

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 1 of 23

Mon., Aug. 7, 2017

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Kristi Peterson Bookkeeping Ad
- 2- Chicken Soup of the Soul image
- 3- Bull has Yard of the Week
- 4- Death Notice: Genevieve Hoops
- 4- City Council Agenda
- 5- Final Bracket from State Jr. Legion Tourney
- 6- House for Sale
- 7- Today in Weather History
- 8- Today's Forecast
- 9- Yesterday's Weather
- 9- Today's Weather Info
- 9- National Weather Map
- 10- Daily Devotional
- 11- News from the Associated Press

On GDILIVE.COM
City Council Meeting
7 p.m.
Groton Community Center

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper
recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

© 2017 Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7

Senior Menu: Baked pork chop, au gratin potatoes, broccoli, cookie, whole wheat bread.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study at 6:30 a.m.

City Council: Meeting at 7 p.m. at Groton Community Center

Tuesday Aug. 8

Senior Menu: Sloppy joe on wheat bun, oven roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, crunchy cranberry salad.

Olive Grove: Noon bridge, Ladies League at 6 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Church Council at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 9

Senior Menu: Tater tot hot dish, green beans, grape juice, sour cream apple pie square, whole wheat bread.

Olive Grove: Men's League, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 10

Official Notices

Brown County (Updated 7-26)
Groton City Book (updated 7-26)
Groton Area School (updated 7-26)
Frederick Area School Book (updated 7-26)
Westport Town Book (updated 7-26)
Frederick Town (updated 7-18)
Other Official Notices Book
Claremont Town Official Notices Book



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 2 of 23

“Only passions, great
passions can elevate the
soul to great things.”

Denis Diderot

Chicken Soup
for the Soul

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 3 of 23



Bull has Yard of the Week

The Jodi Bull home at 307 E. 4th Ave. was chosen as last week's Yard of the Week of the members of the Groton Garden Club. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 4 of 23

Death Notice: Genevieve Hoops

Genevieve Hoops, 96, of Groton passed away Sunday, August 06, 2017 at Sun Dial Manor, Bristol. Services are pending with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Groton City Council Meeting Agenda

August 7, 2017 – 7:00pm

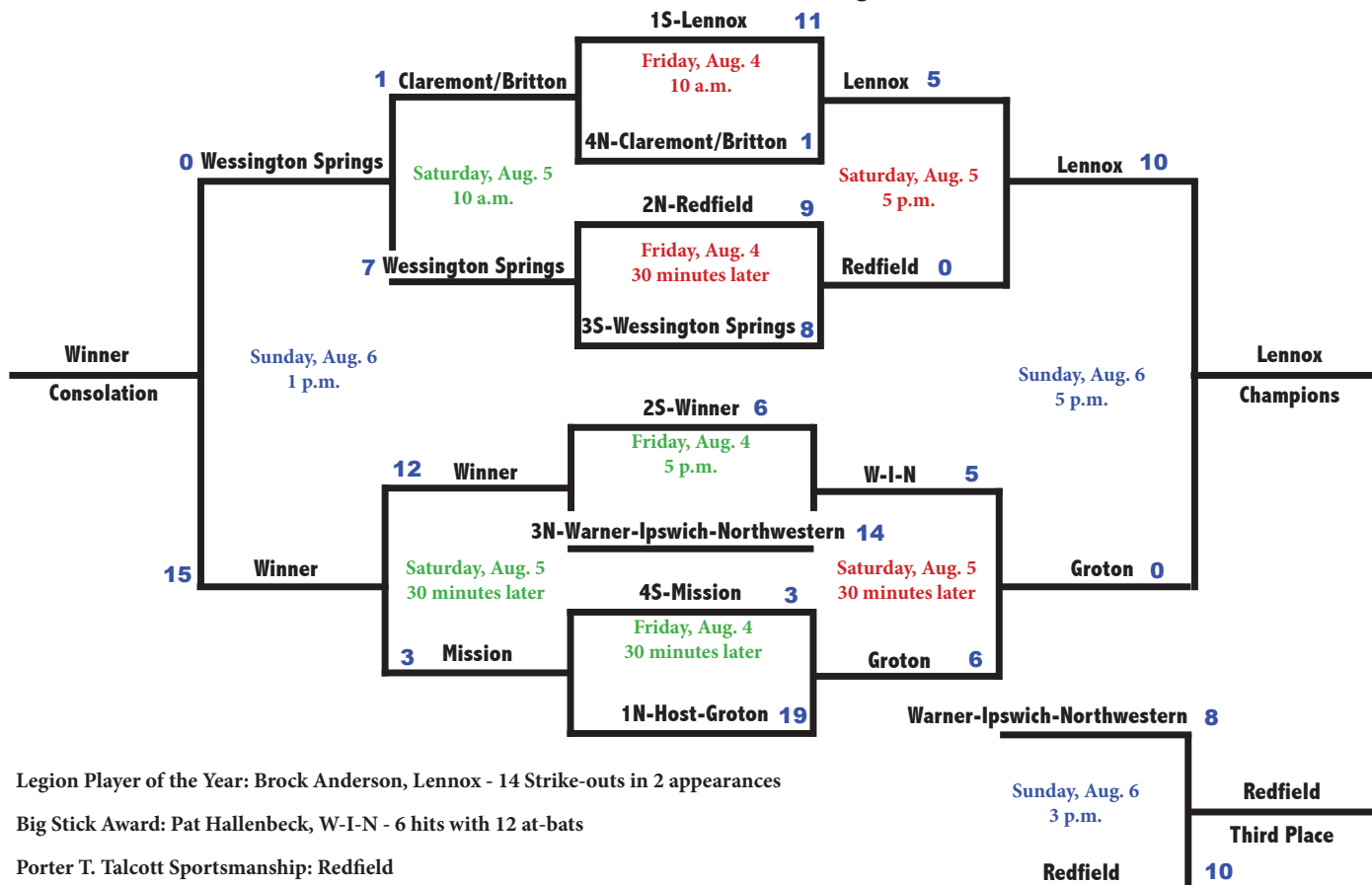
Groton Community Center

1. Minutes
2. Financial Report
3. Bills
4. Department Reports – Herron, Lambertz
5. Approve Herron or Block to sign petition for Les Hinds for Web Board
6. Proposed swimming schedule for year end
7. Approve police grant from Groton Community Fund
 - a. Consider a body camera policy
 - b. Police vehicle concerns
 - c. Butch Radke Benefit
8. Approve Safe Routes to School Grant
9. Cell tower ordinance
10. Utility bill due date change
 - a. Utility rate change
11. Approval to write off a utility account
12. Election Workshop & SDML Annual Conference
13. Renewal of a motion to make the donation to the Chamber with the financial statement requirement pursuant to SDCL 9-12-11
14. Introduction of the 2018 Proposed Budget
15. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 5 of 23

South Dakota American Legion State "B" Jr Baseball Tournament Locke-Karst Field, Groton, S.D. ~ August 4 - 6, 2017



Legion Player of the Year: Brock Anderson, Lennox - 14 Strike-outs in 2 appearances

Big Stick Award: Pat Hallenbeck, W-I-N - 6 hits with 12 at-bats

Porter T. Talcott Sportsmanship: Redfield

Home for Sale



**Comfortable, efficient and great location
2006 home (28X44) with spacious deck and garage.**

\$95,000

Open House August 12th and 13th, 1:00 to 3:00

Contact Bob Walter 605-380-6804.

16 E 4th Ave., Groton

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 7 of 23

Today in Weather History

August 7, 1968: From 9 miles north of Isabel, hail up to golf ball size was observed with a severe thunderstorm. This storm continued moving in a southeast direction, causing extensive damage to crops, trees, utility lines, and structures. A radio tower was blown over near Huron, and a wind gust of 115 mph was reported at Huron. A woman was swept from a roof in Huron and was critically injured.

August 7, 2009: A supercell thunderstorm developed across the northern Black Hills and moved eastward across the Sturgis area, southern Meade County, northeastern Pennington County, Haakon County, and northeastern Jackson County. The storm produced baseball sized hail near Sturgis, then high winds and hail larger than baseball sized developed as the storm moved across the plains. The storm hit Sturgis during the annual motorcycle rally and caused extensive damage to motorcycles, vehicles, and property. Minor injuries from the hail were also reported.

August 7, 2010: An EF4 tornado touched down south of Tyler in Richland County North Dakota and tracked to the northeast for roughly 2.5 miles before crossing the Bois de Sioux River into Wilkin County, Minnesota. In Wilkin County, the tornado continued for another 2.5 miles and lifted about 650 pm CDT. The total track length was about 5 miles, and peak winds were estimated at 175 mph.

1904 - A flash flood near Pueblo, CO, washed a train from the tracks killing 89 passengers. A bridge, weakened by the floodwaters sweeping through the valley below, gave way under the weight of the train dashing all but the sleeping cars into the torrent drowning the occupants. Rail service was frequently interrupted in the Rocky Mountain Region and southwestern U.S. that summer due to numerous heavy downpours which washed out the railroad beds delaying trains as much as five days. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1918 - Philadelphia, PA, established an all-time record with a high of 106 degrees. New York City experienced its warmest day and night with a low of 82 degrees and a high of 102 degrees. Afternoon highs of 108 degrees at Flemington NJ and Somerville NJ established state records for the month of August. (The Weather Channel) (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1924: A tornado caused estimated F4 damage moved southeast from south of Osseo, WI to Black River Falls, WI. One person was killed as a home was leveled and a boy was killed running to the storm cellar near the start of the path. Two people died as farm homes were swept away near the northeast edge of Black River Falls. Damage totaled \$200,000 as 50 farms were hit and buildings were unroofed in the town of Northfield. The tornado followed the present route of Interstate 94.

1980: Hurricane Allen bottomed out at 899 millibars (26.55 inches of mercury) while moving through the Yucatan Channel in the southeastern part of the Gulf of Mexico. Allen was the second lowest pressure ever recorded in the Western Hemisphere up to that time. Allen's winds at the time were sustained at 190 mph.

1984 - El Paso, TX, normally receives 1.21 inches of rain in August. They got it in forty-five minutes, with four more inches to boot, during a storm which left Downtown El Paso under five feet of water. (The Weather Channel)

1986 - A rare outbreak of seven tornadoes occurred in New England. One tornado carved its way through Cranston RI and Providence RI causing twenty injuries. Rhode Island had not reported a tornado in twelve years, and three touched down in 24 hours. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)








1987 - Morning thunderstorms drenched Goldsboro, NC, with 3.37 inches of rain. Late morning thunderstorms in Arizona produced dime size hail, wind gusts to 50 mph, and two inches of rain, at Sierra Vista. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

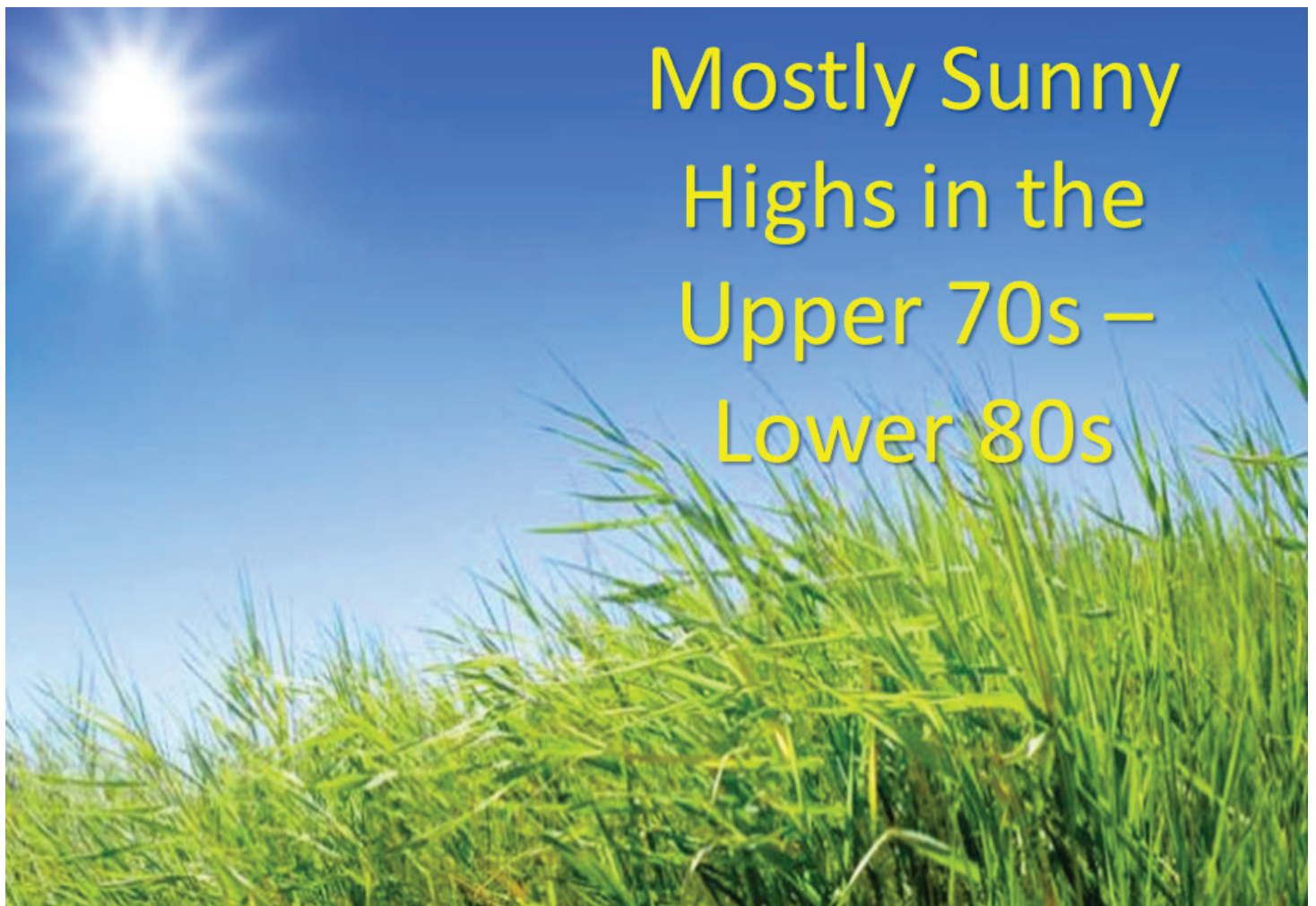
1988 - A dozen cities in the central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Waco, TX, with a reading of 107 degrees. The record high of 88 degrees at Marquette, MI, was their twenty-third of the year. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather in Nebraska, Minnesota and Wisconsin, with wind gusts to 81 mph reported at McCool, NE. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Forty cities in the central U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Valentine, NE, with a reading of 40 degrees, and Belcourt ND with a low of 37 degrees. Martin SD was the cold spot in the nation with a morning low of 30 degrees. Unseasonably hot weather prevailed over Florida and Washington State, with record highs of 100 degrees at Daytona Beach, FL, 101 degrees at Walla Walla, WA, and 103 degrees at Hanford, WA. (The National Weather Summary)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 8 of 23

Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
						
Patchy Fog then Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Slight Chance T-storms
High: 80 °F	Low: 52 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 58 °F	High: 78 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 76 °F



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 8/7/2017 4:11 AM Central

Published on: 08/07/2017 at 4:15AM

High pressure over the region will bring mostly sunny skies, along with light and variable winds. Highs will climb into the upper 70s, to the lower 80s.

Groton Daily Independent

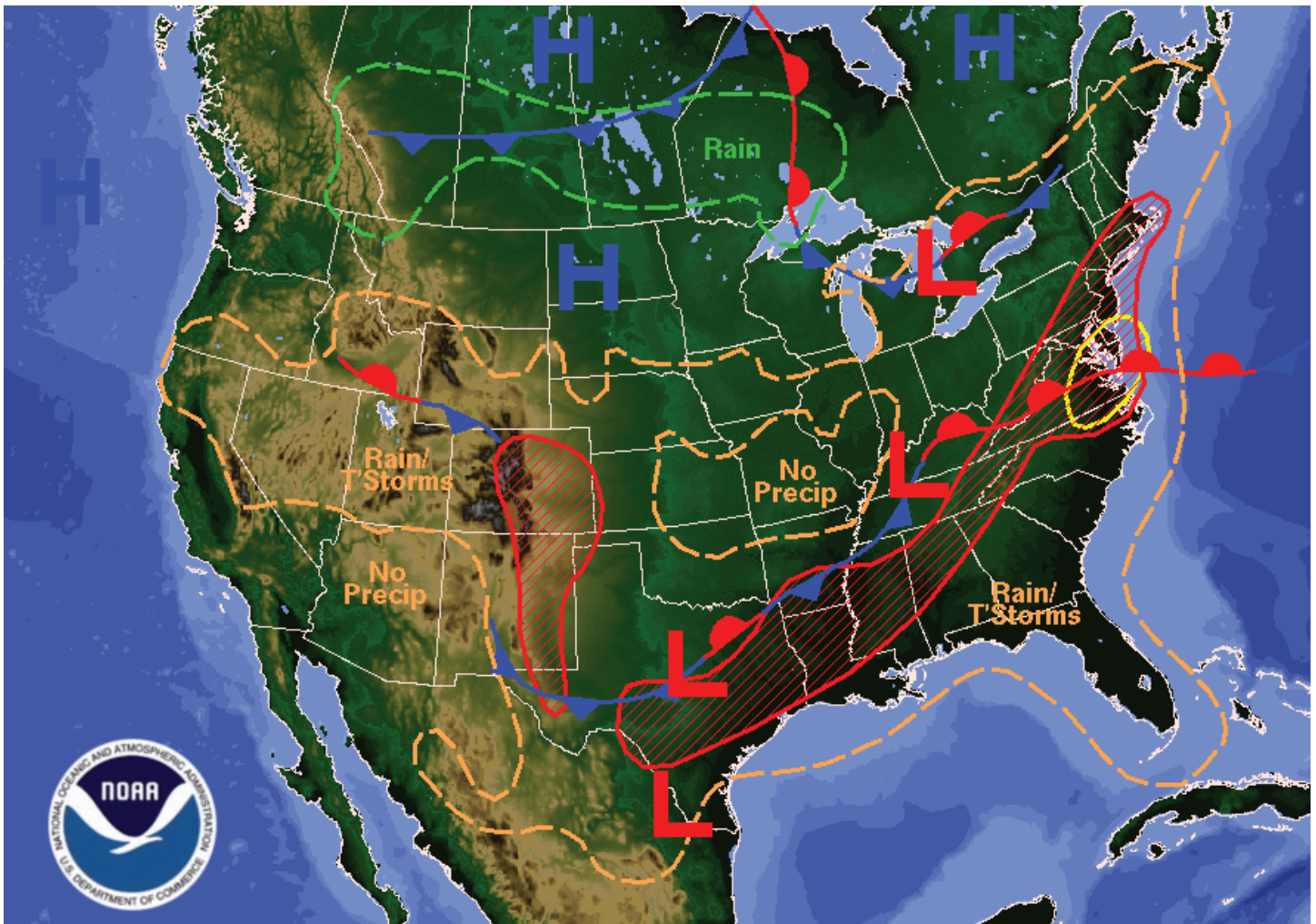
Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 9 of 23

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 72.4 F at 2:53 PM
Low Outside Temp: 59.9 F at 10:53 PM
High Gust: 13.0 Mph at 3:12 PM
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 102° in 1949
Record Low: 42° in 1921
Average High: 83°F
Average Low: 58°F
Average Precip in Aug: 0.55
Precip to date in Aug: 0.78
Average Precip to date: 14.41
Precip Year to Date: 8.13
Sunset Tonight: 8:52 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:26 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Aug 07, 2017, issued 4:47 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 10 of 23



SIN AND FORGIVENESS

"Are we sinners because we sin or do we sin because we are sinners?" asked the Sunday school teacher. An immediate debate erupted in the class as the members attempted to sort out the issues.

Finally, Jess quoted Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." "Seems to me," he continued, "that if everyone 'falls short' we must all be sinners because we all sin. Someone other than Jesus might have slipped through. Certainly, not me."

In Psalm 32 David uses the words transgress and sin. Transgress means to step across or to go beyond a set boundary. It carries with it the idea of an athlete stepping out of bounds while competing in a contest. The word sin means to miss the mark – like failing a test or not meeting a specific standard.

If we recognize God's laws as boundaries, we would all have to admit that we have stepped beyond the limits for right living that God set. And where is that person who can say that they have hit the target and meet every standard that God has set for them?

Though David speaks of iniquity, sin and transgression, he emphasizes forgiveness and the fact that our sins can be removed. He writes, "Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him." Paul quotes these same words in Romans.

Thank God that Paul explains what we are to do if we want our sins removed: "For by grace you can be saved – your sins removed – through God's gift!"

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for Your salvation which is only possible through Your Son, our Savior. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 32:1 Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 11 of 23

News from the Associated Press

South Dakota Air Guard selects 1st female wing command chief

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Air National Guard has its first female wing command chief. Chief Master Sgt. Zona Hornstra officially took over at a ceremony Saturday as wing command chief of the 114th Fighter Wing.

Hornstra has been with the South Dakota Air National Guard since 1997. She spent 17 years in a medical capacity and rose to the superintendent of A1 at the South Dakota Air National Guard's headquarters.

The Argus Leader reports she is now the senior enlisted leader in the organization.

Hornstra said she appreciates all the women who have served the nation and paved the way for her to become wing command chief.

She takes over in the position from Chief Master Sgt. Michael Clauson.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

University, tech school pair up in South Dakota

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — A four-year university and a tech school in South Dakota are hoping a recently expanded partnership between the two will allow students to learn both skilled trades and liberal arts.

Dakota Wesleyan University and Mitchell Technical Institute are teaming up to offer a new four-year program that pairs construction with entrepreneurship, the Argus Leader reported.

The students would take classes from both schools at the same time.

"It's not one or the other," said Fredel Thomas, dean of admissions and marketing at the university. "It's both, and both can work together to grow the workforce."

Enrollment is open for the new bachelor's degree in entrepreneurship with an emphasis in residential or commercial construction.

The two schools partners last year for a bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in agriculture. Thomas said the response to that program was overwhelmingly positive.

"The fact that you're benefiting from small classes at a private, baccalaureate school and then coming to a school like Mitchell Tech and getting hands-on, experiential learning ... I can't think of a better way to benefit students," said Julie Brookbank, associate to the president at Mitchell Tech.

Brookbank said the program will help many construction students who want to own their own business can now better understand the business side of the equation.

"Small businesses don't succeed sometimes because the operator doesn't have the business knowledge," Brookbank said. "DWU's experience in entrepreneurial leadership will provide the kind of structure and coursework that a student would greatly benefit from."

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

North Korea vows harsh retaliation against new UN sanctions

By HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea vowed Monday to bolster its nuclear arsenal and launch "thousands-fold" revenge against the United States in response to tough U.N. sanctions imposed after its recent intercontinental ballistic missile launches.

The warning came two days after the U.N. Security Council unanimously approved new sanctions to punish North Korea, including a ban on coal and other exports worth over \$1 billion. The U.S. ambassador to the U.N., Nikki Haley, called the U.S.-drafted resolution "the single largest economic sanctions package ever leveled against" North Korea.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 12 of 23

In a statement carried by state media, the North Korean government said the sanctions were a "violent infringement of its sovereignty" that was caused by a "heinous U.S. plot to isolate and stifle" North Korea.

It said the U.N. sanctions will never force the country to negotiate over its nuclear program or to give up its push to strengthen its nuclear capability as long as U.S. hostility and nuclear threats persist. The North said it will take an "action of justice," but didn't elaborate.

"It's a wild idea to think the DPRK will be shaken and change its position due to this kind of new sanctions formulated by hostile forces," said the statement, carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency. DPRK stands for the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The North's statement "rhetorically expresses its anger" against the U.N. sanctions, but the country is not likely to launch a direct provocation against the United States, said Lim Eul Chul, a North Korea expert at South Korea's Kyungnam University. He said the North could still carry out new missile tests or a sixth atomic bomb test in the coming months under its broader weapons development timetable.

North Korea test-launched two ICBMs last month as part of its efforts to possess a long-range missile capable of striking anywhere in the mainland U.S. Both missiles were fired at highly lofted angles and analysts say the weapons could reach parts of the United States including Alaska, Los Angeles and Chicago if fired at a normal, flattened trajectory.

The centerpiece of the U.N. sanctions is a ban on North Korean exports of coal, iron, lead and seafood products — and a ban on all countries importing those products, estimated to be worth over \$1 billion a year in hard currency. The resolution also bans countries from giving any additional permits to North Korean laborers, another source of foreign currency for the North, and prohibits all new joint ventures with North Korean companies.

According to a Security Council diplomat, coal has been North Korea's largest export, earning \$1.2 billion last year. It was then restricted by the Security Council in November to a maximum of \$400 million. This year, Pyongyang is estimated to have earned \$251 million from iron and iron ore exports, \$113 million from lead and lead ore exports, and \$295 million from fish and seafood exports, the diplomat said. The diplomat was not authorized to speak publicly and insisted on anonymity.

Analysts say that North Korea, already under numerous U.N. and other international sanctions, will feel some pains from the new U.N. sanctions but won't likely return to disarmament negotiations anytime soon because of them.

Lim, the North Korea expert, said the North will likely squeeze its ordinary citizens to help finance its nuclear and missile programs. Shin Beomchul of the Seoul-based Korea National Diplomatic Academy said the North won't likely return to disarmament talks unless there are sanctions that require China to stop sending its annual, mostly free shipment of 500,000 tons of crude oil to North Korea and order U.N. member states to deport the existing tens of thousands of North Korean workers dispatched abroad.

Associated Press writer Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations contributed to this report.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about Monday:

1. NATIONS RACE TO PREVENT BACKSLIDING ON NORTH KOREA SANCTIONS

Armed with extraordinary new U.N. sanctions, the world is working to ensure that North Korea's biggest trading partners actually carry them out. Pyongyang, meanwhile, vows to retaliate .

2. VENEZUELA TROOPS QUASH ANTI-MADURO ATTACK

The soldiers prevail against a small band of anti-government fighters who snuck onto a Venezuelan army base, apparently intent on fomenting an uprising.

3. WHY TRUMP MIGHT NOT NEED A COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

It's the president himself who's the White House's leading expert and the final word on what and how he communicates with the public.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 13 of 23

4. WHAT PENCE IS PUSHING BACK AGAINST

The vice president pushes back against a report suggesting he's laying the groundwork for a possible 2020 presidential bid if Trump doesn't run.

5. WHERE PAUL RYAN CAN'T ESCAPE QUESTIONS ABOUT GOP

Back home, touring flood-damaged areas in Wisconsin, the House speaker can't avoid being asked about a dysfunctional Congress on recess.

6. WHICH COUNTRY WANTS TO SHUT DOWN AL-JAZEERA

Israel's decision to close the Jerusalem bureau of Qatar's flagship satellite network has drawn a rebuke from the channel, which says the measure was "undemocratic" and that it will take legal action.

7. UN COMMISSIONER RESIGNS IN FRUSTRATION

Renowned former war crimes prosecutor Carla Del Ponte says she's quitting a U.N. panel of inquiry on Syria, decrying Security Council inaction to hold criminals accountable.

8. TRANSGENDER DAY CAMP IS A PIONEER

A California transgender day camp for kids ages 4 to 12 sees surge that gender experts say reflects sharp increases at clinics.

9. SINGER'S NEXT VENUE: HE-SAID, SHE-SAID CIVIL TRIAL

Jurors will decide whether a radio host groped Taylor Swift during a photo op — and whether she and her team got him fired.

10. WHICH FORMER BASEBALL ALL-STAR DIED

Darren Daulton, the catcher who was the leader of the Philadelphia Phillies' NL championship team in 1993, has died. He was 55.

Nations race to prevent backsliding on North Korea sanctions

By **JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press**

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Armed with extraordinary new U.N. sanctions, nations raced Monday to ensure that North Korea's biggest trading partners actually carry them out, an elusive task that has undercut past attempts to strong-arm Pyongyang into abandoning its nuclear weapons.

North Korea reacted angrily, vowing to bolster its nuclear arsenal and launch "thousands-fold" revenge against the United States. In a statement carried by state media, Kim Jong Un's government called the sanctions a "violent infringement of its sovereignty" caused by a "heinous U.S. plot to isolate and stifle" North Korea.

As President Donald Trump demanded full and speedy implementation of the new penalties, his top diplomat laid out a narrow path for the North to return to negotiations that could ultimately see sanctions lifted. Stop testing missiles for an "extended period," Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said, and the U.S. might deem North Korea ready to talk.

"We'll know it when we see it," Tillerson said. "This is not a 'give me 30 days and we are ready to talk.' It's not quite that simple. So it is all about how we see their attitude towards approaching a dialogue with us."

Even as they celebrate a diplomatic victory in persuading China and Russia to sign on to cutting new sanctions, the U.S. and other countries are deeply concerned that failure to rigorously enforce them could significantly blunt their impact. Since Saturday's U.N. Security Council vote, Washington has put Beijing in particular on notice that it's watching closely to ensure China doesn't repeat its pattern of carrying out sanctions for a while, then returning to business as usual with the pariah nation on its border.

Such concerns were on display Sunday in a dizzying display of fast-paced diplomacy spanning multiple continents.

South Korea's foreign minister joined her counterparts from the U.S. and Japan for a meeting in the Philippines in which Tillerson touted efforts to persuade nations to stop using North Korean labor. The American and Japanese diplomats held another three-way session with Australia. The South Korean envoy held a rare but brief meeting in Manila with North Korea's top diplomat, who also spoke by phone with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who had discussed the sanctions with Tillerson a day before.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 14 of 23

In a phone call requested by Seoul, Trump and newly installed South Korean President Moon Jae-in committed jointly to "fully implement all relevant resolutions and to urge the international community to do so as well," the White House said. Moon's office said that he and Trump had agreed to apply "the maximum pressure and sanction."

The penalties, approved unanimously Saturday by the Security Council, aim to cut off roughly one-third of North Korea's estimated \$3 billion in annual exports, ostensibly starving the nation of funds for its weapons programs. All countries are now banned from importing North Korean coal, iron, lead and seafood products, and from letting in more North Korean laborers who sent remittances back into the country.

Yet already, there are signs that nations with the strongest ties to North Korea may fall short of the stringent enforcement that Trump and others seek. Although Russia voted for the sanctions, its U.N. ambassador, Vasily Nebenzya, told the Security Council that sanctions "cannot be a goal in itself" and "shall not be used for economic strangling" of North Korea, according to the Russian state news agency Tass.

Still, the key concern is over China, the North's economic lifeline and biggest trading partner.

John Delury, a China and North Korea expert at Yonsei University in Seoul, noted that the Chinese population that lives along the 800-mile (1,300-km) border with North Korea is already struggling financially. Triggering an economic meltdown in North Korea would inevitably produce a spillover effect in China, he said.

"They're almost going from sanctions to embargo and really trying to slam the North Korean economy," Delury said. "If you really start to go down that path, I'm not sure how far the Chinese will go down with you."

The other mounting concern: that by the time the sanctions really start cutting into the North's economy, potentially changing the government's thinking about the wisdom of pursuing nuclear weapons, it may be too late.

Two unprecedented tests of intercontinental ballistic missiles by North Korea last month were the latest signs that its weapons program is approaching the point of no return. While the North now boasts missiles it says can reach major U.S. cities, it is not believed to have mastered the ability to cap them with nuclear warheads, but that step may not be far off.

Tillerson conceded there would likely be a lag period before the sanctions "actually have a practical bite on their revenues."

"I think perhaps the more important element to that is just the message that this sends to North Korea about the unacceptability the entire international community finds what they're doing to be," he said.

Associated Press writer Hyung-jin Kim in Seoul, South Korea, contributed to this report.

Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP>

Minnesota mosque explosion 'deeper and scarier' than threats

By JEFF BAENEN, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Dar Al-Farooq Islamic Center in suburban Minneapolis, like other U.S. mosques, occasionally receives threatening calls and emails. Its leaders say they're more frightened now after an explosive shattered windows and damaged a room as worshippers prepared for morning prayers.

"We feel like it's much deeper and scarier than like something random," Mohamed Omar, the center's executive director, said Sunday. "It's so scary."

No one was hurt in the blast, which happened around 5 a.m. Saturday. Windows of the imam's office were shattered, either by what the FBI called an "improvised explosive device" or by an object thrown through them. The FBI is seeking suspects and trying to determine whether the incident was a hate crime.

Gov. Mark Dayton joined other public officials and community leaders for a meeting inside the building Sunday, describing the bombing as "so wretched" and "not Minnesota."

"This is an act of terrorism. This is against the law in America," Dayton said at a news conference afterward, the Star Tribune reported .

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 15 of 23

Besides serving as a place of worship and community center, the mosque in Bloomington, just south of Minneapolis, has a fitness center, gymnasiums for boys and girls, a football field and adjoins a city park, Omar said. He estimates the mosque holds up to 300 worshippers for Friday prayers. The community center also hosts computer classes, a basketball league, religious classes, lectures and other events.

"It's a place that a family can come and get everything they need," Omar said.

The mosque opened in 2011 at the site of a former elementary school in the suburb of about 85,000, and serves people primarily from the area's large Somali community. Minnesota is home to the largest Somali community in the U.S., roughly 57,000 people, according to the latest census.

Some residents opposed the center's opening, and complaints have been made about parking, noise and traffic, the Star Tribune reported. Omar said the center gets along with "92, 93 percent" of its neighbors.

And while the mosque has received threatening calls and messages, Deputy Bloomington Police Chief Mike Hartley said Sunday he was unaware of any hate crimes reported at the center.

Reports of anti-Muslim incidents in the U.S. are increasing, including arson attacks and vandalism at mosques, harassment of women wearing Muslim head coverings and bullying of Muslim schoolchildren. Also in Minnesota, an Islamic cemetery in Castle Rock Township recently reported it had been vandalized with spray painted profanities and swastikas.

A U.S. Department of Homeland Security statement on the Bloomington explosion says the department "fully supports the rights of all to freely and safely worship the faith of their choosing and we vigorously condemn such attacks on any religious institution."

The reward for information leading to an arrest or conviction has grown to \$24,000, said Asad Zaman, director of the Muslim American Society of Minnesota. The Minnesota chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR, said its national office is urging Islamic centers and mosques to step up security.

"If a bias motive is proven, this attack would represent another in a long list of hate incidents targeting Islamic institutions nationwide in recent months," said Amir Malik, the local chapter's civil rights director.

Follow Jeff Baenen on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/jeffbienen>. Find more of his work at <https://apnews.com/search/jeff%20baenen>

Sign up for the AP's weekly newsletter showcasing our best reporting from the Midwest and Texas: <http://apne.ws/2u1RMfv>

Maduro vows 'maximum penalty' for attack on Venezuela base

By JUAN CARLOS HERNANDEZ, Associated Press

VALENCIA, Venezuela (AP) — President Nicolas Maduro vowed that a band of anti-government fighters who attacked a Venezuelan army base will get the "maximum penalty" as his administration roots out his enemies.

Troops killed two of the 20 intruders who slipped into the Paramacay base in the central city of Valencia early Sunday, apparently intent on fomenting a military uprising, Maduro said in his weekly broadcast on state television.

One of the invaders was injured, seven captured and 10 got away, the embattled leader said.

"We know where they are headed and all of our military and police force is deployed," Maduro said. He said he would ask for "the maximum penalty for those who participated in this terrorist attack."

The attack came as Venezuela's controversial constitutional assembly is getting down to work, signaling in its initial decrees last week that delegates will target Maduro's foes as he had warned.

The new assembly, whose powers supersede all other branches of government, voted to remove the nation's outspoken chief prosecutor Saturday. On Sunday, Maduro announced that a new "truth commission" created by the assembly had been installed to impose justice on those fueling the unrest that has wracked the country since early April.

The constitutional assembly is expected to meet again Tuesday, while lawmakers in the opposition-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 16 of 23

controlled National Assembly scheduled their own session for Monday, vowing to continue fulfilling their responsibilities no matter what the assembly might do. Leaders of opposition groups, which boycotted the July 30 assembly election, called for renewed protests on Monday, though turnout at demonstrations has been sparse in recent days.

Residents who live near the army base in Valencia attacked Sunday said they began hearing bursts of gunfire around 4:30 a.m.

A video showing more than a dozen men dressed in military fatigues, some carrying rifles, began circulating widely on social media around that time. In the recording, a man who identified himself as Capt. Juan Caguaripano said the men were members of the military who oppose Maduro's socialist government and called on military units to declare themselves in open rebellion.

"This is not a coup d'état," the man said. "This is a civic and military action to re-establish the constitutional order."

Maduro said 20 men entered the base and managed to reach the weapons depot undetected, but then an alarm sounded alerting troops to the incursion. He said 10 of the invaders fled, some carrying off arms, while those left behind exchanged gunfire with soldiers until about 8 a.m. before all were either killed or captured.

"Today we had to defeat terrorism with bullets," Maduro said.

Nearby residents who saw the dissident group's video online gathered around the military base chanting "Freedom!" Other protests also emerged around Valencia into the afternoon. Troops dispersed protesters with tear gas and a man was fatally shot at a demonstration less than a mile from the base, said Haydee Franco, coordinating secretary of the opposition Progressive Advance party.

More than 120 people have been reported killed in four months of unrest that has been fueled by anger at the socialist government over food shortages, soaring inflation and high crime.

Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino Lopez characterized the attackers as a "paramilitary" expedition, saying the intruders were civilians dressed in uniforms. He did not identify any of the participants, but said they included a lieutenant who had abandoned his post. He said the man who recorded the video was a former officer dismissed three years ago after being charged with rebellion and betraying the homeland.

In 2014, Caguaripano released a 12-minute video denouncing Maduro during a previous wave of anti-government unrest. He later reportedly sought exile after a military tribunal ordered his arrest, appearing in an interview on CNN en Espanol to draw attention to what he said was discontent within military ranks.

Venezuela's latest bout of political unrest erupted in protest to a Supreme Court decision in late March ordering the National Assembly dissolved. Although the order was quickly lifted, near-daily demonstrations snowballed into a general protest calling for a new presidential election.

Opposition leaders have urged the military, which historically has served as an arbiter of Venezuela's political disputes, to break with Maduro over what his foes consider violations of the constitution. But the president is believed to still have the military's support.

Like Sunday's uprising, most manifestations of dissent among troops have been small and isolated so far.

"It's still very hard to know to what extent there are significant divisions within the military," Michael Shifter, president of the Washington-based Inter-American Dialogue, said recently.

US to respond by Sept. 1 to Russia's expulsion of diplomats

By JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The Trump administration has yet to decide how to respond to Russia's move to expel hundreds of American diplomats, but plans to deliver a response to Moscow by Sept. 1, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said Monday.

A day after sitting down in the Philippines with Russia's top diplomat, Tillerson said he'd asked "clarifying questions" about the Kremlin's retaliation announced last month following new sanctions passed by Congress and signed by President Donald Trump. The Trump administration has struggled to determine how the move will affect the U.S. diplomatic presence in Russia, as well as the broader implications for

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 17 of 23

the troubled relationship between the nuclear-armed powers.

Despite the Russian move, which seemed to plunge the two countries even further into acrimony, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov emerged from the meeting declaring a readiness for more engagement with the U.S. on North Korea, Syria and Ukraine, among other issues. Tillerson broadly echoed that sentiment, saying the two countries had critical national security issues to discuss despite deep disagreements on some matters.

"I don't think it is useful to just cut everything off on one single issue," Tillerson said following his first meeting with Lavrov since the new sanctions were imposed. "These are two very large countries and we should find places that we can work together, let's try to work together. Places we have our differences, we're going to have to continue to find a way to address those."

Tillerson also said that Russia has been showing "some willingness" to start talking about a resolution to the crisis in Ukraine, devoid of real progress for years. That assessment came as Lavrov announced that the Trump administration had committed to sending its new special envoy for Ukraine negotiations, Kurt Volker, to Moscow to discuss next steps.

Yet several obstacles hang over any attempt to pursue a more functional U.S.-Russia relationship: the new U.S. sanctions, Russia's retaliatory move to expel diplomats, and the ongoing U.S. Justice Department investigation into Russia's election meddling and potential Trump campaign collusion.

Fearing Trump might move inappropriately to ease sanctions on Russia, Congress last month passed new legislation that both added more sanctions and made it harder for the president to lift them. Trump and Tillerson opposed the legislation, but facing a likely veto override, Trump begrudgingly signed the bill.

Moscow's response to the sanctions was to announce it would force the U.S. to cut its embassy and consulate staff in Russia by 755 people. That move stoked confusion in Washington, given that the U.S. is believed to have far fewer than 755 American employees in Russia.

Lavrov, describing his meeting with Tillerson, said Russia and the U.S. had agreed to resume a high-level diplomatic channel that Moscow had suspended after a previous U.S. move to tighten existing Russia sanctions.

"We felt that our American counterparts need to keep the dialogue open," Lavrov said. "There's no alternative to that."

Trump's administration has argued there's good reason for the U.S. to seek a more productive relationship. Tillerson has cited modest signs of progress in Syria, where the U.S. and Russia recently brokered a cease-fire in the war-torn country's southwest, as a sign there's fertile ground for cooperation.

The Syrian cease-fire reflected a return of U.S.-Russia cooperation to lower violence there. The U.S. had looked warily at a series of safe zones in Syria that Russia had negotiated along with Turkey and Iran — but not the U.S.

Lavrov cited upcoming talks involving Russia, Iran and Turkey about how to ensure the truce in the last safe zone to be established, around the north-western city of Idlib. He predicted "it will be difficult" to hammer out the details but that compromise can be reached if all parties — including the U.S. — use their influence in Syria to persuade armed groups there to comply.

Tillerson said Russian meddling in the election had "created serious mistrust between our two countries." Although he and other Cabinet officials have maintained that position consistently, Trump has repeatedly questioned U.S. intelligence about Moscow's involvement while denying any collusion with his campaign.

Word that Volker, the Ukraine envoy, plans to visit the Russian capital was the latest sign that Washington was giving fresh attention to resolving the Ukraine conflict. The U.S. cut military ties to Russia over Moscow's annexation of Crimea and accuses the Kremlin of fomenting unrest in eastern Ukraine by arming, supporting and even directing pro-Russian separatists there who are fighting the Kiev government.

In recent days, the Trump administration has been considering providing lethal weaponry to Ukraine to help defend itself against Russian aggression.

Associated Press writers Nataliya Vasilyeva in Moscow and Deb Riechmann in Washington contributed

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 18 of 23

to this report.

Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP>

Venezuelans watch the military for signs of fraying loyalty

By JORGE RUEDA and JOSHUA GOODMAN, Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — As Venezuela's political crisis spins further out of control, many are looking to the military to see if its once-unflinching loyalty to the socialist revolution might be fraying.

On Sunday morning, Venezuelans awoke to news that a small group of armed men tried to take over a major military base in the central city of Valencia after a long-mutinuous national guard captain appeared in a video calling for rebellion.

The government said what it described as a "terrorist attack" led mostly by civilians dressed in fatigues and deserted officers, not active troops, was quickly put down and seven people were arrested. It wasn't clear how much support existed for the so-called "Operation David," but dozens of civilians startled by the sound of gunfire poured into the streets singing Venezuela's national anthem to back the rebels.

Many people wonder whether the tension-filled incident could foreshadow a bigger uprising to come from a military with a long history of rebellion and whose troops — like many Venezuelans — are increasingly caught up in the nation's economic and political crisis.

Analysts say that such a scenario is unlikely for now.

While signs of disgruntlement are growing as security forces come under a barrage of rocks and Molotov cocktails during almost-daily anti-Maduro protests, soldiers also fear persecution under an opposition government. In addition, they face risks that any plans for a secret uprising would be found out.

"They feel trapped," said former army Gen. Hebert Garcia Plaza, a former Maduro minister. Since seeking exile in Washington in 2015 following accusations of corruption by Maduro, he has emerged as a sought-after filter of information for journalists, the opposition and, increasingly he says, distraught soldiers.

"There's lots of unease, but they can't provoke a political change without a clear horizon of what comes after Maduro," Garcia Plaza said.

Venezuela's military accumulated unmatched power and privilege in the past two decades of socialist rule, and Maduro has been increasingly relying on the armed forces as his own grip on power weakens. Last week, with the support of top generals, he plowed forward with a plan to seat an all-powerful assembly mandated with rewriting the constitution. Political opponents and dozens of foreign governments consider it an illegitimate power grab that will strip Venezuela of its last vestiges of democracy.

The opposition is urging the military to switch loyalties and pressure Maduro to cede to its demands, including freeing hundreds of political prisoners and setting a timetable for presidential elections. But many in the military, especially higher-ranking officers, have already hitched their fate to the revolution.

Following a 2002 coup, then-President Hugo Chavez, himself a former tank commander, carried out a deep purge of the military and promoted loyal officers to top positions in the government.

Maduro has expanded the military's political power even further, giving them control of key sectors of the economy, such as food importation. He also rewarded soldiers with pay raises and bonuses that are the envy of civilians struggling amid triple-digit inflation and widespread shortages.

Even before the ballots were counted in the July 30 election for the constitutional assembly, Defense Minister Gen. Vladimir Padrino Lopez went in front of the cameras accompanied by the top military brass to celebrate the results as a defeat for imperialism.

Despite the outward loyalty, some cracks began to appear even before Sunday's attack. At least 106 members of the armed forces, some of them junior officers, have been jailed for alleged crimes such as rebellion and treason since protests began in April, according to the lists provided by an army official on the condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal. There also have been a few high-profile defections from lower-ranked soldiers that have become social media sensations.

One is Giomar Flores, a low-ranking naval intelligence officer who in June released a video calling for

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 19 of 23

the armed forces to uphold the constitution. Before fleeing to Colombia, where the video was recorded, he was assigned to policing food lines in Falcon state, a job that in theory afforded access to hard-to-find staples but which ended up turning him against the institution he loved.

"I decided my future was worth more than a bag of food," the 25-year-old Flores said in an interview with The Associated Press from Bogota.

He said the top military command was corrupted by the government and divisions within the institution more apparent than ever.

"The armed forces today are like a snake, whose head is the top command that sadly is subordinated to the regime," Flores said. "If you cut off the head, you'll find us the troops."

But a full-grown rebellion such as the one led by then-Lt. Col. Chavez in 1992 faces enormous obstacles, not the least of which is a dedicated counterespionage effort by Maduro.

"It's very hard to create critical mass without being found out," said Ivan Briscoe, head Latin American analyst for the International Crisis Group. "In an era of instant digital communications, authorities can be alerted to the risk of destabilization very quickly."

Far from resolving Venezuela's problems, a coup would trigger a full-blown international crisis and likely split the military, leading to even higher levels of violence approaching a civil war, Briscoe said. Opposition leaders, wary of awakening ghosts in a region that has turned its back on a century of military takeovers, are instead calling for behind-the-scenes pressure and restraint on using force against protesters.

A failure of the socialist system also could expose many senior officers to prosecution for human rights abuses and corruption. Several have already been targeted by U.S. sanctions, including the head of the army and national guard.

The opposition has gone to great lengths to say it will avoid a witch hunt if it gains power. But many in the military are unconvinced that any promises from the traditionally fragmented opposition can be taken seriously, given the huge challenges it would face governing, Garcia Plaza said.

"Many would rather trust the devil they know than the one they don't," he said.

Associated Press writer Jorge Rueda reported this story in Caracas and AP writer Joshua Goodman reported from Bogota, Colombia.

Welcome boost from China to global pressure on North Korea

By JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A global pressure campaign on North Korea propelled by sharp new U.N. sanctions received a welcome boost Sunday from China, the North's economic lifeline, as Beijing called on its neighbor to halt its missile and nuclear tests.

The Trump administration cautiously embraced China's apparent newfound cooperation, while putting it on notice that the U.S. would be watching closely to ensure it didn't ease up on North Korea if and when the world's attention is diverted elsewhere. But there were no signs the U.S. would acquiesce to China's call for a quick return to negotiations.

The diplomatic wrangling sought to build on the sweeping new North Korea sanctions passed by the U.N. Security Council a day earlier — the strongest in a generation, the U.S. said.

As diplomats gathered in the Philippines for an annual regional meeting, President Donald Trump was cheering the move. He cited the "very big financial impact" of the sanctions and noted optimistically that both China and Russia had joined in the unanimous vote. On Sunday, following a late-night conversation with South Korean President Moon Jae-in, Trump tweeted: "Just completed call with President Moon of South Korea. Very happy and impressed with 15-0 United Nations vote on North Korea sanctions."

In characteristically understated fashion, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said of the U.N. action, "It was a good outcome."

For the U.S., it was a long-awaited sign of progress for Trump's strategy of trying to enlist Beijing's help

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 20 of 23

to squeeze North Korea diplomatically and economically. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, meeting with North Korea's top diplomat during the gathering in Manila, urged the North to "maintain calm" despite the U.N. vote.

"Do not violate the U.N.'s decision or provoke international society's goodwill by conducting missile launching or nuclear tests," Wang said, in an unusually direct admonition.

Tillerson did not meet with North Korea's envoy, Ri Yong Ho. In fact, on his first day in Manila, Tillerson appeared to go out of his way to avoid crossing paths with Ri.

In remarks to reporters Monday morning, Tillerson said the best signal North Korea could give that it was prepared for negotiations with the U.S. would be to halt its missile launches.

Tillerson, in his most specific outline to date of what preconditions the U.S. had for talks with Pyongyang, said stopping the launches would be the "first and strongest signal." But he also said it was not as simple as North Korea stopping launches for a few days or weeks. He wouldn't give a concrete timeframe but said that the U.S. would "know it when we see it."

The U.S. has "other means of communication" open to North Korea if the country wants to express to the U.S. a desire to talk, Tillerson said, but didn't offer specifics.

Though Beijing repeated its call for the United States and North Korea to resume talks, the U.S. said that was still premature, and rejected yet again a Chinese call for the U.S. to freeze joint military exercises with South Korea in exchange for the North halting nuclear development. Pyongyang views the military exercises as rehearsals for an invasion.

The U.S. also warned it planned to rigorously monitor China's compliance with the new penalties. Susan Thornton, the top U.S. diplomat for Asia, said Beijing had historically cooperated with sanctions after flagrant North Korean violations but then slipped back over time.

"We want to make sure China is continuing to implement fully the sanctions regime," Thornton told reporters in Manila. "Not this kind of episodic back and forth that we've seen."

Infusing the diplomatic gathering with dramatic intrigue was the presence of Ri, the odd man out at a meeting dominated by concerns about his nation's nuclear proliferation. Indeed, the U.S. was floating a proposal to temporarily kick North Korea out of the 27-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum, although other member nations are divided about that idea.

Would Tillerson interact with his North Korean counterpart, even informally, if they crossed paths in Manila? It was a question driving the hallway chatter at the gathering, but the U.S. shot down that prospect and said Tillerson had no plans to interact with Ri.

Tillerson, who was scheduled to attend a gala dinner Sunday, skipped it. Ri did not. The North Korean was spotted at the gala smiling and toasting with the other foreign ministers.

Tillerson aide R.C. Hammond said that after a productive first day, Tillerson spent several hours preparing for Day 2. Instead, the U.S. was represented at the dinner by Thornton, whose official title is acting assistant secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs.

Though Tillerson has emphasized the Trump administration's willingness to sit down with North Korea for negotiations, he's said that won't happen until the North agrees to abandon its nuclear aspirations. Even with new U.N. sanctions in place intended to drive Pyongyang back to the table, conditions still aren't ripe for talks, U.S. diplomats said.

But Wang, the Chinese envoy, cast Ri's presence in Manila as a positive, enabling him to "hear the voices from other sides." Speaking in Chinese, Wang said that Ri "also has the right to share his opinions."

Ri hasn't spoken publicly since arriving in the Philippines. But a commentary in the ruling party's Rodong Sinmun newspaper said Washington had disregarded the warning the North sent with its intercontinental ballistic missile tests and was pursuing "desperate efforts" in the form of stepped-up sanctions.

"Now the U.S. mainland is on the crossroads of life and death," the commentary warned.

The new sanctions could cut off roughly one-third of North Korea's estimated \$3 billion in annual exports, ostensibly denying the nation of funds for its weapons programs. All countries are now banned from importing North Korean coal, iron, lead and seafood products, and from letting in more North Korean laborers whose remittances help fund Kim Jong Un's regime.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 21 of 23

The U.S. drafted the sanctions resolution and negotiated it with China following North Korea's unprecedented test of an ICBM in July and a follow-up test weeks later. Those tests sharply escalated U.S. fears that Pyongyang is a key step closer to mastering the technology needed to strike American soil with a nuclear-tipped missile.

Yet despite deeming North Korea a top security threat, the young Trump administration has struggled to find a strategy that differs significantly from what the U.S. has tried in the past. Aside from calling for more sanctions, Trump's approach has centered on enlisting China — the North's biggest trading partner — and others to lessen ties to Pyongyang.

Trump's initial optimism about China's willingness to help gave way to public exasperation, with Trump saying Chinese President Xi Jinping had "tried" but that it "has not worked out." Trump's administration began floating potential plans to punish China for its trade practices in what was widely perceived as a reaction to China's inaction on North Korea.

But in recent days, the two powers have started to paper over some of those differences. Beijing praised Tillerson for declaring the U.S. wasn't seeking regime change in North Korea. Trump has held off, for now, on the trade actions. And China joined the 15-0 vote in the Security Council on the new sanctions.

"Who has been carrying out the U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning North Korea? It is China," Wang, the Chinese foreign minister, said Sunday. "Who bore the cost? It is also China."

Associated Press writers Jim Gomez and Teresa Cerojano contributed to this report.

Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP>

Pence slams report on possible 2020 presidential groundwork

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. (AP) — Vice President Mike Pence has pushed back against a news report suggesting he is laying groundwork for a possible presidential bid in 2020 if President Donald Trump does not run.

In a statement released by the White House, Pence said Sunday's story in The New York Times "is disgraceful and offensive to me, my family, and our entire team." He added that "the allegations in this article are categorically false."

The formal rebuttal of a news report by the vice president was an unusual move. In it, Pence also said his team will "focus all our efforts to advance the president's agenda and see him re-elected in 2020."

The report details efforts of several Republicans looking ahead to 2020, calling it a "shadow campaign." It notes Pence's political schedule and active fundraising, though it also says unnamed advisers have signaled that he'd only run if Trump doesn't.

The article noted Pence has set up a fundraising committee. Called the Great America Committee, it can accept checks of up to \$5,000 from individual donors. Pence raised about \$1 million at a Washington fundraiser last month, attended by dozens of lawmakers and featuring remarks from White House adviser Ivanka Trump.

Trump has not suggested he won't seek a second term. But his first six months in office have been turbulent, marked by staff infighting, legislative struggles and a series of investigations.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway also dismissed the report and said Pence is readying to run in 2020 "for re-election as vice president."

"Vice President Pence is a very loyal, very dutiful, but also incredibly effective vice president, and active vice president, with this president," said Conway on ABC's "This Week." "He is a peer to the president in the West Wing."

New York Times spokeswoman Danielle Rhoades Ha said in an emailed statement: "We are confident in the accuracy of our reporting and will let the story speak for itself."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 22 of 23

Chicago to file federal lawsuit over sanctuary cities threat

CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago will keep fighting President Donald Trump's immigration policies with a federal lawsuit alleging it's illegal for the federal government to withhold public safety grants from so-called sanctuary cities, Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced Sunday.

The mayor said Chicago won't "be blackmailed into changing our values, and we are and will remain a welcoming City."

The lawsuit will be filed Monday.

Officials said there are new qualifications for a public safety grant requiring cities to share information with federal immigration authorities. City officials allege those qualifications are unconstitutional.

Chicago received about \$2.3 million in such grants last year, which have been used for buying police vehicles.

Chicago is being helped by two outside law firms on a pro bono basis.

Federal officials have threatened to withhold federal funding for sanctuary cities, saying they don't comply with federal laws.

Asked to comment on Emanuel's statement, U.S. Department of Justice spokesman Ian D. Prior said via email: "In 2016, more Chicagoans were murdered than in New York City and Los Angeles combined. So it's especially tragic that the mayor is less concerned with that staggering figure than he is spending time and taxpayer money protecting criminal aliens and putting Chicago's law enforcement at greater risk."

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Aug. 7, the 219th day of 2017. There are 146 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 7, 1942, U.S. and other allied forces landed at Guadalcanal, marking the start of the first major allied offensive in the Pacific during World War II. (Japanese forces abandoned the island the following February.)

On this date:

In 1782, Gen. George Washington created the Order of the Purple Heart, a decoration to recognize merit in enlisted men and noncommissioned officers.

In 1789, the U.S. Department of War was established by Congress.

In 1882, the famous feud between the Hatfields of West Virginia and the McCoys of Kentucky erupted into full-scale violence.

In 1927, the already opened Peace Bridge connecting Buffalo, New York, and Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada, was officially dedicated.

In 1947, the balsa wood raft Kon-Tiki, which carried a six-man crew 4,300 miles across the Pacific Ocean, crashed into a reef in a Polynesian archipelago; all six crew members reached land safely.

In 1957, Oliver Hardy (the heavier half of the Laurel and Hardy comedy team) died in North Hollywood, California, at age 65.

In 1959, the United States launched the Explorer 6 satellite, which sent back images of Earth.

In 1964, Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin resolution, giving President Lyndon B. Johnson broad powers in dealing with reported North Vietnamese attacks on U.S. forces.

In 1974, French stuntman Philippe Petit (fee-LEEP' peh-TEET') repeatedly walked a tightrope strung between the twin towers of New York's World Trade Center.

In 1989, a plane carrying U.S. Rep. Mickey Leland, D-Texas, and 14 others disappeared over Ethiopia. (The wreckage of the plane was found six days later; there were no survivors.)

In 1998, terrorist bombs at U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania killed 224 people, including 12 Americans.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Aug. 7, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 038 ~ 23 of 23

In 2010, Elena Kagan was sworn in as the 112th justice and fourth woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Ten years ago: San Francisco's Barry Bonds hit home run No. 756 to break Hank Aaron's storied record with one out in the fifth inning of a game against the Washington Nationals, who ended up winning, 8-6.

Five years ago: Jared Lee Loughner agreed to spend the rest of his life in prison, accepting that he went on a deadly shooting rampage at an Arizona political gathering in 2011 and sparing the victims a lengthy, possibly traumatic death-penalty trial. Syrian President Bashar Assad made his first appearance on state TV in nearly three weeks. Aly Raisman became the first U.S. woman to win Olympic gold on floor, and picked up a bronze on balance beam on the final day of the gymnastics competition at the London Games. Movie critic Judith Crist, 90, died in New York.

One year ago: An accident on a 17-story waterslide at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in Kansas City, Kansas, claimed the life of a 10-year-old boy. Jim Furyk became the first golfer to shoot a 58 in PGA Tour history during the Travelers Championship in Connecticut with a 12-under 58 in the final round. (Furyk finished tied for fifth at 11 under, three strokes behind winner Russell Knox.) Ichiro Suzuki tripled off the wall for his 3,000th hit in the major leagues, becoming the 30th player to reach the milestone as the Miami Marlins beat the Colorado Rockies 10-7. At the Rio Games, British swimmer Adam Peaty cruised to victory in the 100-meter breaststroke with a world record time of 57.13 seconds. Sweden's Sarah Sjöström also turned in a world-record performance in the 100 butterfly, touching in 55.48. Katie Ledecky of the U.S. crushed her own world record in the 400 freestyle with a time of 3:56.46.

Today's Birthdays: Magician, author and lecturer James Randi is 89. Former MLB pitcher Don Larsen is 88. Actress Verna Bloom is 79. Humorist Garrison Keillor is 75. Singer B.J. Thomas is 75. Singer Lana Cantrell is 74. Former FBI Director Robert Mueller is 73. Actor John Glover is 73. Actor David Rasche is 73. Former diplomat, talk show host and activist Alan Keyes is 67. Country singer Rodney Crowell is 67. Actress Caroline Aaron is 65. Comedian Alexei Sayle is 65. Actor Wayne Knight is 62. Rock singer Bruce Dickinson is 59. Marathon runner Alberto Salazar is 59. Actor David Duchovny is 57. Country musician Michael Mahler (Wild Horses) is 56. Actress Delane Matthews is 56. Actor Harold Perrineau is 54. Jazz musician Marcus Roberts is 54. Country singer Raul Malo is 52. Actor David Mann is 51. Actress Charlotte Lewis is 50. Actress Sydney Penny is 46. Actor Michael Shannon is 43. Actress Charlize Theron (shahr-LEES' THAYR'-ehn) is 42. Rock musician Barry Kerch (Shinedown) is 41. Actor Eric Johnson is 38. Actor Randy Wayne is 36. Actor-writer Brit Marling is 35. Actor Liam James is 21.

Thought for Today: "Happiness, it seems to me, consists of two things: first, in being where you belong, and second — and best — in comfortably going through everyday life, that is, having had a good night's sleep and not being hurt by new shoes." — Theodor Fontane, German author (1819-1898).