddock visited firing ranges in the area.
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HEADLINE	10/04 Paddock as 'descending into madness'
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/US/portrait-emerging-las-vegas-shooter-man-descending-madness/story?id=50275427
GIST	<p>In the months before his deadly rampage, 64-year-old Stephen Paddock was a man “descending into madness,” according to a person briefed on new findings in the investigation.</p> <p>More details are emerging, investigators say, that suggest Paddock’s mental state was deteriorating before the shooting — significant weight loss, an increasingly slovenly physical appearance and an obsession with his girlfriend’s ex-husband.</p> <p>Authorities are hoping to learn further details about what could have driven Paddock to open fire into a crowd of concertgoers in Las Vegas on Sunday when they speak with his longtime girlfriend, Marilou Danley, who arrived in Los Angeles from the Philippines on Tuesday night.</p> <p>She traveled to the Philippines just two weeks before the shooting, arriving in Manila on Sept. 15, according to travel records obtained by ABC News. In an interview with Australian television, one of her sisters said she believes Danley was sent away by Paddock so she wouldn’t interfere with his plans to carry out the shooting.</p> <p>“I know that she don’t know anything as well, like us,” Danley’s sister said. “She was sent away. She was away so that she will be not there to interfere with what he’s planning.”</p>
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