

Eye on the World

July 27, 2019

This compilation of material for “Eye on the World” is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of July 27, 2019.

Compiled by Dave Havir

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



An article by the editors titled “Why Iran Wants to Get Bombed” was posted at nationalreview.com on Feb. 23, 2019. Following is the article.

Rarely has a foreign country seemed so eager to get bombed by the United States as Iran does right now.

In its latest provocation, Iran seized a British-flagged tanker in the Strait of Hormuz on Friday. It wasn’t a subtle operation. Revolutionary Guard forces rappelled onto the tanker from a helicopter, and if you have any doubt, it was all captured on videotape.

The act raised the stakes in the regime’s confrontation with the West. After the last round, when the Iranians shot down a U.S. drone, President Trump ordered a retaliatory strike that he abruptly cancelled, citing his fears of disproportionate casualties.

Our natural instinct would be to hit Iran hard for its depredations and to establish a deterrent against such attacks before they get worse. But in this case, Iran clearly wants to provoke a reaction, which suggests the administration’s more cautious, “rope-a-dope” approach may be the right one.

Skeptics doubted that the administration’s unilateral sanctions could truly bite after the nuclear deal opened Iran for business with Europe. They were wrong.

The oil embargo and banking sanctions, imposed after Trump pulled out of the deal, have been cratering the Iranian economy. The regime's aggressions are an attempt to find a way out of the economic punishment.

The mullahs hope to exploit daylight between the Europeans and the United States (although poking the British won't advance that goal) and to send a message to the White House that its pressure campaign doesn't come without costs. Tehran also has begun breaching nuclear limits imposed under the Iran deal, another front in an effort to spook the West into rallying around the Iran deal and convincing Trump to relent.

What to do now? The administration should obviously render whatever assistance the British may request. It should continue to send more forces into the region as a message of resolve, and to work with allies to better secure shipping in the Strait. It should ratchet up the pressure campaign against Tehran, and revoke the remaining waivers that allow the Europeans to cooperate with Iran's purportedly peaceful nuclear program.

It is quite possible that Iran considers its provocations a prelude to another nuclear negotiation.

For his part, Trump continues to dangle the prospects of talks, even blessing diplomatic outreach by Senator Rand Paul. But the regime has a strong incentive to try to wait Trump out and hope the election of a pro-deal Democrat delivers what it wants without any more trouble.

Perhaps the Iranians believe that Trump getting embroiled in a conflict advances that goal. Regardless, they obviously want to escape from the box that they are in, and Trump shouldn't let them.



An article by Michael Peck titled "Iran's Worst Fear: Israel Sending F-35s Over Their Airspace (Some Say It Happened)" was posted at nationalinterest.org on July 25, 2019. Following is the article.

So who to believe? Occam's razor says go with the simplest explanation, which is that the episode never happened.

A Kuwaiti newspaper created a stir earlier this month when it reported that Israel's new F-35 stealth fighters had flown over Iran.

(Note: This first appeared in April of last year.)

"The fighters crossed Syrian airspace into Iraqi airspace, including to Iran, where they carried out reconnaissance missions and targets in the areas of Bandar Abbas, Isfahan and Shiraz, flying at a high altitude over other sites suspected of a relationship with Iran's nuclear program," according to an "informed source" quoted by the newspaper Al-Jarida (Google Arabic translation here).

The F-35s were allegedly not detected either by Iran or Russian radar based in Syria, according to the article.

So did the incident really happen?

First, if the incident were true, that would mean that operational missions are already being flown by the F-35I Adir ("Mighty"), the Israeli version of the Lockheed Martin fighter. Israel currently has only nine of them, and the first squadron was declared operational only late last year. The Israeli Air Force (IAF) has a well-earned reputation for boldness, but there is a difference between being bold and foolhardy. IAF pilots and planners have barely had time to acclimate to a fifth-generation aircraft different from the fourth-generation F-15s and F-16s they currently operate. Even the U.S. military is struggling to fix numerous bugs in the F-35.

The baseline F-35A has a combat radius of around 600 miles (external fuel tanks add range but compromise stealth). The direct route from Tel Aviv to Tehran, which would overfly Jordan and Iraq, is about a thousand miles. The F-35I includes several unique modifications, including special external fuel tanks being developed by Israel. Yet even with air-to-air refueling, for which the IAF has a limited tanker capability, reaching Iran would still be a taxing flight on a par with the risky 1981 raid on Iraq's Osirak reactor.

Not to mention Iran has its own air defenses, including Russian-made S-300 long-range anti-aircraft missiles. Israel's enemies rejoiced when the IAF lost an F-16 to Syrian anti-aircraft missiles in February. Imagine the propaganda coup if Iran shot down an F-35.

Besides the technical risks, there is a bigger question: why fly the mission at all?

Tensions are high, and predictions of war nigh, between Israel versus Iran and its Hezbollah proxy. But unless Israel believed war was truly imminent, and the F-35 was the only platform that could gain reconnaissance information (never mind Israel's spy satellites and drones), then the only reason to do it would be to send Iran a message.

But neither Iran nor Israel has claimed any overflights. So who is the "informed source" that made that claim? Saudi Arabia, which is embroiled in a Persian Gulf cold war with Iran and would love Tel Aviv to fight Tehran? Other Gulf states? The CIA?

Adding to the rumor stew is an Arab news site that claimed the Israeli jets flew from Azerbaijan, which borders Iran but buys weapons from Israel. Which in turn assumes that Israel is basing stealth jets in a Central Asian state that happens to border Russia.

And speaking of Russia, what's also interesting is the reaction to the incident by the Russians, who have radar in Syria that allegedly can detect stealth aircraft. Not surprisingly, Russia's *Sputnik News* quickly ran a story in which the Russian Ministry of Defense angrily denied the incident.

"The information published in a number of mass media outlets with reference to a foreign source, that 'Israeli fighters deceived the Russian radars in Syria and conducted reconnaissance at a high altitude' is a total stupidity," an unnamed source told the media site.

So who to believe? Occam's razor says go with the simplest explanation, which is that the episode never happened.



An article by Lindsay Schnell titled "Many Jewish People Support Progressive Abortion Laws Because of the Bible" was posted at usatoday.com on July 24, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

When Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey, a Republican, signed into law in May one of the nation's most restrictive abortion bans, she invoked her faith.

"To the bill's many supporters, this legislation stands as a powerful testament to Alabamians' deeply held belief that every life is precious and that every life is a sacred gift from God," Ivey said in a statement.

This is a familiar trope for the Republican Party when it comes to abortion access. In January, Kirk Cox, speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates, cited Biblical scripture when he came out against a proposed bill that would lift late-term abortion restrictions.

"You knit me together in my mother's womb," he said, quoting Psalm 139. "You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born."

But for many leaders in the Jewish faith, such interpretations are problematic and even insulting.

"It makes me apoplectic," said Dayna Ruttenberg, a Chicago-based rabbi who's written about Jews' interpretation of abortion. "Most of the proof texts that they're bringing in for this are ridiculous. They're using my sacred text to justify taking away my rights in a way that is just so calculated and craven."

Across the country, as a wave of anti-abortion legislation reinvigorates the fight over reproductive rights, Jewish rabbis, activists and women are speaking out in favor of a women's right to choose, buoyed by their faith.

It's not just that the U.S. shouldn't be deriving law from poetic language, Ruttenberg said. It's that the Jewish tradition has a distinctly different reading of the same texts. While conservative Christians use the Bible to argue a fetus represents a human life, making abortion murder, Jews don't believe that fetuses have souls and therefore, terminating a pregnancy is no crime.

While some Orthodox rabbis have denounced abortion, within Jewish communities there's considerable support for keeping it legal.

Studies from the Pew Research Center show that Jews overwhelmingly (83 percent) support abortion rights. The National Counsel on Jewish Women, a 126-year-old organization that helped establish some of the first birth control clinics across the country, considers reproductive rights a cornerstone issue, and has publicly condemned the strict abortion bans recently handed down in Alabama and Mississippi.

Republicans have been pushing for decades to overturn *Roe vs. Wade* and now, with two Supreme Court appointments from President Donald Trump giving the court a conservative bent, the law seems more at risk than ever before. Restrictive laws are being passed all over the South, and, according to the Guttmacher Institute, which tracks abortion legislation, 30 states currently “demonstrate hostility toward abortion rights,” while only 14 demonstrate support.

It’s common in this debate to hear the Christian perspective. But what’s often left out of the conversation is how Jews, who read the Hebrew Bible—referred to in Christian circles as the “Old Testament”—argue that their tradition condones abortion. Sometimes, if the mother’s life is at stake, it even insists on it.

“This is a big deal for us,” Ruttenberg said. “We’re very clear about a woman’s right to choose. And we’re very clear about the separation between church and state.”

U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Fla., likes to joke that she took *tikkun olam* so seriously, she wound up in politics.

Within the Jewish tradition, *tikkun olam*—Hebrew for “repair the world”—is a sort of call to action, a concept defined by acts of kindness and service that help heal the world. For Wasserman Schultz, the first Jewish woman to represent Florida in Congress, her faith informs her politics every day.

“I have always served and looked at policy through a distinctly Jewish lens,” Wasserman Schultz said. “And so for me, when I’m thinking about a woman’s right to make her own reproductive choices, the Jewish tradition that I’ve always been taught holds that existing life should take precedence over potential life, and a woman’s life and her pain should take precedence over a fetus.”

The strongest argument in the Hebrew Bible for permitting abortion comes from Exodus, chapter 21, verse 22-23: “If people are fighting and hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman’s husband demands and the court allows. But if there is serious injury, you are to take a life for a life.”

In this passage, “gives birth prematurely” could mean the woman miscarries, and the fetus dies. Because there’s no expectation that the person who caused the miscarriage is liable for murder, Jewish scholars argue this proves a fetus is not considered a separate person or soul.

The Talmud, a Jewish text comprised of centuries worth of thought, debate and discussion, is also helpful when discussing abortion. The Talmud explains that for the first 40 days of a woman’s pregnancy, the fetus is considered “mere fluid” and considered part of the mother until birth. The baby is considered a *nefesh*—Hebrew for “soul” or “spirit”—once its head has emerged, and not before.

Jewish tradition and scholars have also acknowledged a pregnant woman's potential "great need" to terminate a pregnancy.

Rabbi Elizer Waldenberg, a leading authority on Jewish law who died in 2006, wrote in *Tzitz Eliezer*, his major text, that "it is clear that in Jewish law an Israelite is not liable to capital punishment for feticide . . . An Israelite woman was permitted to undergo a therapeutic abortion, even though her life was not at stake . . . This permissive ruling applies even when there is no direct threat to the life of the mother, but merely a need to save her from great pain, which falls within the rubric of 'great need.' "

"There's a lot of ambiguity about what that need means," Ruttenberg said. "A psychological need is considered real."

Wasserman Schultz referenced *pikuach nefesh*, the principle in Jewish law that the preservation of a human life overrides nearly all other religious considerations, which also allows a woman to seek an abortion, especially if her own life is in danger.

"You can use that same principle to show that women, more than anyone else, understand their bodies and what medical decisions are right for them," Wasserman Schultz said.

For Wasserman Schultz, abortion access should be unrestricted, regardless of faith. "I'm not gonna tell you that you're interpreting scripture incorrectly," she said. "But don't prescribe rules for me and my decisions based on your interpretation of your scripture."

The move to overturn *Roe v. Wade*: La. latest to pass an abortion ban. Here's where other key states stand.

Retired U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer was one of the most prominent Jewish lawmakers in the country while she represented the state of California for 24 years. There's no doubt, Boxer says, that faith informs each individual's personal views on a variety of subjects. But that's exactly what they are—personal views, not something for everyone else to comment, or legislate, on.

"If you respect religion, then you should be pro-choice," Boxer says. "We can't always agree 100 percent with each other, but we can respect each other . . . and I feel I am respecting religion by saying I would fight for your rights regardless of what you believe."

To Rabbi Michael Adam Latz of Minneapolis, the fight over abortion rights—and lawmakers who reference their faith as a reason for why certain laws should exist—is a larger issue. This shouldn't just worry Jews, whose tradition teaches something other than Evangelical Christianity, he says. It should worry anyone who believes in religious freedom.

"While I certainly understand that there are people who disagree with me, in a nation for which religious pluralism is a hallmark, to impose one religious tradition on this is not actually how a democracy functions, it's how a theocracy functions," Latz says.

Every person of conscious, he says, regardless of their personal views on abortion, should be deeply concerned.



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

-
- An article by Lisa Mascaro titled “House Opposes Israel Boycott in Bipartisan Vote” was posted at apnews.com on July 23, 2019.
 - An article by Jim Geraghty titled “Do Americans Know That We’re Sending U.S. Troops to This Middle Eastern Country [Saudi Arabia]?” was posted at nationalreview.com on July 22, 2019.
 - An article by Nick Visser titled “Trump Vetoes Resolutions Meant to Block Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia, UAE” was posted at huffpost.com on July 24, 2019.
 - An article by Robert Beckhusen titled “Iran Claims It Has a Sniper Rifle That Can Kill From 1,600 Meters Away” was posted at nationalinterest.org on July 24, 2019.
 - An article titled “China Says It Will Not Rule Out Using Force to Reunify Taiwan With the Mainland” was posted at yahoo.com on July 24, 2019.
 - An article titled “China Says Army Can Be Deployed at Hong Kong’s Request” was posted at afp.com on July 24, 2019.
 - An article titled “China Tells US to Remove ‘Black Hands’ From Hong Kong” was posted at channelnewsasia.com on July 23, 2019.
 - An article by David Axe titled “China: We Won’t Use Nuclear Weapons First in a War” was posted at nationalinterest.org on July 24, 2019.
 - An article titled “Mexico Sets 1st Half Murder Record, Up 5.3%” was posted at apnews.com on July 22, 2019.
 - An article titled “Pakistani Intelligence Led CIA to Bin Laden: Imran Khan” was posted at afp.com on July 22, 2019.
 - An article by Razlye Akkoc titled “Turkey’s Erdogan Faces New Threat; Former Allies” was posted at afp.com on July 19, 2019.



An article by Marina Medvin titled “I, Immigrant, Agree With Donald Trump—If You Are Not Happy Here, You Can Leave!” was posted at townhall.com on July 18, 2019. Following is the article.

■ “Our Country is Free, Beautiful and Very Successful. If you hate our Country, or if you are not happy here, you can leave!”—President Donald J. Trump.

I legally immigrated to the incomparable United States of America when I was a little girl. I emigrated from the USSR, that wondrous sh*t-hole that Bernie Sanders covets.

Note: I use the precise terminology “legally immigrated” because liberal media has obliterated the ethical boundary between the law-abiding immigrants who respect and pedestal the United States of America with those who trample on the laws and steal from the American people at first chance. I, immigrant, am not okay being confounded with swindlers.

I felt uplifted to read President Trump’s tweets addressing the America-hating, ungrateful socialists who infest our Congress. I agree with the President.

■ “We will never be a Socialist or Communist Country. IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY HERE, YOU CAN LEAVE! It is your choice, and your choice alone. This is about love for America. Certain people HATE our Country . . . They are anti-Israel, pro Al-Qaeda, and comment on the 9/11 attack, ‘some people did something.’ Radical Left Democrats want Open Borders, which means drugs, crime, human trafficking, and much more . . . Detention facilities are not Concentration Camps! America has never been stronger than it is now – rebuilt Military, highest Stock Market EVER, lowest unemployment and more people working than ever before. Keep America Great!”—President Donald J. Trump.

Our President did it; he said the words that needed to be said by an America-first leader. “IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY HERE, YOU CAN LEAVE! . . . This is about love for America.” He rebuked those who “HATE our Country,” doing what needed to be done.

■ “So interesting to see ‘Progressive’ Democrat Congresswomen, who originally came from countries whose governments are a complete and total catastrophe, the worst, most corrupt and inept anywhere in the world (if they even have a functioning government at all), now loudly and viciously telling the people of the United States, the greatest and most powerful nation on earth, how our government is to be run,” President Trump tweeted. “Why don’t they go back and help fix the totally broken and crime-infested places from which they came. Then come back and show us how.”

President Trump spoke the truth. Certain people do hate our country, our Judeo-Christian morals, and our independence-driven economy. Some of them are in Congress. And, some of them were gifted the precious gift of United States citizenship. Some of those people are ungrateful, hateful and shameful. One of them is Ilhan Omar.

Ilhan Omar emigrated from Somalia, a war-torn country with a 99.8% Islamic majority in which “women are living in hell,” and is ranked as the 5th worst place in the world for women, according to Thompson Reuters. Instead of thanking her lucky stars for succeeding in the United States and living out the American Dream, Omar defies all logic and bashes the country that gave

her the freedom platform to achieve everything she has become today, describing our country as a bad place for people like her.

Trump rightly confronted the ungrateful congresswoman's hatred of America when he challenged Omar to go back to her hellhole homeland and fix it, then to come back and show the U.S. how our country should be changed for the better. This sentence is a challenge, not an expulsion, yet liberal media continuously misrepresented to the people that Trump simply "told congresswomen to go back where they came from."

The two concepts are incongruous. Challenging someone to put her money where her mouth is, to go and get it done and to then come back to lecture us from a position of knowledge, and calling out the ridiculousness of someone's ungracious anti-American sentiment, are not moral equivalents of the simplistic jab "go back to where you came from."

Trump also pointed out the insane, detestable rhetoric that has been unabashedly oozing out of Omar's mouth. "The Democrat Congresswomen have been spewing some of the most vile, hateful, and disgusting things ever said by a politician in the House or Senate, & yet they get a free pass and a big embrace from the Democrat Party. Horrible anti-Israel, anti-USA, pro-terrorist . . ."

Ilhan Omar has demeaned the United States military, glorified Islamist terrorists, has abased the largest Islamist terrorist attack on 9/11, asked to shorten Islamist militant prison sentences, campaigned for terrorist-funded CAIR while serving in US Congress, and is now seeking to destroy Israel—America's greatest ally in the Middle East against Islamist terrorism—by use of BDS, a terrorist-designed financial warfare. Ilhan Omar's political platform is basically Islamist Utopia.

And her partner in crime, as Trump points out, is Rashida Tlaib, an American-born daughter of "Palestinian" immigrants who has made it clear that she identifies first and foremost as a "Palestinian," not as an American, and her primary purpose is to destroy Israel. Her secondary purpose is to "impeach the motherf***er," President Trump, probably because he gets along so well with Tlaib's mortal enemy, Israel.

Both Muslim congresswomen share an unsettling, hateful obsession with Israel and Jews.

Instead of concentrating on local American issues, these congresswomen spend their time on bashing Jews, promoting Islamist propaganda, and putting Palestinian stickers in place of Israel on a congressional office world map—the first day on the job in US Congress.

How useful for the American people . . . for their congressional representatives to focus on hating an innocuous religious minority instead of working on . . . laws that affect Americans.

According to Muslim-raised and Somali-born Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a research fellow at Stanford University, the explanation for the dumbfoundingly pro-

Islamic, anti-Semitic obsession of these congresswomen is found in their Muslim upbringing.

Hirsi Ali was taught from a young age, growing up in a Muslim Somali household, she explains, to hate all Jews, and to blame Jews for all of the problems her people would encounter in life. She was also indoctrinated to despise Israel. This was exacerbated in her young adulthood when she joined the Muslim Brotherhood and was exposed to even more outrageous forms of anti-Semitism.

Omar and Tlaib, Islamo-Utopians, are also always backed in the disparagement of American exceptionalism by young socialists who have joined them this year in Congress. This has been a consistent mixture in recent years: the joiner of Muslim fundamentalists with young socialists.

Ayaan Hirsi Ali has an explanation for the strange magnetism between Islamism and neoliberalism. "Islamists have understood well how to couple Muslim anti-Semitism with the American left's vague notion of 'social justice.' They have succeeded in couching their agenda in the progressive framework of the oppressed versus the oppressor. Identity politics and victimhood culture also provide Islamists with the vocabulary to deflect their critics with accusations of 'Islamophobia,' 'white privilege' and 'insensitivity.'"

I agree.

The socialist congresswomen wish to collectively "improve" America by transforming our country into a socialist bog, or worse, into an Islamo-Utopia.

President Trump is right to dig in his heels, standing by his remarks about the morally suspect congresswomen. President Trump valiantly declared in response to their recent influx of socialist propaganda: "We will never be a Socialist or Communist Country."

President Trump should not apologize for anything that he has said. His only error was pluralizing the women who were born in foreign countries. But can you blame him for not knowing that Tlaib was born in the United States when she was cloaked in the Palestinian flag upon her win of the Congressional seat as her supporters cheered her on with Arabic high-pitched tongue trills?

The words of Donald J. Trump are self-evident truths.

- Whether you were born here or not, you can leave.
- If you hate this country, you can leave.
- We are free in the United States; free to remain, free to argue, and free to leave.
- The president didn't order anyone's removal, he simply reminded the ungracious hate-mongers that they have other options, and he reminded Ilhan Omar that she can put her money where her mouth is.



An article by Marina Medvin titled "Outpouring of Support From Immigrants for Trump's 'You Can Leave' Comments" was posted at townhall.com on July 22, 2019. Following is the article.

Last week, I published a column for TownHall.com entitled *I, Immigrant, Agree With Donald Trump—If You Are Not Happy Here, You Can Leave!*

To be honest, I did not expect much support for my position after seeing the highly critical initial reactions to Trump's words from conservative commentators. I strongly disagreed with the commentators who disparaged Trump for voicing what I felt was obvious.

Unlike these commentators, I felt elated when Trump spoke the truth, confronted the Islamo-Utopians, and told Ilhan Omar to put her money where her mouth is. I published the column because I felt the American people needed to know that at least some immigrants supported President Trump.

To my surprise, I received an overwhelming outpouring of support—from immigrants. Many immigrants, from countries all over the world, have reached out to me, thanking me for representing their ideas, for writing the words that they were thinking.

These wonderful, grateful, newly minted Americans support our president and his America-first policies. They want the American people to understand that legal immigrants wholeheartedly agree with President Trump: if you are not happy here, you can leave.

I would like to introduce you to some of the people who reached out to me.

■ Milena is an immigrant from Czechoslovakia. She was outraged at the rising anti-American ideology amongst some ungrateful immigrants. "I am proud to be a US citizen," she wrote, "I love my home, and I will fight anyone who tries to harm it," she declared.

■ Harold emigrated from Armenia, a country that lost 1.2 million Christians in the Armenian Genocide at the hands of the Muslim Ottoman Turks. He advised, "we need immigrants who respect our freedoms and values for life."

■ Maureen is a very patriotic Polish immigrant who described our president as "a man that loves America as much [as] I do, has an undying passion for America as I do." She was grateful to be living the American Dream. "I have been blessed with so many amazing opportunities from our country . . . I feel honored and it is a privilege to have been able to come here."

■ Dan Backer emigrated from Russia. He has dedicated his career in the United States to helping preserve American values. "I'm deeply grateful to live in a country that puts freedom and liberty first, not the will of the state," he told me.

■ Janet is an English immigrant. She stated, "I grew up being very pro-American . . . I love this country and I feel the same way you and the President do. Love it or leave it."

These are quotes from just a few of the people who took the time to write to me. Italian immigrants wrote about their patriotism and dedication to military service, Russian immigrants wrote about being grateful for American capitalism, and the list goes on and on. These gracious immigrants and patriotic Americans all stood up and echoed, "I, immigrant, agree with Donald Trump. If you're not happy here, you can leave!"

Why do these immigrants love America so much if it's not perfect?

The truth is that no country has a clean record, and American history is not pristine. From hanging women for "witchcraft," to dehumanizing Africans and keeping slaves, to segregating Jews and blacks from whites, American history went through some sordid, cruel periods.

But Americans stopped it, they stopped all of it.

That is what makes America great; the goodness of the American people. Each of us has witnessed the greatness of America and her astounding people. Africans became American patriots. Jews forgave. Women now thrive. A black man was president of the United States of America for two terms.

Only in America can the children of the wronged have opportunities for leadership of the country that once oppressed their predecessors.

That is why there are tens of thousands of people risking their lives every single day to breach our borders because America is the land of opportunities, the greatest nation in the world. We possess what the world covets.

That is what the likes of Ilhan Omar, Rashida Tlaib, and AOC fail to realize: our country is great and they are lucky to live here. For whatever faults they believe they see in us, they have the freedom to pursue a cure.

But they cannot trample on the American people while on their quest, and they cannot devalue the goodness that surrounds them. It is the goodness that emanates from capitalism, from our Judeo-Christian values, and our high valuation of freedom.

We, immigrants, are thankful to be Americans, to contribute to a capitalist economy, and to live amongst the greatest people in the world.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Animal Farm Revisited" was posted at patriotpost.us on July 20, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

In George Orwell's allegory about the Soviet Union, "Animal Farm," the slogan of the pigs in charge was "All the animals are equal, but some are more equal than others."

Here in this country, you can see it graphically played out when it comes to sexual depravity. Whereas those on the Left have used lies and liars in their

attempt to destroy the career of Brett Kavanaugh and tried their hardest to at least embarrass Donald Trump over what appear to be consensual sexual activities, when it comes to their own they show the same lack of interest that I have when it comes to soccer.

■ A few notable liberals

Over the past couple of years, thanks to the #MeToo movement, a few notable liberals, including Matt Lauer, Al Franken, Les Moonves, Charlie Rose, John Conyers and Mark Halperin, have been brought down.

■ Weinstein, Epstein and Clinton

The only reason I neglected to mention Harvey Weinstein, Jeffrey Epstein and Bill Clinton, is because they are special cases. In the case of Weinstein and Epstein, everybody knew for decades that they were sexual predators, but because they were such generous contributors to the Democrats, nobody hung them out to dry.

Besides, Weinstein's victims all assumed they could use their silence to their career advantage and Epstein targeted under-age foreigners, and, as we all know, the Democrats only care about young foreigners when they huddle at our border and can be used to pummel Donald Trump and the Republicans.

As for Bill Clinton, unlike the other two, he not only doesn't face jail time, even though he openly consorted with Epstein, often traveling to the creep's private island—and we know it wasn't to gaze at the sunsets or engage in sport fishing—he is still treated like an icon by his fellow Democrats.

That island, by the way, is called Little Saint James. It is located off the coast of St. Thomas and can be found, rather ironically, among the Virgin Islands.

With the frequent flying hours Bill Clinton racked up flying down to what people-in-the-know came to call Pedophile Island, Clinton could probably fly to the moon.

What's so odd about this whole sordid affair is that you would think that with all their money, these pigs wouldn't have to resort to rape and teenagers to satisfy their sexual appetites. Still, on the other hand, when you take a gander at the liberal women available to them, women who look like Nancy Pelosi, Hillary Clinton, Michelle Obama, Dianne Feinstein, Rosie O'Donnell, Oprah Winfrey, Elizabeth Warren, Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez and Maxine Waters, it does give one pause.

■ Free health care to illegals

Gov. Gavin Newsom is offering free health care to every illegal alien in California. As a tax-paying resident of the state, I am calling on Attorney General William Barr to sue California for the criminal misuse of our state taxes.

■ Available because of Trump's moves

The irony is that the only reason that Newsom can even consider this illegal giveaway is because Trump's cutting taxes and federal regulations has provided Newsom with a financial windfall.

■ Elected because of hate

The scary thing isn't that people such as Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib, women who have been lucky enough to have been rescued from the sewers of Syria and Somalia and brought to the United States, hate America and Americans.

What is particularly scary and deeply troubling is that in spite of that openly- expressed hatred, they were elected to Congress.

What's even worse is the unavoidable conclusion that they were elected, not in spite of that, but because of it.

■ CNN at airports

In case you hadn't heard, CNN, for years, has been bribing airports to broadcast their shows. That's how desperate they are for viewership.

■ Flashback to Bill Clinton speech

One of my readers suggested that the Republicans constantly run the State of the Union speech in which President Clinton declared that one of the gravest threats America faced was from the steady invasion of illegal aliens. And yes, he referred to them as illegal aliens, and not as undocumented immigrants or unregistered Democrats or whatever the term is this week.

I replied that the problem is that the Party has, as they say, evolved over the past quarter century.

■ Burt co-produced a new comedy

On the chance that you'll be in L.A. between Friday, July 26th, and Thursday, August 1st, you might want to catch "Angels on Tap," a rollicking comedy I wrote and co-produced, starring Ed Asner, Marion Ross, Jamie Farr, Alan Rachins and Ron Mazak.

Every day that week, "Angels" will screen once at 1 p.m., at the Town Center Theater in the San Fernando Valley (17200 Ventura Blvd.). As I plan to attend every screening, stop by and say hello.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Food Fight: Democrat Style" was posted at patriotpost.us on July 22, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

On the 4th of July, Joe Biden said he wasn't prepared at the second debate for Kamala Harris's attack. If I'm not mistaken, with his usual gift for clichés, he said: "It came out of the blue."

■ Harris had been making comments for weeks

It made me wonder just how many naps the guy takes. How was it I knew the half-breed had been damning him non-stop for weeks for boasting he'd been able to get along with segregationist senators in the past to get things done.

Of course, Sen. Harris had to pretend that the point he was making was that he approved of their politics when he was obviously pointing out that even though he opposed their bigotry, he and others had been able to agree on legislation, unlike the way it is today when Schumer and the Senate Democrats will automatically oppose anything Trump suggests.

■ Eastland and Talmadge are Democrats

What neither Biden nor Harris bothered mentioning was that Biden, unlike that horse's patootie, John McCain, who was always bragging that he was reaching across the aisle to work with Democrats, James Eastland and Herman Talmadge were Democrats. They weren't sitting across the aisle from Biden; they were sitting next to him.

What's more, along with former Klan Kleagle Robert Byrd, they were the Senate leaders of their party.

■ Flimsy reason to vote for her

Whether or not Biden was prepared for the attack, there's no getting around the fact that Harris's poll numbers soared as a result. It strikes me as a very flimsy reason to vote for her. But, on the other hand, as accomplishments go, it's as impressive as anything Biden has accomplished during his half-century in politics.

■ Celebration in nation's capital

I confess I was surprised how moved I was by the Independence Day celebration in our nation's capital. As a rule, over-hyped events leave me cold. But I can't imagine any American with a patriotic bone in his body not being inspired as President Trump read off a list of accomplishments attributed not only to the members of the U.S. military, but of people like Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Clara Barton and Jackie Robinson.

In fact, I had only two complaints. The first of which was that the cameras weren't set up to show us the group of individuals in attendance who had done so much to make this a better nation and a better world, including the man whose medical research greatly increased the survival rate for children suffering from leukemia.

My other disappointment was that in enumerating memorable moments in America's military history, the President neglected to mention Gen. Tony McAuliffe's one word response at the Battle of the Bulge when the German commander gave him the ultimatum of surrendering or being annihilated. "Nuts!" said the pithy General.

■ Comparing an opponent to Hitler

I recently stumbled across one of those laws like Murphy's ("If anything can possibly go wrong, it will") and the Peter Principle ("In organizations, people are inevitably promoted to their level of incompetence") that one immediately

recognizes as the truth. Godwin's Law, named after a lawyer, Mike Godwin, states that as a debate progresses, "It becomes inevitable that someone will compare one's opponent to Hitler or the Nazis."

I would only add that the "someone" is inevitably a Democrat. I swear, if Hitler had never been born, the liberals would have had to invent him.

■ Antifa in Charlottesville

As if it's not bad enough that knuckleheads have waged an endless campaign to rid the South of every historical reference to the Confederacy, be it a flag or a statue, while other idiots have devoted their every waking hour to removing crosses from military cemeteries and hillsides, Charlottesville, Virginia, has now decided to stop celebrating the birthday of Thomas Jefferson.

Perhaps the city's leaders will choose instead to use April 13th to celebrate the day that Antifa came to town wearing masks and carrying clubs and put Charlottesville on the map.

■ Shell shock

The neutering of our language—the process by which janitors become custodial engineers, and bums, addicts and loons, all came to be known as the homeless, as if their problems could be traced back to an eviction notice—is nothing new.

Years ago, as Stephen Hanover reminded me, the late George Carlin did a riff in which he pointed out that after World War I, veterans who came out of the trenches shattered by the experience, were said to be suffering from "shell shock," two syllables with heart-wrenching impact.

After World War II, the very same condition was called "battle fatigue," four rather warm and fuzzy syllables.

The description was further diluted after Korea, when it came to be known as "operational exhaustion."

Finally, post-Vietnam, it was watered down into something called "post-traumatic stress disorder," Eight syllables signifying something that might be anything from hives to hair loss.

As Carlin concluded: "Perhaps if we'd still been calling it shell shock, some of those returning troops would have received the help they desperately needed at the time."

■ I like Trump's chances

The more I hear from the 20 Democrats vying to carry their party's banner in 2020, the more confident I am that Trump will do even better than he did in 2016.

Like most of you, I was very depressed when Obama was elected in 2008 and even more so when he won re-election in 2012. But at least I could take comfort from the fact that he had only needed to defeat a pair of nebbishes named McCain and Romney.

But if Trump doesn't manage to defeat Biden, Sanders, Harris, O'Rourke, Buttigieg or Michelle Obama, in 2020, it will be awfully hard to hang on to any hope for America's future.

■ Two observations

Russ Mothershed shared a couple of memes with me. The first was "There are so many women coming out against Joe Biden, you'd think Donald Trump had just nominated him for the Supreme Court" and the other was "I'm too old to live under Socialism. That's because I've become addicted to such luxuries as electricity, food, clean water, shoes and toilet paper."



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

Deficit

- An article by Andrew Duehren, Kate Davidson and Catherine Lucey titled "White House and Congress Reach Deal on Spending, Debt Ceiling" was posted at wsj.com on July 22, 2019.
- An article by cnsnews.com staff titled "Pelosi and Trump Agree to Increase Spending Over Next 2 Fiscal Years; Put No Limit on Debt Until 2021" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 22, 2019.
- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "132 House Republicans Vote Against Trump-Pelosi Spending Deal—But House Democrats Push It Through" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 25, 2019. (The final vote was 284-149 and the breakdown went like this—219 Democrats and 65 Republicans for the law and 132 Republicans, 16 Democrats and 1 Independent against the law.)

Finances

- A Reuters article by Humeyra Pamuk titled "U.S. to Pay \$15 Minimum Per Acre to Farmers Hurt by China Trade War" was posted at reuters.com on July 23, 2019.
- An article by Tomi Kilgore titled "Harley-Davidson 'Hogs' Built in Thailand Finally OK'd for Lower Tariffs Than Bikes Built in U.S." was posted at market-watch.com on July 24, 2019.

Green New Deal

- An article by Susan Jones titled "Meet the Candidate Who Will Challenge AOC [Republican Scherie Murray]" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 18, 2019.

Illegal immigration

■ An article by Beth Baumann titled "College Students Don't Know How to React When They Learn About Obama's Immigration Policies" [when Obama said: "We are a nation of laws. Undocumented workers broke our laws and I believe they must be held accountable, especially those who may be dangerous. That's why over the past six years, deportations or criminals are up 80 percent and we're going to keep focusing on threats to our security"] was posted at townhall.com on July 21, 2019.

■ An article by Paul Bedard titled "Record 61,000 Migrant Children Surge Over Border; \$230M Spent for Snacks, Diapers, Baby Formula" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on July 25, 2019.

Comments about weapons

■ An article titled "California: Injunction Filed to Stop California Ammunition Sales Restrictions" was posted at nra-ila.org on July 23, 2019.

Comments about Trump support

■ An article by Melanie Arter titled "WH Policy Adviser Stephen Miller: Dems Using Term 'Racist' to Silence Opponents" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 22, 2019.

■ An article by Craig Bannister titled "Candace Owens: Trump Tweet About 'the Squad' Is '100% Truth,'—'Stop Defending These Racists' " was posted at cnsnews.com on July 23, 2019.

Comments about Trump opposition

■ An article by Hope Yen titled "Nadler: Mueller Hearing to Air Evidence of Trump Wrongdoing" was posted at apnews.com on July 21, 2019.

■ An article by Jennifer Haberkorn titled "Democrats Hope Mueller's Testimony Will Make More Americans Want to Impeach Trump" was posted at latimes.com on July 22, 2019.

■ An article titled "Trump Cheers As Liberal Firebrand [Michael Moore] Blasts 'Frail' Mueller" was posted at afp.com on July 24, 2019.

■ An article by Justin Baragona titled "Fox's Chris Wallace: Mueller Testimony a 'Disaster for the Democrats' and for His Reputation" was posted at thedailybeast.com on July 24, 2019.

■ An article by Rachael Bade and Mike DeBonis titled "Democrats Second-Guess Calling Mueller; Divided on Path Forward" was posted at washingtonpost.com on July 25, 2019.

■ An article by Zach Montellaro titled "Biden Bounces Back" was posted at politico.com on July 25, 2019.

■ An article by Rebecca Morin titled "Booker: Biden 'Architect' of Mass Incarceration; Biden Fires Back, 'Look at Your Record' " was posted at usatoday.com on July 24, 2019.

- An article by Alexis Arnold titled "Elizabeth Warren Introduces Bill to Cancel \$640 Billion in Student Loan Debt" was posted at huffpost.com on July 23, 2019.

- An article by Chris Mills Rodrigo titled "NAACP Calls for Trump Impeachment" was posted at thehill.com on July 23, 2019.

- An article by Daniel Mitchell titled "Trump Is Worse Than Obama on Spending" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 23, 2019.

Kamala Harris

- An article by Rebecca Morin titled "Tulsi Gabbard: Kamala Harris 'Not Qualified' to Be President" was posted at usatoday.com on July 24, 2019.

- An article by Alex Isenstadt titled "Trump Aides Cite Top Threats at White House Briefing: Harris, Biden, Warren" was posted at politico.com on July 25, 2019.

Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke

- An article by Faris Bseiso titled "O'Rourke: 'What We Saw in North Carolina Last Week [at a Trump Rally] Was Almost An Impromptu Nuremberg Rally' " was posted at cnn.com on July 23, 2019.

News about the media

- An article by Matt Vespa titled " 'The President Won This One': CNN's Tapper Details How Trump Outflanked Ocasio-Cortez and Her Leninist Girl Scout Troop" was posted at townhall.com on July 17, 2019.

- An article by William Cummings titled "President Trump's Job Approval Rating Reaches High Mark in NPR/PBS/Marist Poll After Racist Tweets" was posted at usatoday.com on July 22, 2019.

- An article by Timothy Meads titled "Associated Press Whitewashes Ted Kennedy's Chappaquiddick Crime [50 Years After the July 19, 1969 Event]" was posted at townhall.com on July 19, 2019.

General interest

- An article titled "Texas Governor Signs 'Chick-Fil-A' Law He Says Will Protect Religious Freedom" was posted at yahoo.com on July 19, 2019.

- An article by Luran Neergaard titled "Study: Millions Should Stop Taking Aspirin for Heart Health [Some 29 Million People 40 and Older Were Taking in an Aspirin a Day Despite Having No Known Heart Disease in 2017]" was posted at apnews.com on July 22, 2019.

- An article by Betsy McKay titled "Death Rates Rising for Young, Middle-Aged U.S. Adults [Opined Epidemic and Stalled Progress Against Heart Disease Have Dragged Down the Life Expectancy]" was posted at wsj.com on July 23, 2019.

- An article by Amie Gordon and Paul Thompson titled "Vin Diesel Body-Double [Stuntman Joe Watts] Left Fighting for Life in 'Induced Coma' After 30 Ft. Fall on Fast and Furious Set" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on July 23, 2019.



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