

The Fortnightly Rant

Racism With the Bark On

The Electoral College's most recent choice to lead the Executive Branch was in Jamestown, Virginia on Tuesday to attend an event commemorating the House of Burgesses. In keeping with the tenor of the times, his presence there was simultaneously appropriate and inappropriate, meaningless and illuminating, ridiculous and tragic.

Like nearly everything else on his schedule except for the "executive time" he spends watching the Fox Garbage network, his visit was about getting re-elected—as could be expected of someone who filed as a candidate for 2020 on inauguration day.

Four years ago, so far as we can tell, His Toxicity was campaigning not to win, but to add a bit of cheesy luster to his fetid brand. When you're a sleazy lawyer like Jimmie McGill in *Better Call Saul*, you can promote your services by staging the fake rescue of a worker dangling from a billboard. Things get more complicated when your business model is based on supplying legal titles to absurdly expensive parcels of real estate which can be used like poker chips by astronomically wealthy individuals needing semi-plausible explanations for international financial transactions involving lots of zeroes and little scrutiny.

Running for President is a lot of trouble. One can only imagine the financial pressures which motivated an already allegedly wealthy person to go to such lengths just to drum up more business.*

* The upside of running, of course, was the opportunity to bask in fake adulation—cheap fake adulation, at that. It cost a mere \$12,000 to hire the mob of actors who stood at the foot of that infamous elevator.

Predictably, they all had to wait for their \$50, too. According to a 2017 account in the *Hollywood Reporter*, the general counsel of the Federal Election Commission concluded that the Trump campaign failed to

This time, Mr. Big Stuff is running for re-election to stay one step ahead of the law, all protestations of innocence—from himself, his favorite TV network, and his team of personal lawyers, which includes, according to POTUS' understanding, the Attorney General—notwithstanding.

As Robert Mueller recently explained to Congress and the TV audience at home, although the Special Counsel investigation failed to discover a contract signed with a Sharpie, it did find that "Individual 1" had spent more time obstructing justice than he had playing golf.

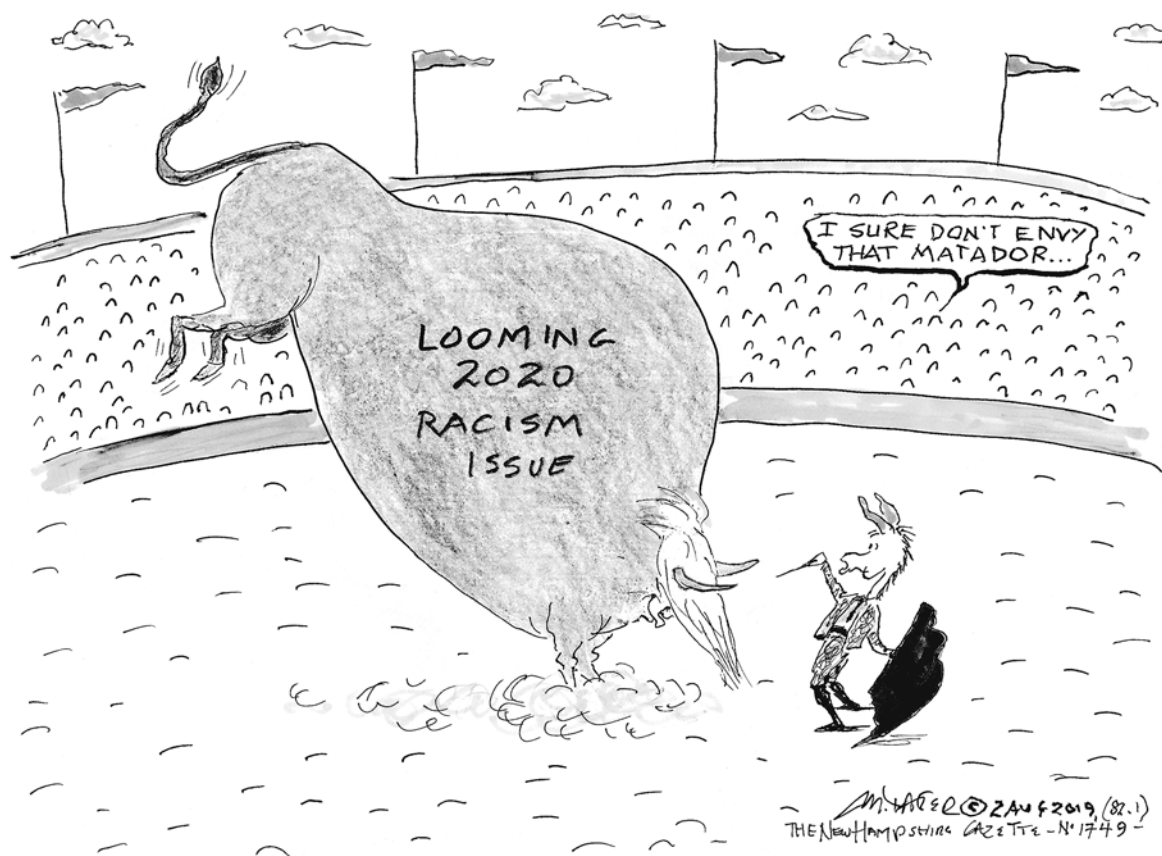
To cite just one example, said Individual fended off a potentially-catastrophic personal interview through the liberal application of legal persiflage. The Special Counsel had to rely, therefore, on a lesser degree of proof: a televised confession to NBC's Lester Holt.

Rather than wage a prolonged legal battle of uncertain outcome to gain a direct interview, and thereby delay Congress in its avid pursuit of its duties, i.e., impeachment, the Special Counsel settled for written statements.

Rep. Val Demings [D-Fla.] asked Mueller if those statements "were not only inadequate and incomplete because he didn't answer many of your questions, but where he did,

pay Gotham Government Services "for its services for almost four months after the event, and did not report the transaction for more than seven months after the event. Thus, Gotham's apparent extension of credit to the Committee for the services rendered at the June candidacy announcement may constitute an excessive or prohibited contribution, and the Committee failed to report the amount it owed Gotham as a debt."

In the interest of justice, however, the general counsel decided to ignore the law. "Because of the seemingly modest amount at issue," his decision concluded, "we recommend that the Commission exercise its prosecutorial discretion and dismiss the allegation...."



his answers showed that he wasn't always being truthful?"

"I would say generally," he replied.

Last week Mueller told Congress what they already knew: the Justice Department will not charge a sitting POTUS with a crime—even if he stood in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shot someone, apparently. The Constitutional remedy for illegal Presidential behavior, he reiterated, is therefore in the hands of Congress—which, this week, began a six-week recess.

Mueller did say that a former President could be indicted. Thanks to the statute of limitations, though, a second term would get him off the hook. Is it any wonder, then, that he's always wearing his "Commander-in-Chief of the Race War" hat?

It's currently fashionable to lament the fact that a so-called President is exploiting the nation's racist tendencies to gain power. Pardon us,

but 'twas ever thus.

Richard Nixon's domestic policy advisor John Ehrlichman confessed to author Dan Baum in 1994, that Nixon's war on drugs was a ruse to neutralize two enemies, "the antiwar left and black people. ... We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did."

Less than three weeks after sewing up the 1980 Republican nomination, Ronald Reagan spoke at the Neshoba County Fair. The chairman of the Mississippi GOP had suggested that venue as a good place to win over "George Wallace-inclined voters." The fairgrounds were also conveniently located less than ten miles from where the Klan had murdered three civil rights workers only 16 years earlier.

Then there's Lee Atwater, advisor to Reagan and campaign manager to his successor, George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush. In 1981, Atwater gave an unforgettable—and almost unprintable—explanation to author Alexander P. Lamis of how the GOP uses race: "You start out in 1954 by saying, 'N____, n____, n____.' By 1968 you can't say 'n____'—that hurts you. Backfires. So you say stuff like forced busing, states' rights and all that stuff. You're getting...abstract now...."

Campaigning on abstract appeals to racism has been a Republican tradition since Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act in 1964.

Individual 1 does not do abstract. "No human being would want to live [in Baltimore, therefore its predominantly black residents are not human]" is more his style. Maybe he went to Jamestown to celebrate the 400th anniversary of slavery.

The Alleged News®

Tell Us Again—Who Won That War?

Twelve score and three years ago, a rebellious generation brought forth on this land (mostly acquired through dubious means) a new nation, obsessed with Liberty and claiming to act as if all men are equal, yet deeply dependent, to a degree now largely forgotten, upon the forced labor of millions of enslaved men, women, and children.

Four score and seven years after that, this nation was engaged in a great Civil War, the reasons for which were once fairly obvious, but have recently become a matter of debate. Those who fought that war lie in hundreds of graveyards scattered across most of our states, yet we seem to have forgotten why they are there. We even seem to have lost track of which side won.

Everyone agrees, of course, that slavery has been abolished. Even there, though, there are exceptions.

Literally, exceptions. In the Constitution:

"Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States...."

—13th Amendment

As a result, under North Carolina Statute § 65-4, prisoners can be made to maintain the grounds of the Confederate Cemetery in Raleigh, "said services to be rendered by the State's prisoners without compensation." This being post-racial America, because we've had a black President, inmates can no doubt be assigned to maintain the graves of traitors regardless of their race, creed, or color.

Explanations vary as to why different races have differing incarceration rates. Some say institutional racism plays a part; others deny that

phenomenon even exists. The latter argument may be somewhat weakened by the fact that the U.S. Army currently has at least 10 bases named for Confederate generals—which is to say, for traitors.

Fort Lee, Virginia

Take Fort Lee, Virginia, for example, a little bit south of Richmond, named for the Commander of the danged Confederate States Army. This relatively minor post was established as Camp Lee in 1917, when old folks could still remember the surrender at Appomattox. Apparently some of them just disagreed with it.

At the time the War Department explained—if that's the right word—that the naming was done "in the spirit of reconciliation, not division." To supplement that official explanation, we offer this as context: two years earlier, Woodrow

Wilson arranged a showing of D. W. Griffith's racist epic "Birth of a Nation"—Hollywood's first blockbuster superhero origin story, about the Ku Klux Klan—in the White House.

Fort Gordon, Georgia

Thousands of men, many black, took Basic Training at Fort Gordon, Georgia before shipping out to Vietnam. Now it's the home of the Signal Corps and Cyber Corps. It was named for General John Brown Gordon, the son of a slave owner, and a slave owner himself. Said to be one of Lee's most trusted generals, he was also, for a man of such exalted rank, a real bullet magnet, nearly dying at Sharpsburg.

After the war Gordon went into politics, on a couple of levels. As a Senator from Georgia, then its Governor, he adamantly opposed Reconstruction. He may also have

been the titular head of Georgia's Ku Klux Klan, according to *Wikipedia*. He testified before Congress in 1871, before becoming a Senator, that he was associated with a secret "peace police" organization, but said its sole purpose was the "preservation of peace."

His daughter, Caroline Gordon Brown (1832 – 1907), somehow ended up in Berlin, N.H., married to Orton B. Brown, son of the founder of the Berlin mills. "They lived in a grand home on Church Street," according to *berlinhistory.weebly.com*, "getting occasionally visits from Mr. John Gordon himself. On one of Mr. Gordon's visits to Berlin, he spoke to a large crowd in the Clement Opera House on Main Street about his days in the Confederacy."

The Alleged News®

from page one

Fort Benning, Georgia

Fort Benning, across the state in western Georgia, is named after General Henry Lewis Benning. The home of the Army's Infantry, Armor, and Airborne Schools, its suspiciously gung-ho *Wikipedia* page characterizes it as "a power projection platform...[possessing] the capability to deploy combat-ready forces by air, rail, and highway"—so, look out, Alabama!

Whatever one thinks of Benning's deeply racist views, he was, at least, quite clear and open about them. In 1861, he said, "What was the reason that induced Georgia to take the step of secession? This reason may be summed up in one single proposition. It was a conviction, a deep conviction on the part of Georgia, that a separation from the North was the only thing that could prevent the abolition of her slavery. ... [If abolition comes] we will have black governors, black legislatures, black juries, black everything. Is it to be supposed that the white race will stand for that? ... our men will be compelled to wander like vagabonds all over the earth;

and as for our women, the horrors of their state we cannot contemplate in imagination. ... Suppose they elevated Fred Douglass, your escaped slave, to the presidency? What would be your position in such an event? I say give me pestilence and famine sooner than that."

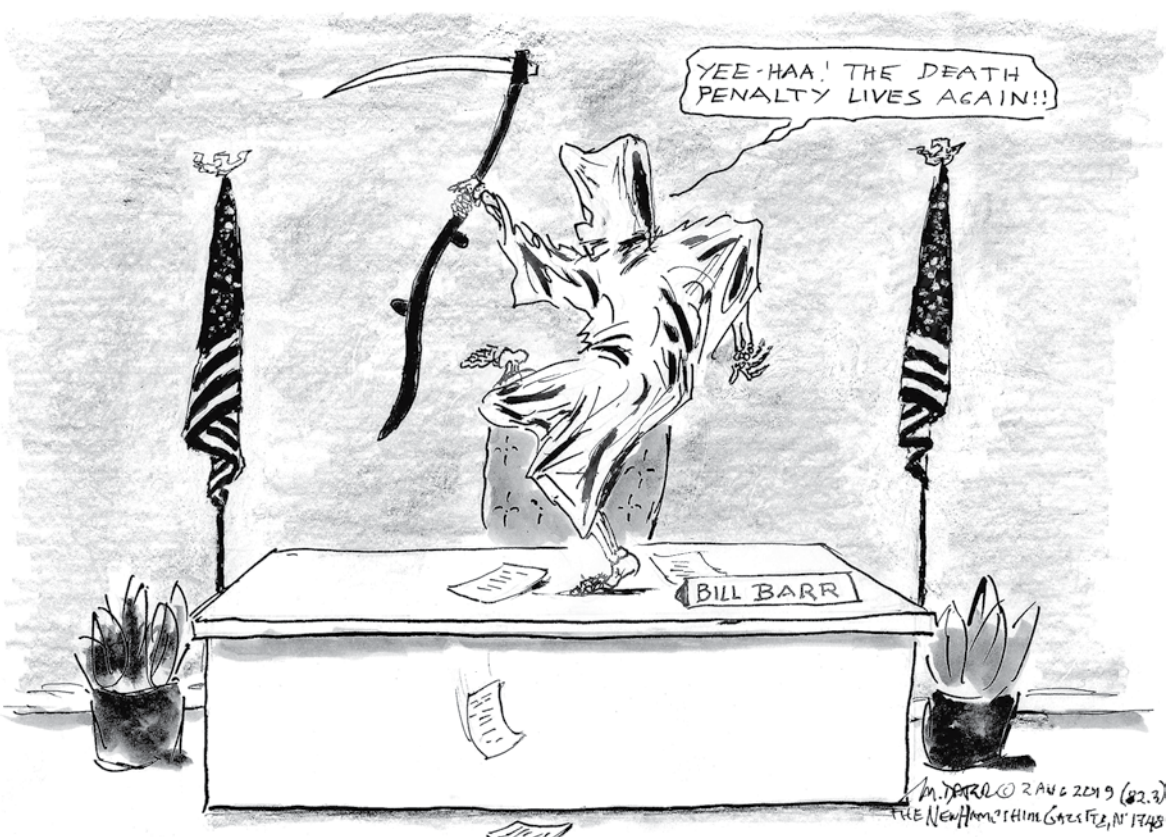
Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Fifth in his class at West Point, Braxton Bragg seemed to lose his edge after betraying his country to join the Confederate Army. One of the rebels' least-competent Generals, he was stubborn, unimaginative, and irascible. Prone to fighting his subordinates and the enemy with equal vigor, he is best known for seizing defeat from the jaws of victory. His greatest victory was at Chickamauga—where the Confederates lost 3,000 more men than the Union.

Despite this lengthy rap sheet, Camp Bragg was established in 1918—again under Woodrow Wilson, who had been re-elected in 1916 under the slogan, "He kept us out of war"—as an artillery training ground. Fort Bragg is home to the 82nd Airborne, the Special Operations Command, which includes the 5th Special Forces Group, the original Green Berets.



Somehow, through a sequence of events unimaginable to the Flag Police, one of the flags at the Portsmouth Memorial Park, of all places, has been allowed to become frayed and ragged along the entire width of the fly end. "We trust this desecration will not stand," Officer Krupke said tersely.



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S LATEST TRANSFIGURATION

Fort Polk, Louisiana

Fort Polk is named for Leonidas Polk, another highly ranked West Point grad with a less-than-stellar career—even disregarding the treason. Polk resigned his commission in 1827 to enter the seminary. Thirty years later he took the lead in founding Sewanee: The University of the South, in order to "materially aid the South to resist and repel a fanatical domination which seeks to rule over us." Sewanee was built on land bought for that purpose by John Armfield, who made his fortune as a partner in the largest slave-trading enterprise in the country.

As the Civil War approached, Polk led a secession movement to establish the short-lived Protestant Episcopal Church in the Confederate States of America. Then he accepted a commission as a General in the Confederate Army, earning the nickname, "Sewanee's Fighting Bishop."

Three months into the war he

rashly sent troops to occupy Columbus, Kentucky. The move backfired: Kentucky requested Federal assistance, and the Bluegrass State remained under Union control for the remainder of the war. On November 11, 1861 he was present at a demonstration of his Army's largest cannon, called "Lady Polk," after his wife. It exploded, blowing off his uniform and rendering him *hors de combat* for a few weeks. Though Polk shared many qualities with Braxton Bragg—ineptitude, irritability, and resentfulness, to name but a few—the two conducted their own running battle in the midst of the war.

For an Episcopal bishop, Polk died spectacularly, taking a three-inch Federal shell right through the chest, from left to right. Despite his incompetence, he was mourned by his men. In 1941, for reasons unknown to us, the Department of War of the nation he betrayed chose to honor his memory with a training camp—albeit in a swamp.

Fort Hood, Texas

We could go on, through Fort Rucker, Ala.; Camp Beauregard, La.; Fort A.P. Hill, Va.; and Fort Pickett, Va., but we'll end this diatribe with Fort Hood.

John Bell Hood was an early exemplar of the Peter Principle. He led small units bravely and well early in the war. Promoted, he began losing: battles, body parts, the City of Atlanta...

Inexplicably, during World War Two, the Pentagon named another Army post for this traitor—and loser. What's more, the Fort is in Texas, while Hood was a Kentuckian.

President Truman integrated the U.S. Armed Forces more than 70 years ago, yet six of our largest Army bases, and four smaller ones, inexplicably bear the names of men who betrayed their country to preserve what they called their right to treat their fellow men—and women, and children—as property.

Racism is history, though, right?

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Fort Benavidez?

A group of Texas veterans is proposing to give Fort Hood a more appropriate name: Fort Benavidez.

Roy Benavidez, born in 1935, grew up poor in southeast Texas. An orphan at seven, he enlisted at 17, later qualifying as a Green Beret—twice. Blown up by a landmine in 1965, it took him two years to recover. In May of 1968 he hopped a chopper to rescue a surrounded Special Forces patrol. He saved at least eight men during six hours of hand-to-hand combat. Presumed dead from gunshots, grenade fragments, and bayonet thrusts, unable to move, he then saved his own life by spitting in the face of the doctor who was zipping him into a body bag.

Keep An Eye on "The Family"

Jeff Sharlet enlisted for a three-year hitch in the U.S. Army in the early 1960s. He was supposed to get training in a Slavic language, then a posting to Europe. The Pentagon being the Pentagon, he was taught Vietnamese and shipped to Saigon. He monitored radio communications until his unit was pulled out shortly before the U.S.-approved coup that toppled and killed Ngo Din Diem and his evil brother Ngo Din Nhu. He was shipped back to

the 'Nam in time for another coup early in 1964.

Having seen our allies in operation, Sharlet had no use for the war. Discharged, he began working with Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and founded *Vietnam GI*—the first underground newspaper for in-country grunts. Circulation reached as high as 30,000 copies; total readership was probably three or four times that number. Sharlet died of kidney cancer in 1969, at the age of 27. *Vietnam GI* did not survive its creator, still it had a huge impact on the GI anti-war movement—and it was that movement, as much as anything, that finally stopped that war.

A namesake, born in 1972, carries on in his uncle's footsteps.

The younger Sharlet is the author of *The Family: The Secret Fundamentalism at the Heart of American Power*, published in 2008. "The Family," also known as "the Fellowship," openly runs the annual National Prayer Breakfast—as ostentatiously bland and boring as any public spectacle could be. Behind the scenes it operates a cooperative network made up of some of the world's most powerful people—the heads of some Central American death squads, for example.

David Kuo, former special assis-



tant to George W. Bush in the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, says "The Fellowship's reach into governments around the world is almost impossible to overstate or even grasp." This would be less creepy if leader David Coe wasn't on tape praising in the same breath the savvy leadership styles of Jesus Christ, Adolf Hitler, Joseph Goebbels and Heinrich Himmler.

Netflix has made a five-part documentary on the The Family, which will begin airing on August 9th.

Glad We've Finally Got That Straight
The Rush Limbaugh Show, Tuesday, July 16th:

Rush, to a caller: "You said that we can do better than Trump, 'Republicans can do better than Trump,' and so I'm asking: Who do you have in mind?"

Caller: "Republicans can nominate a young, potentially two-term

President, one that believes in fiscal conservatism. We're gonna have... In 2019, there's gonna be a \$1 trillion deficit. Trump doesn't really care about that. He's not really a fiscal conservative. We have to acknowledge that Trump has been cruelly used."

Rush: "Nobody is a fiscal conservative anymore. All this talk about concern for the deficit and the budget has been bogus for as long as it's been around."

Robinson R44 Takes Two Lives

A Canadian entrepreneur and his son were found dead in the wreckage of their Robinson R44 helicopter on July 25th. Stéphane Roy, the "undisputed king of greenhouse tomato production in Quebec," according to the *Montreal Gazette*, had been fishing with his son Justin, 14, in the Upper Laurentian mountains. The pair went missing July 10th.

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The YMCA Building on Congress Street, restored to—no, probably surpassing—its former glory.

Murph's Fortnightly Quote
"From the homicidal bitchin'
That goes down in every kitchen
To determine who will serve and who will eat"
— Leonard Cohen (1934-2016), singer, songwriter,
poet, from "Democracy"

"The problem is that the right doesn't need any ideas to govern,
but the left can't govern without ideas."
— José Saramago (1922-2010)
Portuguese novelist and playwright, Nobel Prize laureate
john@wordpraxis.com

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— Not-So-Random Thoughts from an Oregon Subscriber

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We Need Higher Ideals
To the Editors:
We are witnessing the historic fracturing of American Democracy and its transformation into some form of oligarchical, extreme capitalism (aka fascism: look it up).
Wherever you look, there are angry, wired, volatile people. They are mad because they live in a country that, as George Carlin said, “threw them overboard fifty f__king years ago.” The rich and powerful have gone mad as well, to the detriment of the majority of earth’s inhabitants.
The Constitution and human rights have faded from discourse in the corridors of power and normal civil society.
We are eyewitnesses to a change in the country that is propelling us into uncharted regions, although there are numerous historical parallels we could learn from.

Note the cruel treatment of refugees at our borders and the near zombie-like, hateful chanting at political rallies. The reinstatement of a national death penalty in federally prosecuted cases is ominous and concerning.
Divide and rule is a time tested method used by tyrants to confuse and control populations where independent, critical thinking is lacking. It works the same way in any culture, from the bread and circuses of the Roman Empire to today. Sophisticated and subtle techniques of behavioral and thought modification have been intensely studied and applied by groups ranging from the German National Socialist Party to the U.S. CIA. There is much to learn from history that is not fake news!
Many of the benefits of membership in the American family are being stealthily eroded or eliminated. The 1% want it all for themselves and are working hard to get it. They know the world has finite resources and they think more of everything will save them from nature’s laws in the end.
On top of all this we are facing climate upheavals that we are not prepared for. There is no apparent will to recognize the problem and find a solution. Recycling your plastics or an electric car will not be enough.

If you are at all concerned about the future we are creating for our children and beyond, we must, all together, be committed to a better world where greedy leaders’ powerlust doesn’t run roughshod over our basic love and compassion for each other, refugees included.
We must strive toward higher ideals or this earthly experiment shall have been for naught.
Charles B. Carr
New Boston, N.H.
Charles:
Funny, isn’t it, how the ostentatious display of religiosity can coincide with so much rampant heartlessness?
Funny peculiar, we mean, of course, not funny ha-ha.
The Editor

The Unaffordable Housing Problem
Dear Editor:
This letter should become part of every discussion about raising the minimum wage, teacher salaries, and affordable housing. My guess is however, it will be considered immaterial, a distraction, and beside the point.
When I was 18 (1958), a year out of high school, I supported (with a \$60 a week job—\$54.20 after taxes); a wife (she didn’t work except in the home), a baby, a rented two-bedroom apartment, a car, tithed to the church, and had money left over. I did pick up a little extra shoveling snow in the winter, mowing grass in the summer and parking cars at Rockingham in Salem, N.H. Saturdays and Labor Day during the season.
In 1958 a new house cost about \$13,000, a new car \$2,200, gas was 25 cents a gallon, a postage stamp three cents, tuition to Harvard \$1,000 per year and average rent, \$100 a month (I paid \$15 a week), affordable on a yearly (average) salary of \$5,000.
Why is that relevant six decades later? Because, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition’s annual Out of Reach report, published on June 18, 2019, which for 30 years has documented the gap between renters’ earnings and rental costs across the country, “there’s not a single state, metropolitan area or county in the U.S.

where a full-time worker earning the minimum wage can afford the rent for a modest two-bedroom apartment, that’s why.
The report goes on to say, “a worker earning the present federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour would need to work nearly 127 hours a week—the equivalent of more than three full-time jobs—to afford a modest two-bedroom rental without spending more than 30 percent of their salary on housing costs.”
Arkansas, where the fair market rent for a two-bedroom is \$742—is the most affordable state. Full-time workers there need to make \$14.26 an hour to afford a two-bedroom rental, significantly above the state’s minimum wage of \$9.25. Even if the minimum wage was raised to \$15 an hour (which is unlikely) you would still be limited to affordable rentals in very few states.
The most expensive state is Hawaii, where the fair market rent on a modest two-bedroom is \$1,914 a month. To afford that a worker must make \$36.82 an hour—equivalent to working 3.6 full-time minimum wage jobs.
The most expensive metro area is San Francisco where the rent is an eye-popping \$3,700 a month, where you’d need to earn over \$60 an hour. And the latest homeless count is...
Every candidate running for President will offer up a plan; tax credits, federal subsidies, caps, &c., &c., &c. Basically it’s all just smoke and mirrors, sound bites, pipe dreams and illusions.
We must, at the very least, have an open, honest and straightforward discussion about this issue. Considering comparative salaries, costs, and prices, isn’t it just possible, remotely feasible, that the problem isn’t and never has been that salaries are too low—but rather than the costs of living are too high?
Affordable housing was previously available to generations of Americans earning minimum (or just above

minimum) wages. Affordable housing was (and still is) fundamental to a safe, healthy and stable life. However, for a huge portion of our population living in the 21st Century, it is completely out of reach. And that, my fellow Americans, is a real tragedy....
David L. Snell
Franklin, N.C.
David:
Thanks for writing. Without direct, personal testimony such as this, today’s young people would have no conception of how badly they’ve been screwed.
It’s fashionable, of course, to “blame the boomers.” That pat answer presupposes that they all had some personal agency. Bushwa. Milton Friedman, The Chicago School, Harvard Business School, Ayn Rand—crackpot economics in general—in the hands of the pre-existing elite, destroyed America’s post-war prosperity.
The Editor

democracy and on the integrity of our self-governance? Republicans should stop playing partisan games and cooperate with Democrats to defend the rule of law and our electoral sovereignty.
Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, Calif.
=====
Why Didn’t Trump Take His Own Advice?
To the Editor:
Donald Trump is saying if you are not happy with this country leave. His supporters are cheering him when he does so. Fox News is amplifying his message. However, Donald Trump, Rush Limbaugh, Laura Ingram and the entire Fox News team were unhappy all eight years of the Obama presidency. Why didn’t they leave then? The country would have been much better off if they had.
Walter Hamilton
Portsmouth N.H.
Walter:
We believe “Glad We’ve Finally Got That Straight,” on page three, may be relevant to your question. The gist of it is, you can’t believe a word these birds say.
The Editor
=====
Disgraceful Inaction
Dear Sir:
The use of military force is not the only way to invade and take over another nation. With the use of modern technology and social media, we have already sadly learned that a hostile nation can attack our nation and cause major political and social disruption. The Russian attack on our 2016 election was no less an attack than one involving military force. While, the Russian attack may not have altered votes that were cast, their documented cyber and social media attack had



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a huge influence on voter turnout and voting choices, which clearly impacted a very close election, where a mere 70,000 votes spread over three states made the difference.

The successful election attacks by the Russians in 2016 were very well and clearly highlighted last week by special counsel Robert Mueller during his testimony before Congress. Not only did Mr. Mueller state what what the Russians did in 216, but he also clearly warned that the Russians were continuing in their efforts to disrupt the 2020 election.

Unfortunately, Republicans do not seem very interested in protection future elections from attacks by the Russians or any other hostile nation. Last week Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell blocked legislation to secure the nation's election system. Also, Republican Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith also blocked a set of bills on election security last week. One of the bills would have required candidates to report offers of election-related aid from foreign governments.

Why are Republicans so reluctant to protect our most sacred democratic process, free and fair elections? Clearly, if a hostile nation was threatening our homeland with military force, we would do everything to protect our nation; to do otherwise would be treasonous. Failure to act to prevent our nation from attacks by hostile governments, intent on destroying America from within, without firing a single missile, is nothing less than surrendering our democratic republic to those hostile powers. It seems clear, that Republicans are more interested in retaining power at any cost, rather than protecting our nation. As a retired military officer, who served during Vietnam and the first Gulf War, this is

an insult and disgraces the sacrifice of millions of veterans who have fought and died to protect America from hostile governments for over 240 years.

Rich DiPentima, LTC, USAF Ret.
Portsmouth, N.H.

=====

POTUS #45's Alternate Universe

To the Editor:

I'm not sure if POTUS #45 watched the same lengthy testimonies (to the U.S. House Judicial and Intelligence Committees) by former Special Counsel Robert Mueller that I listened to on the radio the other day, but I did hear #45 oddly proclaim, following said testimonies, that it was a "a great day for himself and Republicans!"

I apparently must have heard something very different than #45 and his Republican enablers as I heard Mueller confirm, under oath, what I had previously read in his 448-page report on the subject:

- Russia did interfere in the 2016 election in an effort to help elect Trump and will continue to interfere on Trump's behalf in 2020 if allowed to do so. Meanwhile, neither Trump nor Congressional Republicans are demonstrating a proclivity to stop the Russians from doing the same in the next election, as they seem to be enjoying the status quo of a rigged economy and government for the 1%.

- The Trump campaign welcomed the interference in 2016, with over 100 contacts between members of Trump's campaign and transition teams and Russian nationals.

- Trump and his accomplices lied to cover up the facts stated above and to obstruct the investigation, which certainly falls under the category of high crimes and misdemeanors as discussed in the Constitution of the United States as a cause for the U.S.

House of Representatives to initiate impeachment proceedings to hold a sitting President accountable.

Given Mueller's informative testimony, I was delighted to hear the news that New Hampshire's two members of the U.S. House of Representatives (Congressman Chris Pappas and Congresswoman Ann Kuster), who must have agreed with me that #45's day wasn't so good, have officially joined the rapidly growing ranks of House members calling for an impeachment inquiry on POTUS #45 and his accomplices. On top of the impeachment inquiry, our Representatives have pledged to continue to work on legislature designed to help the people of New Hampshire in the areas of job creation, income equality, healthcare, education and the environment (including the assurance of clean air and safe drinking water).

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, N.H.

=====

Department of Corrections,
Aeronautical Division

Orville,

Your "Stearman 75" is the Navy version called an N3N. The giveaway is the double rear wing struts. The Stearman just has one strut, the N3N has two close together as is visible in your photo. In addition, the N3N has a crossbar between the two landing gear struts—also visible—but the crossbar does not exist on Stearmans.

I flew the N3N in my short, abortive crop dusting career and I have a clear picture of one.

This guy overhead the city the other day must be an aerobatic pilot because I saw him/her, too, and at that time the pilot had airshow smoke pouring out the ass end.

Check out both on Google and I think you'll spot the differences. But don't feel bad—most people don't even know there was such a thing as the N3N. I'd bet that 999 out of 1000

would have guessed Stearman. I did too till I did a little detective work.

Wilbur

=====

Whence, Indeed?

To the Editor:

While thinking in recent days about those places to which "certain people" should return, I wondered where I should go back to. Am I not in the location where I should be? Should I attempt to return to the womb? Consequently, I penned the following:

*"Go back whence you came,"
the president intones.
"About that I make whatsoever no bones."*

With pathetically vacant memory, is he not failing

To recall that ALL our ancestors across great waters came sailing?

To set foot on this soil, on these remarkable lands

To settle in amidst beautiful forests waters sands?

Preceded by eons the truly indigenous ones

Who had lived here long before under these suns?

One must therefore retort: "Mr. president, do wake up Now

And before these ancient ones take a deep, reverent Bow."

Henry M. Smith
Newmarket, N.H.

=====

A Question for the Flag Police

Dear Flag Police,

I have a flag that was gifted to me. The body has stripes similar to the American Flag, but where the stars would be placed there is a white peace sign on a blue background.

A man came up to me and said I was disgracing the American flag. Is that so? Or is it no longer the American flag, since it has been altered?

I see the military changes the colors, and also flies it backwards without much noise-making or questions.

A man from the Pease Greeters

was visiting the VA today where I was sucking up some more tax dollars. I posed the question to him and he did not believe it was demeaning the U.S. of A. flag.

I myself had not thought about the question until he brought it up.

Wes Flierl
SPR, VFP, OCC, IWW
Rochester, N.H.

Wes:

To paraphrase a former President, it depends on what the meaning of the word "flag" is.

In this instance, the Flag Police are in full agreement with the Pease Greeter.

The Editor

=====

On Faulkner and Cats

Dear Editor:

Please pass my cartoon on to the Cartoon Editor when he comes in ...



I can't quite tell if Faulkner tired of cleaning the litter boxes and reupholstering his furniture, or admires our furry companions' cleverness in managing a pretty sweet work-free gig in our lives!

But anyone who's actually lived with an affectionate cat can tell you they can be most loving and expressive—when it suits them. ...

Regards,
Steve Robison
Dover, N.H.

Steve:

We did as you requested. The Starving Artiste smiled. We did, too.

As for the Faulkner passage on cats, we took that as a tongue in cheek salute to the wisdom of one of our favorite species.

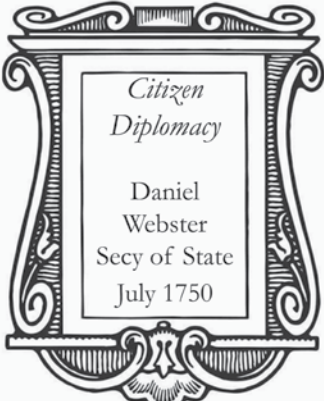
The Editor

Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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What is the “AI agenda,” who’s pushing it, and why?

By Jim Hightower

Corporate bosses don’t talk about it in public, but among themselves—pssst—they whisper excitedly about implementing a transformative “AI agenda” across our economy.

AI stands for artificial intelligence, the rapidly-advancing digital technology of creating thinking robots that program themselves, act on their own, and even reproduce

themselves. These automatons are coming soon to a workplace near you!

Not wanting to stir a preemptive rebellion by human workers, corporate chieftains avoid terms like automation of jobs, instead substituting euphemisms like “digital transformation” of work. Privately, however, top executives see AI as their path to windfall profits and personal enrichment by replacing whole swaths of their workforce with an automated

army of cheap machines that don’t demand raises, take time off, or form unions.

As one prominent tech exec confided to the *New York Times*, AI “will eliminate 40 percent of the world’s jobs within 15 years.” Some CEOs are so giddy about AI’s profiteering potential that they openly admit their intentions. Take Foxconn, the Taiwanese electronics giant hailed as a job creating savior last year by Donald Trump. It was given \$3 bil-

lion in public subsidies to open a huge manufacturing plant in Wisconsin, but it’s now reneging and declaring that it intends to replace 80 percent of its global workforce with robots within 10 years. Corporate apologists say displaced humans can be “reskilled” to do something else. But what? Where? When? No response.

Executives try to skate by the human toll by saying that the machine takeover is the inevitable march of

technological progress. Hogwash! There’s nothing “natural” about the AI agenda—it’s a choice being made by an elite group of corporate and political powers trying to impose their selfish interests over us.

Populist author, public speaker, and radio commentator Jim Hightower writes The Hightower Lowdown, a monthly newsletter chronicling the ongoing fights by America’s ordinary people against rule by plutocratic elites. Sign up at HightowerLowdown.org.

Mash Notes, &c.,
from page six

this. We need state mandates to act now.

It would help to have positive leadership in the White House. But there is no reason to wait. Each state needs to adopt 100 percent renewable plans with planned shut-down dates for existing fossil fuel plants, like Hawaii has done.

This can be supported by a Feed-in-Tariff for fixed and predictable long-term prices for solar energy and, if needed, an infrastructure bank and revenue bonds to facilitate finance. Utilities need a rate structure that rewards them for building and maintaining the renewable energy grid. They will sell more electricity in a renewably-powered economy where economic growth leads to ecological improvement.

Solar is job creator and pollution destroyer. Building dual-cropping solar on poles in farmer’s fields can help revitalize local agriculture and make farming economically stable for many generations. Solar on farms is a step toward sustainable agriculture. by removing carbon from the atmosphere and sequestering it in rich soils.

Now is the time for each state to step up and embrace the renewable transformation. Make your renewable transformation and fossil fuel shut down plan now and start implementation.

Our lives and our children’s health, well being and prosperity depend upon it happening.

Roy Morrison, of Newton, Mass., builds solar farms at renewablesun-power.com.

Peace Activist Macy Morse’s Last Dance

When Macy Morse wasn’t fighting for peace, she liked to dance and make music. She learned the Charleston at age 5, played the piano for the Mollala Methodist church services at age 9, and practiced Martha Graham style modern dance in college. At 73, Macy danced on top of a picnic table in Russia to celebrate a peace organization she launched at the request of Greenpeace.

“How do you have any fun if you don’t dance?” she frequently asked.

Macy (Elkins) Morse died April 18 in Hudson, NH, in the home of one of her children. She was 98 and left a legacy of more than 60 years of political activism, including at least 10 arrests and four jail stints for acts of nonviolent civil disobedience. She also left a blood legacy as mother of 13 children, 27 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

She was born in Mollala, Oregon in 1921. Her mother, Nina, taught school and her father worked at Dicken’s, a general store. They also had a small farm and were known for being generous with their food during the Depression.

Taking unpopular stands may have run in the family. Luther Elkins, Macy’s great-great-grandfather — who came as a pioneer from Maine to Oregon territory in the 1840s -- helped write the state’s constitution and was the first president of Oregon’s senate. He cast the deciding vote in 1861 on the question of secession (he voted to stay with the Union); quickly followed

by his effigy being burned — and hung.

Macy attended Oregon College of Education and then moved to Portland where she worked for the telephone company. She liked to tell the story of meeting her future husband one afternoon in 1944 when she returned to her apartment from a Catholic catechism class (Macy decided to become a “Cath,” at least in part because the priest was so “cute.”)

She slipped off her shoes and took a running slide into the living room, proclaiming with a wave of her arms: “I know what a saint is!” And there sat an attractive stranger, Paul Morse, a Navy friend of her cousin Roger. “We only knew each other five weeks when we decided to get married,” said Macy. “But I was worried the priest would think that wasn’t long enough so I said six weeks when he asked.”

Paul, Macy and their first seven kids moved in 1953 to Nashua, NH, Morse’s hometown. He worked, on and off, for the railroad and Macy threw herself into Democratic Party politics, starting with John Kennedy’s presidential campaign. She helped deliver Nashua’s traditionally Republican third ward for John King, the first Democrat elected governor since the 1920s. And she worked her heart out for Eugene McCarthy in 1968.

She was a delegate to the Democratic Convention in Chicago that summer. But Macy was disillusioned with the party’s support of the Viet-

nam War and soon turned to direct protest, a path of activism that would shape the rest of her life.

Her husband died suddenly in 1971 at age 50. Nine months later, Macy, inspired by a photo of the Alps on an oil company calendar, rented her house and, with six of her children, age 9 to 16, headed to Europe, settling into Crete, Greece.

They returned to Nashua nine months later. Macy worked for the local Learning Center and food pantry. When a work colleague was unable to accept a Fulbright scholarship for a trip to India, Macy went in her place, a trip that, among other things, introduced her to Mother Teresa and yoga.

Her political interests also led her to Nicaragua, Guatemala, Japan, the Netherlands and, in 1991, Moscow where she attended a Greenpeace conference on nuclear navies. By then she lived in Portsmouth, and, at Greenpeace’s request, formed The Portsmouth- Severodvinsk Connection. Both cities depended economically on nuclear submarine yards. Student and adult exchanges followed.

Over the years Macy was arrested in Washington DC for spray-painting the Pentagon and pouring blood on Gen. Alexander Haig’s office carpet; in Massachusetts for vandalizing weapons at an AVCO plant; in Connecticut for protesting a nuclear submarine; and in New Hampshire several times for protesting construction of the Seabrook nuke, as well as sitting in at a senator’s office



Macy Morse

in protest of the Iraq War. She was friends with Pete Seeger, Daniel Ellsberg and, especially, the Berrigan brothers.

Macy organized a group to keep track of nuclear waste leaving the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. She attended weekly peace vigils and organized the New Hampshire Women’s Peace Network, as well as annual memorials to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And she kept practicing yoga, dancing and playing the piano.

Although her children say she never pushed them to be politically active, she said she hoped she served as a model. Maybe she did. Once, while handing out leaflets to a disarmament rally, her 10-year-old granddaughter, Amy, quietly said: “When you die, grandma, I’ll take over.”

— Cathy Wolff, Kittery, Maine
—==—

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Admiral Fowle’s Piscataqua River Tidal Guide (Not for Navigational Purposes)						
Portsmouth, arguably the first town in this country not founded by religious extremists, is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River, the second, third, or fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country, depending on whom you choose to believe. The Piscataqua’s ferocious current is caused by the tide, which, in turn, is caused by the moon. The other player is a vast sunken valley — Great Bay — about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line moves from the mouth of the river, up past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on into Great Bay. This can best be seen when the tide is rising. Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream end of Badger’s Island, bobbing around in the current. It weighs several tons, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork. The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. When the river rests, its tugboats and bridges work their hardest. Ships coming in laden with coal, oil, and salt do so at high tide, for more clearance under their keels. They leave empty, riding high in the water, at low tide, to squeeze under Memorial Bridge.						
Sunday, August 4	Monday, August 5	Tuesday, August 6	Wednesday, August 7	Thursday, August 8	Friday, August 9	Saturday, August 10
2003—Lightning strikes a Bardstown, Ky., warehouse, sparking a fire; 19,000 barrels release 800,000 gallons—a flaming river of Jim Beam; thousands of fish die as high winds whip up a 100-foot firenado. 1992—Republicans re-nominate the Bush/Quayle ticket. Snicker. 1991—The captain and officers of the sinking <i>Oceanos</i> abandon the ship—and its passengers. Entertainers organize a successful rescue of all aboard. 1987—The FCC jettisons the Fairness Doctrine, declaring it “restricts the journalistic freedom of broadcasters.” 1964—The <i>U.S.S. Maddox</i> and <i>U.S.S. Turner Joy</i> report a second torpedo attack in Gulf of Tonkin. There are no casualties; nor is there any damage. Defense Secretary McNamara withdraws from President Johnson warnings that it may just be a false alarm. 1961—Barack H. Obama allegedly is born in Hawaii. 1948—HUAC chairman J.P. Thomas’s pocketing of the payroll from his pals’ no-show jobs is exposed in Drew Pearson’s column. 1945—Joe Cleary’s MLB career lasts one-third of an inning, pitching for the Senators. He gives up five hits and three walks for an ERA of 189. He’s relieved by one-legged Bert Shepard, whose career lasts one game. The Red Sox win 15-4. 1942—The Bracero program begins: Mexican workers get to be criminally exploited north of the border. 2:012:36 8:188:38	2011—S&P lowers the U.S.’s credit rating because the GOP says it might not let the government pay its bills. 2007—On Lake Winnepesaukee, the President of France, clad only in swim trunks, jumps into the boat of AP photographer Jim Cole and berates him for doing his job. 2004—“Our enemies,” says George W.[MD] Bush, “never stop thinking about new ways to harm our country and our people, and neither do we.” 1981—Ronald Reagan fires 12,700 air traffic controllers. 1974—Cornered rat Richard Nixon releases the “smoking gun” tape. 1971—ITT makes a \$200,000 “donation” to the GOP Convention. In return the Justice Department overlooks ITT violations of antitrust laws. 1969—The Army says eight Green Berets are under arrest for “terminating” a suspected South Vietnamese double agent “with extreme prejudice.” 1968—The GOP convention starts in Miami. One delegate for Nelson Rockefeller: Theodore “Ted” Bundy. 1962—An official South African goon squad nabs fugitive anti-apartheid “terrorist” Nelson Mandela, thanks to a helpful tip from the CIA. 1950—When a B-29 hits a trailer park in California, 18 die. At least the nuke on board fails to explode. 1912—Teddy Roosevelt founds the Progressive “Bull Moose” Party “to dissolve the unholy alliance between corrupt business and corrupt politics.” 2:543:29 9:099:34	2016—“One of my proudest moments,” says Sen. Mitch McConnell [R-KY], “was when I told President Obama, ‘You will not fill this Supreme Court vacancy.’” 2011—An RPG downs a Chinook in the Tangi Valley, killing all 38 on board—the most (30) Americans to die in one incident in Afghanistan. 1991—Tim Berners-Lee introduces the world to the World Wide Web. 1970—Disneyland shuts down early after 300 pot-smoking Yuppies invade, chanting Viet Cong slogans & demanding freedom for Mickey Mouse. 1957—Carol Burnett becomes an overnight sensation by singing on the Jack Paar show, “I Made a Fool of Myself Over John Foster Dulles.” 1954—The Illinois Department of the American Legion denounces the <i>Girl Scout Handbook</i> as subversive. 1945—Sayonara, Hiroshima. 1930—N.Y. Supreme Court Justice and Democratic bigwig John Force Crater purges private files, cashes a large check, and disappears forever. 1895—The socialist paper <i>Appeal to Reason</i> begins. By 1902 its circulation is the 4th highest in the U.S. 1890—New York State takes 8 minutes to execute William Kemmler, thrashing and smoking, in its new electric chair. 1855—Nativists in Louisville, egged on by a Know Nothing newspaper, torch Irish homes and shoot those who flee; 22 killed. 3:504:24 10:0110:33	1998—In retaliation for the rendition of four Egyptian jihadis, al-Qaeda bombs U.S. Embassies in Dar es Salaam and Nairobi; 224 die. 1979—A nuclear fuel plant leak near Erwin, Tenn., contaminates 1,000 people with 5 times a year’s normal background radiation. 1974—In New York, Phillipe Petit takes a stroll on a wire between the World Trade Center towers. 1964—Congress falls for the Gulf of Tonkin hoax and gives L.B.J. unprecedented (and unconstitutional) power. Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) votes no, saying “I believe that within the next century, future generations will look with dismay and great disappointment upon a Congress which is now about to make such a historic mistake.” 1957—In Nevada, ZSG-3 becomes the first Goodyear Blimp to be brought down by a nuclear weapon. 1936—Rep. Marion Zioncheck (D-Wash.), who once had a load of manure dumped on J. Edgar “Mary” Hoover’s lawn, defenestrates from the fifth floor of a Seattle office building. 1930—A mob drags three black men from the Marion, Ind. jail to lynch them. A photo of two, dead, inspires the song, “Strange Fruit.” The third, rescued, later founds America’s Black Holocaust Museum. 1890—Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, “The Rebel Girl,” is born in Concord, N.H. 1840—Now warmed up, Comanches sack Linnville, Texas, killing 35. 4:505:21 10:5611:36	1989—E. Robert Wallach, a close pal of Ed “Meese is a Pig” Meese, is convicted of racketeering for accepting \$425,000 to influence Meese and others to win defense contracts for Wedtech Corp. 1980—Rep. Jon Hinson (R-Mich.), running for re-election, admits he’s been accused of committing an obscene act in a “gay haunt” in Virginia and once barely escaped a fire in a gay movie theatre; but he denies he’s gay. 1974—Rep. Earl Landgrebe [R-Ind.], says “Don’t confuse me with the facts. I’ve got a closed mind. I will not vote for impeachment. I’m going to stick with my President even if he and I have to be taken out of this building and shot.” Later that day, however, his idol Richard M. Nixon confesses that he lied—he is a quitter, after all. 1973—Veep Spiro “Ted” Agnew calls the revelation that he took bribes as Governor of Maryland “damned lies.” 1968—Richard Nixon chooses Spiro “Ted” Agnew for a running mate. 1942—Condemned by an un-Constitutional secret military tribunal irregularly sanctioned by a Supreme Court Justice in cahoots with FDR, six German saboteurs are hanged six weeks after landing via submarine. Bush #43 later relies on the precedent. 1925—Imperial Wizard Hiram Evans leads 35,000 members of the Ku Klux Klan in full regalia—minus the hoods—down Pennsylvania Avenue to the Washington Monument. 5:536:22 11:55	2014—Ferguson, Mo. cop Darren Wilson shoots Michael Brown, whose body is then left uncovered on the street for four hours. 1997—New York cop Justin Volpe sodomizes Haitian immigrant Abner Louima with a broomstick. 1989—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush signs the Savings and Loan bailout. Among the bailees: his boys Neil and Jeb. 1974—Richard Milhous Nixon vacates the White House — finally. 1945—In Nagasaki, the boss of Hiroshima blast survivor Tsutomu Yamaguchi doubts his account of the devastation. Then an A-bomb explodes. 1936—Lincoln Steffens, one of the original muckrakers, dies at 70. 1892—Reacting to a fatal disagreement two days earlier, a group of Hatfields tie three McCoy’s to a tree and shoot them. 1874—Paranormal chronicler Charles Fort materializes in Albany, N.Y. 1872—Fire destroys 547 buildings in Boston, killing 14. 1842—Herman Melville escapes from the Typee Valley in the Marquesas where he has been held captive by cannibals for a month. 1842—The Webster-Ashburton Treaty ends the Aroostook War. 1610—Under orders from Thomas West, 3rd and 12th Baron De La Warr, after whom Delaware is named, English settlers slaughter the Paspahgeh, men, women, and children. 7:007:25 12:4112:56	2005—After playing online games fifty hours straight, Lee Seung Seop, 28, drops dead. 2000—“I want you to know,” George W.[MD] Bush tells farmers in Salinas, Calif., “that farmers are not going to be secondary thoughts to a Bush administration. They will be in the forethought of our thinking.” 1993—A Robinson R-22 helicopter falls apart about 1,000 feet above the Pacific, southeast of Honolulu, killing the pilot and a passenger, his wife. 1973—Free Marketeer Charles Koch writes Free Marketeer Friedrich von Hayek suggesting he move to the U.S. so he can collect Social[ist] Security. 1968—Eight G.I.’s in Vietnam are killed by “friendly fire.” 1961—The U.S. Army begins using Agent Orange in Vietnam. 1959—A B-52 crashes and burns in Fremont, N.H.; all eight crewmembers bail out and live. 1950—American military aid to the French begins arriving in Vietnam. 1945—The Japanese announce their intention to surrender. 1887—An engineer for the Toledo, Peoria & Western, seeing a burning bridge ahead, uncouples his engine and crosses safely. His 81 passengers die when it collapses. 1856—Wind-driven waves drown 400 at a ball on Last Island, La. 1680—Pueblo Indians begin an 11-day revolt that will kill 400 Spaniards and drive them from New Mexico. 8:078:26 1:481:58
Sunday, August 11	Monday, August 12	Tuesday, August 13	Wednesday, August 14	Thursday, August 15	Friday, August 16	Saturday, August 17
2017—A “good person” rallying for White Supremacy in Charlottesville, N.C. commits vehicular homicide. 2009—As President Obama speaks inside Portsmouth, N.H. High School, a Libertarian outside packs a 9-mm pistol and a sign calling for the “blood of patriots and tyrants.” 1972—The last grunts in ‘Nam, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, board that Freedom Bird for CONUS. 1966—The first Coast Guardsmen (2) are killed in Vietnam when B-57s and F-4s attack the cutter <i>Point Welcome</i>. 1965—A white L.A. cop pulls over a black driver in Watts. Five days of riots cost 34 lives, mostly black, and \$200 million in damage. 1942—A patent which uses piano rolls to protect torpedoes from radio-jamming goes to Hedy Lamarr. 1911—Workers incensed by the “scientific management” imposed by stopwatch-obsessed Phillips Exeter grad Frederick Winslow Taylor go on strike at the Watertown Arsenal. 1897—Ex-slave-owner and future Senator Rebecca Ann Latimer Felton [see Nov. 21, 1922], tells the Georgia Agricultural Society, “lynch, a thousand times a week if necessary,” to protect “[white] woman’s dearest possession from the ravening human beasts,” i.e., black men. 1894—Charles “Hobo” Kelley and his 1,200 man “army” of unemployed are driven from Washington D.C. by Federal troops. 9:099:24 2:512:59	2004—Tom McGreevy, the Democratic Governor of New Jersey, admits he’s been sleeping with a man who is not his wife, then resigns. 2000—The Russian sub <i>Kursk</i> is sunk in the Barents Sea, probably by its own torpedo; 112 crew members perish. 1985—A 747 with 524 on board, enroute to Osaka, crashes after the tail falls off. Many survive but, due to delays, only four are rescued alive. 1958—Art Kane takes the photo known as “A Great Day in Harlem:” 57 jazz greats on a brownstone stoop. 1955—Lke raises the minimum wage from 75 cents to \$1 per hour. 1953—Russia tests an H-bomb. 1935—Babe Ruth plays his last game at Fenway. 1898—The U.S. annexes Hawaii and makes peace with Spain. 1865—Joseph Lister introduces a novel refinement to the art of surgery, which he calls “disinfectant.” 1827—William Blake is released from his earthly form. 1806—In Haverhill, N.H. 10,000 assemble to see Josiah Burnham hanged on his 63rd birthday. He had stabbed two fellow inmates in debtors prison. 1676—John Alderman, a “Praying Indian,” shoots and kills Metacom, aka King Philip. Alderman is awarded the head and one hand. He sells the head to the town of Plymouth where it’s displayed atop a stake for 25 years. Metacom’s wife and child are sold to West Indian slave traders. 10:0510:17 3:483:54	2002—“I promise you I will listen to what has been said here,” says George W.[MD] Bush at the President’s Economic Forum in Waco, Texas, “even though I wasn’t here.” 1971—So-called Attorney General John Mitchell announces that there will be no grand jury investigation of the May 4 shootings at Kent State. 1966—Chairman Mao’s Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution begins. 1966—“In two or three years, or even before” says S. Vietnamese Premier Nguyen Cao Ky, “the Communists will accept defeat.” 1955—Lamar Smith, a black WW I vet and voting activist, is shot dead at 10:00 a.m. on the lawn of the Lincoln County Courthouse in Brookhaven, Miss. No one is charged. 1948—Satchel Paige, 42, throws his first complete game for the Cleveland Indians; a 5-0 shutout. 1925—Baltimore’s Chamber of Commerce accuses H.L. Mencken of damaging the city’s trade with the south due to his reporting of the Scopes “monkey” trial. 1906—African-American soldiers raid Brownsville, Texas to avenge racial insults. One white man is killed, two are wounded. 1899—David Terry, former Chief Justice of the Calif. Supreme Court, assaults U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen J. Field. Terry is shot dead by Field’s bodyguard, a U.S. Marshal later cleared of wrongdoing. 10:5511:04 4:394:43	1968—A Sikorski helicopter headed for Disneyland falls apart in mid-air, killing all 18 on board—84 days after a nearly identical catastrophe. 1966—“As long as the United States and our brave allies are in the field,” says LBJ, “[a Communist takeover of South Vietnam] is impossible.” 1962—Bandits use a fake detour to hijack a U.S. Mail truck in Plymouth, Mass. They get away with \$1.5 million in cash; no one is ever convicted. 1945—Japan surrenders. 1936—In Owensboro, Ky., at 5:30 a.m., 15,000 watch as Rainey Bethea becomes the last person publicly hanged in America. Arthur Hash, the assigned executioner, is so drunk a deputy sheriff has to pull the lever. 1912—U.S. Marines invade Nicaragua to “protect American interests.” 1908—A would-be lynch mob in Springfield, Ill., frustrated that two black men had been removed from jail for their safety, begins to riot. 1884—The coffin of Lieut. Frederick F. Kinslingbury is exhumed and an autopsy performed in Rochester, N.Y., 10 days after the survivors of the Greek expedition were fêted with a parade in Portsmouth, N.H. The heroes appear to have cannibalized his remains. 1862—Abe Lincoln becomes the 1st President to meet a delegation of African-Americans, whom he offends by recommending they remove to Africa. 1765—Boston’s Liberty Tree is christened: two figures are hung in effigy. 11:4011:47 5:245:28	1980—Responding to a surge in the number of skyjackings, the FAA announces an increase in sky marshals on commercial flights. 1977—Ohio State’s Big Ear radio telescope records a 72-second burst suggesting there may be intelligent life ... out there, somewhere. 1971—His budget busted by Vietnam, R. Nixon reneges on the U.S.’s promise to redeem dollars with gold. 1969—Half a million half-naked, drugged-up baby boomers begin a three-day mud wallow in Bethel, N.Y. 1966—<i>The New York Herald Tribune</i>, founded as the <i>Tribune</i> by N.H.-born Horace Greeley 125 years earlier, succumbs to a strike called by a labor union also founded by Greeley. 1953—TR’s grandson Kermit sends Iraq’s Imperial Guard to arrest the Prime Minister, but they’re captured by his guards. The Shah flees to Rome. 1945—To celebrate the end of WW II, San Franciscans conduct a riot. 1943—About 35,000 Allied forces land on Kiska, one of the Rat Islands in the Aleutians. Though unopposed—the Japanese had evacuated two weeks earlier—300 end up missing in action or killed by friendly fire. 1935—Wiley Post and Will Rogers perish in a plane crash at Point Barrow, Alaska. 1908—The Illinois state militia subdues a mob of rioting whites. Seven people are dead; the black part of Springfield is a smoking ruin. 12:2012:27 6:056:09	1977—Elvis allegedly dies. 1971—John Dean writes his boss, Richard Nixon, a memo on how to “use the available federal machinery to screw our political enemies.” 1968—Armed guards subdue—temporarily—228 rioting Marines in the brig at Danang, wounding seven. 1960—USAF Col. Joe Kittinger exits a balloon-lofted gondola 19.4 miles over N.M., falls for 4.5 minutes, reaches 714 m.p.h., and lands safely. 1956—A target drone goes haywire over Los Angeles County. Two F-89s fail to down it but damage a station wagon and two houses, and cause three fires burning 800 acres. 1951—In France, Pont-Saint-Esprit suddenly seems to go mad. Ergot is blamed at first, but later evidence suggests CIA-administered LSD. 1945—Two State Dept. guys in their 30s use a <i>National Geographic</i> map to determine where to split Korea. 1942—Two Navy officers disappear off San Francisco, their unoccupied blimp crashes in Daly City. 1938—Hell hounds catch up with Robert Johnson, 27. 1841—For vetoing a bill re-establishing a bank, protestors hurl rocks at the White House, fire guns in the air, and burn an effigy of “His Accidency.” 1819—British authorities respond to 60,000 peaceful protestors at St. Peter’s Field in Manchester with a cavalry charge. At least 500 are injured but somehow only 15 are killed. 12:5712:57 6:426:47	2008—Maudie Hopkins, widow of Confederate Civil War veteran William M. Cantrell, dies. They married in 1934; he was 86, she 19. 2002—U.S. Generals admit that the U.S. assisted Iraq during its war against Iran knowing that Saddam Hussein would “use chemical weapons against his own people.” 1988—A Pakistani C-130 explodes in mid-air killing President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq. General Pervez Musharraf, also scheduled to be on-board, somehow misses the flight. 1988—J. Danforth Quayle informs the Republican National Convention, “in 1988 the question is whether we’re going forward to tomorrow or whether we’re going to go past to the back!” 1984—Jack Kemp talks the GOP Platform Committee out of using the term “Democrat Party”—for a while. 1965—U.S. Marines begin Operation Starlite, their first major ground offensive in Vietnam. It would have been Satellite, but for a typo. 1962—The L.A. County Coroner declares Marilyn Monroe a suicide. 1959—An earthquake in Montana kills 28 and blocks the Madison River with 80 million tons of rock, forming six-mile long Quake Lake. 1901—During an excursion around New York on the side-wheeler <i>General Slocum</i>, some of a party of 900 intoxicated anarchists from Paterson, N.J. attempt unsuccessfully to take control of the ship. 1:031:31 7:167:23

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