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Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

- 1- Dakota Outdoors Ad
- 1- Mail Highway Route Relief Driver
- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 2- United Methodist May Breakfast
- 3- Today in Weather History
- 4- Today's Forecast
- 5- Yesterday's Weather
- 5- National Weather map
- 5- Today's Weather Almanac
- 6- Daily Devotional
- 7- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 8- News from the Associated Press

Mail Highway Route Relief Driver

Position available for Highway Relief Driver Must be over 21, have a good driving record Able to lift 70 pounds.

Route is early mornings and late afternoons Mainly Saturdays and some week days Contact Dave Miller 605-397-8277 Leave Message

Today's Events

9:00am: Golf: Girls Varsity Meet @ Dell Rapids Golf Course

2:00pm: Track: Varsity Meet @ Milbank High

School

7:00pm: Middle School Spring Concert, GHS

Gymnasium

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Today in Weather History

May 1, 1959: Aberdeen recorded a high temperature of 102, which is the earliest date that Aberdeen reached 100 degrees.

May 1, 1967: One of the latest blizzards on records for South Dakota ended on this day. Snowfall amounts in the west were 5 to 12 inches with a 16-inch report in Lemmon and 30 inches in the northern Black Hills. Winds of 40 to 50 mph caused blowing snow which occasionally reduced visibility to near zero and snow drifts of 4 to 5 feet. Other snowfall amounts include 5 inches in Murdo and 6 miles SE of McIntosh; and 4 inches in Timber Lake.

May 1, 1997: Torrential rains of 1.5 to 2.5 inches with a separate 4.5-inch report fell over central South Dakota and caused flooding to several creeks, streams, low-lying areas, and roads. This early May rain only aggravated the areas flooded in March and April. Lyman County experienced the most significant flooding where 4.5 inches of rain fell, north of Vivian. Part of a golf course was flooded, and some personal property was flooded along with the KOA campground near Kennebec. Some rainfall amounts include 2.5 inches 7 miles NW of Presho and 2.01 inches near Stephan.

1857: The Washington Evening Star publishes the first US national weather summary using observations from volunteers to the Smithsonian Institution's cooperative network.

1933: An estimated F4 tornado struck Minden, Louisiana, killing 28 people and injuring 400 others. 500 homes were damaged or destroyed with \$1.3 million in damage.

1999: Record, low temperatures for the date, were broken in the Deep South. Mobile, Alabama dropped to 46 degrees. Miami fell to 58; Miami Beach bottomed out at 61, and Vero Beach dropped to 47 degrees, all new records. Other stations in Florida also set record cold maximums for the date, including 61 at Jacksonville and Daytona Beach with 66 degrees.

2003: A record-setting 516 tornadoes occurred during May 2003. In particular, during the period May 4-10, 2003, an unprecedented number of tornadoes, 393 total, affected the central and the southern United States. The tornadoes resulted in 39 deaths across four states. Six of these tornadoes were classified as violent (F4) on the Fujita Tornado Intensity Scale.

1854 - The Connecticut River reached a level of nearly twenty-nine feet at Hartford (the highest level of record up until that time). The record height was reached in the midst of a great New England flood which followed sixty-six hours of steady rain. (David Ludlum)

1935 - Snow, ice and sleet brought winter back to parts of southeast Minnesota. Minneapolis received three inches of snow to tie their May record which was established in 1892. (1st-2nd) (The Weather Channel)

1954 - The temperature at Polebridge MT dipped to 5 degrees below zero to esablish a state record for the month of May. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms produced large hail and heavy rain in Texas. Baseball size hail pounded Dublin, and 3.75 inches of rain soaked Brady. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Strong southerly winds ahead of a cold front crossing the Rocky Mountain Region gusted to 90 mph at Lamar CO. High winds created blinding dust storms in eastern Colorado, closing roads around Limon. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced heavy rain in the southeastern U.S. Rainfall totals of 1.84 inches at Charlotte NC and 2.86 inches at Atlanta GA were records for the date. Strong thunderstorm winds uprooted trees in Twiggs County GA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from northern Alabama to North Carolina. There were sixty-three reports of large hail or damaging winds, with hail four inches in diameter reported near Cartersville GA. Ten cities in the southeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date as readings warmed into the 90s. Jacksonville FL reported a record high of 96 degrees. Late night thunderstorms over central Texas produced up to ten inches of rain in southern Kimble County and northern Edwards County. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Wed Tue Mon Thu Fri Sat Sun May 3 May 4 May 1 May 2 May 5 May 6 May 7 60°F 69°F 71°F 73°F 67°F 69°F 41°F 41°F 42°F 42°F 43°F 45°F 60°F N 11 MPH ENE 9 MPH N 8 MPH W 13 MPH NE 9 MPH SE 13 MPH S 9 MPH



A little cooler today with highs around 60, but it will be much more seasonal for the rest of the work week & weekend with mostly dry conditions.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 78.9 F at 4:17 PM

Low Outside Temp: 52.4 F at 11:28 PM

Wind Chill:

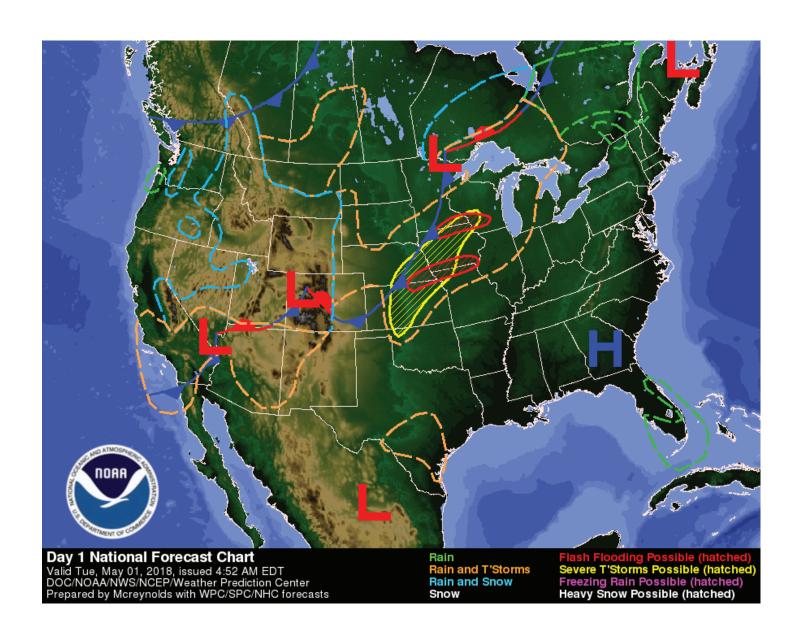
High Gust: 39.0 Mph at 12:11 AM

Precip: 0.05

Today's Info Record High: 102° in 1959

Record Low: 19° in 1961 **Average High: 64°F** Average Low: 38°F

Average Precip in May: 0.10 **Precip to date in May: 0.05 Average Precip to date: 4.13 Precip Year to Date: 2.73** Sunset Tonight: 8:40 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:20 a.m.



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"FOR US OR AGAINST US?"

It was the final football game of the season. The winning team would win the conference championship. Every player was giving their best and fighting with all their strength to win. Unfortunately, the quarterback of one team was severely injured and had to be carried off the field. His backup walked confidently onto the field to take his place.

On the first play he fumbled the ball but quickly fell on it and avoided a costly mistake. Then he threw an incomplete pass. On his third play he threw an interception and the player who caught the ball ran the length of the field giving the opposing team a victory and the championship.

After the game when the team assembled in the locker room the coach said to the losing quarterback, "Son, which side were you on?"

In the book of Exodus we read of a situation where Moses confronted the people whom Aaron allowed to get completely out of control. He refused to let things remain as they were and challenged them by saying: "All of you who are on the Lord's side come here and join me!"

Perhaps each of us needs to respond to that very same statement. We may attend church, carry a Bible, sing hymns and even pray. But when we get into the "game of life" do those around us know "which side we are on?" Does what we say and do represent the Lord favorably?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we know that there are times in our lives when the world does not know which side we are on. Forgive us and strengthen us, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Exodus 32:25-26 Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, "Whoever is for the LORD, come to me." And all the Levites rallied to him.

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2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
 - 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
 - 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
 - 5/5/2018 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
 - 5/27/2018 Historic Trinity Church Pump Organ Concert.
- 5/28/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
 - 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
 - 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
 - 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
 - 7/4/2018 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
 - 7/22/2018 Summer Fest (4th Sunday in July)
 - 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
 - 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
 - 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
 - 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
 - 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
 - 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party
 - Best Ball Golf Tourney
 - SDSU Golf Tourney
 - Sunflower Golf Tourney
 - Santa Claus Day
 - Fireman's Stag
 - Tour of Homes
 - Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
 - School Events

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News from the App Associated Press

Report says Midwest business conditions index rose again

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) $\stackrel{-}{-}$ A report says a business conditions index for nine Midwest and Plains states has surged to its highest level in a dozen years.

The report released Tuesday says the Mid-America Business Conditions Index hit 64.5 in April, compared with 62.1 in March. The February figure was 59.7.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he says much of the recent manufacturing sector growth has been driven by exports.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth in that factor. A score below that suggests decline.

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Lawsuits target oil, gas leases in imperiled bird's habitat By MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A pair of lawsuits filed Monday target the Trump administration's sale of oil and gas leases on huge swaths of Western public lands that contain crucial habitat for an imperiled bird. Wildlife advocates asked courts to reverse lease sales on more than 1,300 square miles (3,400 square kilometers) of land in Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Nevada, according to attorneys involved.

The legal actions also sought to block several upcoming sales unless the U.S. Interior Department conducts further environmental reviews. Those leases would total more than 1,800 square miles (4,662 square kilometers) in the four states plus Idaho.

Many of the parcels in dispute are home to greater sage grouse, a chicken-sized, ground-dwelling bird that ranges across portions of 11 Western states.

Greater sage grouse populations drastically declined in recent decades, because of energy development that broke up the bird's habitat, along with disease, livestock grazing and other causes. Its population once numbered in the millions but had fallen to fewer than 500,000 by 2015, according to wildlife officials.

Under former President Barack Obama, the Interior Department delayed lease sales on millions of acres of public lands largely because of sage grouse worries. In 2015, it adopted a set of wide-ranging plans meant to protect the best grouse habitat and keep the bird off the endangered species list.

Trump's Interior secretary, Ryan Zinke, has placed a greater priority on energy development, including directives from the agency that modified restrictions imposed by the Obama administration.

Attorneys behind Monday's lawsuits argued those modifications were improper and that Zinke's agency unlawfully limited environmental reviews of lease sales.

"They are indiscriminately leasing everything that's nominated in sage grouse habitat, without any determination beforehand that maybe these areas are particularly important" to the bird, said Michael Saul, an attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity

Justice Department spokesman Wyn Hornbuckle declined comment on the matter.

Energy industry representatives have been strongly supportive of Zinke's pro-energy agenda. They point out that even when land is leased for drilling, companies must abide by limitations on when they can drill to avoid disrupting grouse during breeding season.

"We realize there are some hoops we're going to have to jump through if we're going to develop the resource," said Alan Olson, executive director of the Montana Petroleum Association.

Monday's lawsuits included one in Idaho filed by Center for Biological Diversity and Western Watersheds Project, and another in Montana by the Montana Wildlife Federation, The Wilderness Society, National Audubon Society and National Wildlife Federation.

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Also Monday, environmentalists agreed to a truce in a third lawsuit over protections for the Gunnison sage grouse, a smaller cousin of the greater sage grouse.

The Gunnison grouse, found only in Colorado and Utah, was designated a threatened species in 2014. Center for Biological Diversity and Western Watersheds Project sued the federal government the next year, saying the Gunnison grouse should be classified endangered, meaning it is in greater danger and warrants stronger protections than a threatened species.

The two groups said they would put the lawsuit on hold after federal officials agreed to come up with a recovery plan for the bird within $2\frac{1}{2}$ years.

The deadline guarantees the recovery plan won't drag out for years, the groups said. They could resume their lawsuit if the government misses the deadline, or if they are unhappy with the recovery plan.

Only about 5,000 Gunnison sage grouse were left in 2014.

Associated Press writer Dan Elliott contributed to this story from Denver.

Noem, Jackley to meet in Republican governor primary forum

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Republican governor candidates Kristi Noem and Marty Jackley will discuss economic and regulatory issues in their latest forum ahead of the primary election.

The event hosted by the conservative group Americans for Prosperity-South Dakota is Tuesday evening in Sioux Falls.

Noem, the state's U.S. representative, and Jackley, the attorney general, are competing in the June 5 primary election. Absentee voting started April 20.

Americans for Prosperity's state director, Don Haggar, says residents want to hear where the candidates stand on economic and regulatory issues.

The Republican primary winner will face Democratic candidate Billie Sutton, a state senator, in the general election. Sutton doesn't have a primary challenger.

High winds, dirt cause 'blackout' on South Dakota road

MILLER, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say blowing dirt led to a two-vehicle crash that seriously injured two people in central South Dakota.

The dirt storm prompted authorities to shut down a stretch of U.S. Highway 14 near Miller for six hours Sunday and lead motorists through zero visibility caused when high winds blew dirt from freshly plowed fields across the highway.

South Dakota Public Safety spokesman Tony Mangan says two people suffered serious but non-life-threatening injuries when one vehicle was rear-ended by another on Highway 14 west of Miller.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol posted a picture on its Facebook page showing more than a foot of dirt drifting around a car that had crashed into a fence.

In Nebraska, one person died after a dust storm triggered a 29-vehicle accident along an interstate.

Rapid City hospital improperly disposes of waste amid fines

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City hospital has continued to dump medical waste at the city landfill despite repeated warnings and fines over the past year, according to city officials.

The Rapid City Regional Hospital was first cited for disposing medical waste at the landfill more than a year ago, the Rapid City Journal reported. Rapid City Landfill workers have spotted blood-soaked gauze, bloody catheter lines, urine collection containers and fatty tissue.

The hospital was cited for six violations last year involving the improper disposal of medical waste, according to the South Dakota Department of Health.

"We know that Regional's making efforts to correct this," said Dale Tech, Rapid City's public works director. "However, what we've seen in their weekly trips out to us, it really hasn't changed."

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Regional Hospital implemented changes last year to re-engineer how medical waste and common garbage bags reach the hospital's receptacle. The hospital installed cameras in the loading dock area and mandated more infection control training for employees.

The hospital sorts waste for biohazard materials in red bags from general waste in clear bags. A contractor called Stericycle takes the red bags to process and dispose of the infectious materials.

But city landfill supervisors said they still find infectious medical waste in every load generated by the hospital.

Hospital leaders are in communication with city officials about the waste dumping, said Nicole Kerkenbush, the hospital's chief performance officer.

"The concern they have is ours as well," she said.

South Dakota's waste management officials said they contacted landfill operators across the state and found improper waste dumping isn't happening at the same level in other places.

"One thing that the city could do is stop accepting waste from them (Regional)," Tech said. "We haven't had those discussions yet."

Information from: Rapid City Journal, http://www.rapidcityjournal.com

Rapid City employer hiring dozens

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A subsidiary of GE Appliances is adding dozens of jobs in Rapid City. Advanced Services Inc. says it will hire 70 customer service employees through June to help with its home delivery support department as well as resolving order and purchase issues.

KOTA-TV says the company plans to hold a career day on Tuesday.

Information from: KOTA-TV, http://www.kotatv.com

Regents to name new University of South Dakota president

VERMILLĪON, S.D. (AP) — The Board of Regents will be voting for a new University of South Dakota president to replace retiring executive Jim Abbott.

The board will hold a special meeting Tuesday for the vote in the arena of the Sanford Coyote Sports Center. A reception will also be held for the new president.

The regents say there are four finalists for the position: Kelli McCormack Brown of Georgia College & State University; Christopher Callahan of Arizona State University; Sheila Gestring of the University of South Dakota; and Philip Way of Slippery Rock University.

Abbott is retiring after more than 20 years at the University of South Dakota.

Man tests positive for drugs while appearing in Pierre court

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City contractor has tested positive for drugs while in a Pierre court pleading guilty to assault.

The Capital Journal reports that 30-year-old Jesse Lange pleaded guilty to felony assault of a worker for the grain bin business Lange operates with his father. His attorney, Brad Schreiber, says there was an element of self-defense in the motel room altercation last year.

But state Judge Mark Barnett, watching Lange, asked a court official to get a urine test kit and said Lange appeared high. An official said the test was positive for meth and ecstasy.

Lange's guilty plea couldn't be accepted, and he was jailed for violating the conditions of his bond for the assault charge. Barnett says another arraignment could be held once the drugs have left Lange's system.

Information from: Pierre Capital Journal, http://www.capjournal.com

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Spearfish woman sentenced for role in local drug trade

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — A woman who authorities say was a big player in the illegal drug trade in Spearfish has been sentenced to serve five years in prison.

Prosecutors say 33-year-old Terry Geib sold methamphetamine to many others and also allowed her apartment to be used for dozens of additional drug deals. Her arrest stemmed from an investigation into drugs that contributed to the deaths of two people.

Lawrence County Deputy State's Attorney Brenda Harvey says Geib's "involvement in the drug world was very prevalent." Defense attorney Kari Nordstrom disputed that.

The Black Hills Pioneer reports that Geib also was ordered to pay more than \$2,700 in court costs and fees.

Information from: Black Hills Pioneer, http://www.bhpioneer.com

Fire fueled by strong winds burns grain elevator in Mina

MINA, S.D. (AP) — A fire fueled by strong winds extensively damaged a grain elevator in Brown County. The fire broke out about 11:30 a.m. Sunday in Mina. Because of 40 to 45 mph winds, smaller fires caused by blowing, burning debris were ignited in fields adjacent to the structure.

Aberdeen American News says the BNSF Railway was asked to stop trains from coming through the area and traffic from Highway 12 was temporarily diverted from Mina. There were no reports of injuries.

Information from: Aberdeen American News, http://www.aberdeennews.com

Indiana man caught in Sturgis trafficking sting sentenced

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — An Indiana man caught during an undercover sex trafficking sting during the 2016 Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in South Dakota has been sentenced to three years in federal prison.

The U.S. attorney's office says 26-year-old Brendan Leiter, of Elkhart, Indiana, requested pornographic pictures from someone he believed to a minor and tried to solicit her for sex via the internet.

He'll be on supervised release for 10 years following his prison term.

Leiter was among 10 men indicted in the sting.

US delays decision on tariffs for EU, prolonging uncertainty By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER and KEN THOMAS, AP Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government will take another 30 days to decide whether to impose tariffs on imports of steel and aluminum from the European Union, Canada and Mexico, extending a period of uncertainty for businesses in those regions.

The delay helps the U.S. avoid a potential trade war with allies as it prepares for tense trade talks in China this week. But the EU slammed the decision as bad for business that "prolongs market uncertainty, which is already affecting business decisions."

"As a longstanding partner and friend of the U.S., we will not negotiate under threat," the EU said in a statement Tuesday.

The Trump administration said Monday it had reached an agreement with South Korea on steel imports following discussions on a revised trade agreement. And the administration said it had also reached agreements in principle with Argentina, Australia and Brazil on steel and aluminum that will be finalized shortly.

"In all of these negotiations, the administration is focused on quotas that will restrain imports, prevent transshipment and protect the national security," the White House said.

Facing a self-imposed deadline, President Donald Trump was considering whether to permanently exempt the EU and Mexico, Canada, Australia, Argentina and Brazil from tariffs of 25 percent on imported steel and 10 percent on imported aluminum that his administration imposed in March. The White House had

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given itself until the end of Monday to decide whether to extend the exemptions.

The EU has taken a tough stance, raising the prospect of a trade war if the U.S. does not back down. It has a list of retaliatory tariffs worth about \$3.5 billion on imports from the U.S. that it will activate if the EU loses its exemption.

Germany said it continues to expect a permanent exemption. The EU's largest steel exporter to the U.S., it accounted for about 5 percent of U.S. steel imports last year.

"Neither the EU nor the U.S. can have an interest in an escalation of their trade tensions," a spokeswoman for Chancellor Angela Merkel said Tuesday in a statement.

European financial officials have cited the trade tensions created by the U.S. tariffs proposal as a risk to the economy. Some surveys suggest a downtick in business and consumer confidence, though it's unclear how big an impact the trade tensions are having.

While experts say the immediate potential damage from the aluminum and steel tariffs is limited, the danger is of a tit-for-tat escalation in which both sides slap more duties on each other's goods.

"The imposition of tariffs might signal that the two regions are heading towards a more serious trade conflict," said Stephen Brown, European economist at Capital Economics.

Trump says he wants to protect American metal producers from unfair competition and bolster national security. But the tariffs' announcement in March, which followed an intense internal White House debate, triggered harsh criticism from Democrats and some Republicans and roiled financial markets.

At the time, Trump excluded several vital trading partners — the EU, Mexico, Canada, Australia, Argentina and Brazil — from the tariffs.

That meant the steel tariff covered just 30 percent of all imports, according to Oxford Economics. If all the exemptions were ended, it would have deepened the impact of the tariffs on American companies that use steel and potentially affect financial markets. Stock prices fell nearly 2 percent when the tariffs were announced.

Two people familiar with the process said the Trump administration had been considering whether to provide a short-term extension of the exemptions to allow for more time to review the countries' efforts to secure permanent exemptions. The officials spoke only on condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations.

The EU and others had been asked to spell out what limits they could accept on the amount of steel they export to the United States, how they would address the issue of excess production of steel and aluminum, and how they would support the U.S. before international bodies like the World Trade Organization. Security relationships with the U.S. have also been part of the criteria.

South Korea made up the largest share of U.S. steel imports last year, shipping about 13 percent of U.S. imports, according to an American Iron and Steel Institute analysis of government data. It has agreed to limit its exports to the United States and was granted a permanent exemption.

China, Japan and Russia haven't received exemptions, which will likely reduce steel shipments from those countries over time. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said Friday that quotas on imports from Europe and other countries are necessary so imports from those countries don't simply replace Chinese imports. The goal of the tariffs is to reduce total steel imports and boost U.S. production, Ross said.

"If you let everybody back out of the tariff, and you let them out of any kind of quota, how would you ever reduce the imports here?" Ross asked at a conference of journalists.

European leaders have resisted the idea of a quota. Merkel said Sunday that she discussed the issue with French President Emmanuel Macron and British Prime Minister Theresa May after returning from a White House visit Friday.

In her meeting with Trump, Merkel said, she saw little progress in obtaining permanent exemptions. "The decision lies with the president," she said Friday.

A British spokesperson called Monday's postponement "positive" and said the country will continue to work with EU partners and the U.S. to achieve a permanent exemption.

In a separate trade battle with China, the United States has threatened to impose tariffs on \$150 billion of Chinese goods in retaliation for what it argues are Beijing's unfair trade practices and its requirement

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that U.S. companies turn over technology in exchange for access to its market. The White House also wants China to agree to reduce its \$375 billion goods trade surplus with the U.S.

China has said it would subject \$50 billion of U.S. goods to tariffs if the U.S. taxes its products. Trump has said that a delegation led by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and trade adviser Peter Navarro will visit Beijing for negotiations Thursday and Friday.

"We're going to have very frank discussions," Mnuchin in an interview broadcast Monday on Fox Business. Most analysts think the talks will lead to longer-term negotiations.

Martin Crutsinger in Washington, Kirsten Grieshaber in Berlin, and Raf Casert in Brussels contributed to this report.

Trump: 'Disgraceful' leak of Mueller Russia probe questions By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Tuesday it's "disgraceful" that a list of questions that the special counsel investigating Russian election interference wants to ask him was "leaked" to the news media.

The New York Times late Monday published the nearly four dozen questions given to Trump's attorneys, covering Trump's motivations for firing FBI Director James Comey last May and contacts between Trump campaign officials and Russians.

"It is so disgraceful that the questions concerning the Russian Witch Hunt were 'leaked' to the media," Trump tweeted Tuesday. "No questions on Collusion. Oh, I see...you have a made up, phony crime, Collusion, that never existed, and an investigation begun with illegally leaked classified information. Nice!"

In a second tweet, Trump said: "It would seem very hard to obstruct justice for a crime that never happened."

Trump repeatedly has called the investigation by special counsel Robert Mueller a "witch hunt" and insists there was no collusion between his campaign and Russia. Trump has also accused Comey of leaking classified information. Mueller was appointed to oversee the investigation by the deputy attorney general after Trump fired Comey in May 2017.

Although Mueller's team has indicated to Trump's lawyers that he's not considered a target, investigators remain interested in whether the president's actions constitute obstruction of justice and want to interview him about several episodes in office.

Many of the questions obtained by the Times center on the obstruction issue, including his reaction to Attorney General Jeff Sessions' recusal from the Russia investigation, a decision Trump has angrily criticized.

Trump lawyer Jay Sekulow declined to comment to The Associated Press on Monday night, as did White House lawyer Ty Cobb.

The questions also touch on Russian meddling and whether the Trump campaign coordinated in any way with the Kremlin. In one question obtained by the Times, Mueller asks what Trump knew about campaign staff, including his former campaign chairman Paul Manafort, reaching out to Moscow.

Mueller has brought several charges against Manafort, but none are for any crimes related to Russian election interference during the 2016 campaign. And he has denied having anything to do with such an effort.

The queries also touch on Trump's businesses and his discussions with his personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, about a possible Moscow real estate deal. Cohen's business dealings are part of a separate FBI investigation.

One question asks what discussions Trump may have had regarding "any meeting with Mr. Putin," referring to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Another question asks what the president may have known about a possible attempt by his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, to set up a back channel with Russia before Trump's inauguration.

Additional questions center on Michael Flynn, Trump's former national security adviser, who has pleaded

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guilty to lying to the FBI about his discussions on sanctions against Russia with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak during the presidential transition. Flynn is now cooperating with Mueller's investigators.

"What did you know about phone calls that Mr. Flynn made with the Russian ambassador, Sergey I. Kislyak, in late December 2016?" reads one question. Another asks if there were any efforts to reach out to Flynn "about seeking immunity or possible pardon."

Flynn was fired Feb. 13, 2017, after White House officials said he had misled them about his Russian contacts during the transition period by saying that he had not discussed sanctions.

The following day, according to memos written by Comey, Trump cleared the Oval Office of other officials and encouraged Comey to drop the investigation into Flynn.

Workers, activists mark May Day with defiant rallies

MOSCOW (AP) — Workers and activists marked May Day on Tuesday with rallies to demand their government address labor issues.

International Workers' Day is a public holiday in many countries, though activities are restricted in some places, sometimes leading to confrontations.

A look at some of the events around the world:

RUSSIA

More than 100,000 people came out on the streets on Moscow to march in the traditional May Day parade. Moscow's Federation of Trade Unions said about 120,000 people marched from the Red Square on the main streets of the Russian capital to mark May Day.

Over recent years, the parade became a highly orchestrated show of power by Russian authorities and the ruling United Russia party, with the demonstrators refraining from criticizing the government.

In St. Petersburg, Russia's second-largest city, however, Russians unhappy with the Kremlin's attempts to curtail internet freedom joined the official May Day demonstration.

Several hundred people braved the rainy weather and joined the column marching across St. Petersburg to protest the government's ban of popular messaging app Telegram.

About 10,000 people rallied in Moscow on Monday to protest the blocking of Telegram.

TURKEY

Police in Istanbul detained more than a dozen demonstrators who tried to march toward Istanbul's symbolic main square in defiance of a ban.

Turkey declared Taksim Square off-limits to May Day celebrations citing security concerns. Roads leading to the square were blocked and police allowed only small groups of labor union representatives to lay wreaths at a monument there.

Still, a group of some 25 people, chanting "Taksim cannot be off limits on May 1" tried to push their way into the square but were rounded up by riot police.

Major trade unions were scheduled to mark the day with rallies at government-designated areas in Istanbul and Ankara

Taksim holds a symbolic value for Turkey's labor movement. In 1977, 34 people were killed there during a May Day event when shots were fired into the crowd from a nearby building.

GREECE

Thousands of Greeks are marching through central Athens in at least three separate May Day demonstrations.

Museums were also shut while ferries remain were tied up in port and public transport operated on a reduced schedule in strikes marking labor day.

Police said at least 7,000 people were at the first demonstration in Athens, which was organized by a communist party-led union. The protesters marched by parliament and headed up a major avenue to the

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United States Embassy.

Another four demonstrations were planned in Greece's second largest city of Thessaloniki in the north. Trains, the suburban railway, urban trolleys and ferries to and from the islands suspended operations for the day, while buses and the Athens metro system were operating on reduced schedules.

SPAIN

More than 70 cities across Spain have held May Day marches calling for gender equality, higher salaries and pensions now that the country's economy is back on track.

The demonstration in Madrid was among the biggest, with thousands rallying behind the slogan "Time to win."

CCOO union official Unai Sordo says that "a social majority is emerging from the psychosis of the (global financial) crisis" in 2008 that hit Spain hard.

Pepe Alvarez, the secretary general of UGT, the other main union in Spain, said that meeting the demands of feminists, youths and pensioners are necessary to "redistribute wealth" in the country.

Spain's economy, the fourth-largest in the 19-country eurozone, has in recent years posted some of the fastest economic growth in Europe. Last year, it reached 3.1 percent.

SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka's government has postponed the rallies and processions that mark May Day because the weeklong celebrations of the national festival of Vesak carry on until May 2 this year.

The government said in a statement that the decision was taken following requests by leading Buddhist monks, who are very influential in this majority Buddhist country. Vesak is also known as Buddha Purnima and marks the enlightenment of Lord Buddha.

The government has asked political parties and trade unions not to hold rallies on May 1. Some have said they will ignore the government directive and mark the day.

Usually, Sri Lankan political parties and trade unions celebrate the International Workers' Day with colorful parades and giant rallies to showcase their political and organizational strength.

The government said it will mark International Workers' Day on May 7.

PHILIPPINES

About 5,000 people from various groups rallied near the presidential palace in Manila to protest the failure of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte to fulfill a major campaign promise to end contractualization, the widespread practice of short-term employment.

The protesters also demanded that the government address issues including low wages, unemployment and trade union repression.

SOUTH KOREA

Thousands of labor union members rallied in downtown Seoul for a higher minimum wage and other demands.

They chanted slogans urging the government to implement a 10,000 won (\$9.34) minimum wage and convert all non-regular employees to regular workers with equal pay and treatment.

The rally was organized by the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions. The police estimated the crowd at 10,000 people.

The union members also demanded that the government scrap the restructuring of the shipbuilding and automobile industries, and reform the huge conglomerates that dominate the South Korean economy.

INDONESIA

About 10,000 workers from various labor groups rallied near the presidential palace in Jakarta to voice their demands.

Most of the workers came from Jakarta and nearby suburbs, but some traveled from West Java and

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Surabaya.

The protesters urged the government to avoid outsourcing, and to raise their wages. They also asked the government to stop foreign laborers from working in Indonesia, saying it decreases employment opportunities for local workers.

CAMBODIA

About 2,000 garment workers gathered at a park in Cambodia's capital, Phnom Penh, for a rally organized by a garment union coalition.

The workers wanted to march to the National Assembly to urge lawmakers to help them address laborrelated concerns, but the group was stopped by riot police.

Prime Minister Hun Sun spent May Day with some 5,000 garment workers just outside Phnom Penh. He thanked the workers by announcing that each of them will receive 50,000 riel (\$12.50). With a general election coming up in July, Hun Sen for the past year has been courting the large bloc of garment workers, whose unions traditionally have been strong supporters of the opposition.

Swiss police say 6th hiker dies after snowstorm in Alps

GENEVA (AP) — Swiss police said Tuesday a total of six people have died after an unexpected snowstorm trapped a group of Alpine hikers in southwestern Switzerland. The victims were identified as five Italians and a Bulgarian woman.

The regional Valais police department said one other person remains in critical condition following the sudden blast of snow and high winds in the Pigne d'Arolla region.

The storm left a total of 14 hikers spending the night from Sunday to Monday out in the cold with no shelter.

Police spokesman Markus Rieder said a 52-year-old Bulgarian woman died in the hospital on Tuesday. Two Italian couples — aged in their mid-40s and mid-50s — also died from hypothermia after being evacuated to the hospital in a rescue operation involving seven helicopters.

The sixth victim was a 59-year-old Italian man, who was guiding a group of 10 hikers and fell to his death at the site.

Police said a 72-year-old Swiss woman, a 56-year-old French woman, and a 43-year-old Italian woman remained in hospital Tuesday.

The sudden bad weather trapped two groups of hikers who had been trying to reach the Vignettes hikers' hut at 3,157 meters (10,357 feet) in the Alps, forcing them to spend the night under the elements amid freezing temperatures.

Three French people, a German woman and an Italian man suffered light injuries from hypothermia. Europe has experienced turbulent weather recently, with unseasonable spells of hot and cold temperatures.

Burning building in Sao Paulo collapses; at least 1 dead By PETER PRENGAMAN and ANDRE PENNER, Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — An abandoned high-rise building occupied by squatters in downtown Sao Paulo caught fire and collapsed Tuesday, sending chunks of fiery debris crashing into neighboring buildings and surrounding streets.

Firefighters said at least one person had been killed in the collapse and that there could be more.

The building, a former federal police headquarters, caught fire around 1:30 a.m. local time. Firefighters set up a perimeter and worked to evacuate people.

A few hours later, as flames engulfed the building, which was at least 20 stories, it collapsed. Globo TV, which was covering the fire, captured the destruction. Images showed the floors falling on themselves like dominoes and debris flying in all directions.

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Romulo de Souza, 49, said he was part of a squatter occupation in the neighboring building. He said that when the fire began on the fourth floor, families began evacuating.

"Happily the majority got out," he said.

De Souza said that residents believed the fire could have been started by a gas leak.

Firefighter Lt. Andre Elias told Globo TV that at least one person had been killed in the collapse. Authorities were working to locate several others who were missing.

Clearing debris and accounting for people who had been in the building could likely take days. Several hours after the collapse, smoldering debris continued to emit smoke.

The fire and collapse are sure to put a spotlight on occupations in Sao Paulo, South America's largest city. Several dozen buildings have been occupied in downtown by highly organized fair-housing groups that take over and then fight for ownership. Many such dwellings are run like regular apartment buildings, with doormen and residents paying monthly fees and utility bills. Others are less established and more precarious.

In a June 2017 story on the occupations, The Associated Press reported that around 350 families were living in the former police headquarters. Local media on Tuesday reported that around 50 were currently living there.

Former Sao Paulo mayor Joao Doria, who recently stepped down to run for governor, cracked down on squatter communities as a plan to revitalize the downtown area.

Doria argued downtown Sao Paulo should showcase the city, the engine of Brazil's economy and one of the hemisphere's most important financial centers. Fair-housing activists, on the other hand, argue that the area could offer affordable housing to tens of thousands of people.

Peter Prengaman reported from Rio de Janeiro.

Feds process asylum-seekers from caravan criticized by Trump By ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

TIJUANA, Mexico (AP) — U.S. border inspectors allowed some of the Central American asylum-seekers to enter the country for processing, ending a brief impasse over lack of space. Now, the migrants who crossed Mexico in a caravan may face a long legal path.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection didn't say how many caravan members were allowed in Monday, but organizers said there were eight.

About 140 others were still waiting in Mexico to turn themselves in at San Diego's San Ysidro border crossing, the nation's busiest, said Alex Mensing, project organizer for Pueblo Sin Fronteras, which is leading the caravan.

"The spirits are high, there was good news for everybody," Mensing said on the Mexican side of the crossing, moments after learning that some were allowed in.

American attorneys who volunteered advice in Tijuana last week warned the Central Americans that parents may be separated from their children and be detained for many months while their asylum cases are pending.

Asylum-seekers are typically held up to three days at the border and turned over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. If they pass an asylum officer's initial screening, they may be detained or released with ankle monitors while their cases wind through immigration court, which can take years.

Nearly 80 percent of asylum-seekers passed the initial screening from October through December, but few are likely to win asylum.

The denial rate for El Salvadorans seeking asylum was 79 percent from 2012 to 2017, according to Syracuse University's Transactional Records Action Clearinghouse. Hondurans were close behind with a 78 percent denial rate, followed Guatemalans at 75 percent.

Trump administration officials have railed against what they call "legal loopholes" and "catch-and-release" policies that allow people seeking asylum to be freed while their cases are adjudicated. The president

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tweeted Monday that the caravan "shows how weak & ineffective U.S. immigration laws are."

Attorney General Jeff Sessions has pledged to send more immigration judges to the border if needed and threatened criminal prosecution. On Monday, the Justice Department said it filed illegal entry charges against 11 people identified as caravan members.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection said it processed hundreds of asylum-seekers in the previous week, many of them Mexican, which contributed to a bottleneck that led inspectors to turn away caravan members since they arrived late Sunday afternoon.

Asylum-seekers didn't appear to be thrown off the by the delay.

Elin Orrellana, a 23-year-old pregnant woman from El Salvador, said she is fleeing the violent MS-13 street gang, a favorite target of both Sessions and Trump because of their brutal killings in communities in the United States. She said her older sister had been killed by the gang in El Salvador, so she is attempting to join other family members in the Kansas City area.

"Fighting on is worth it," she said as she camped out Sunday for chilly night outside the border crossing. Customs and Border Protection has room for about 300 people at the San Diego border crossing.

"As in the past when we've had to limit the number of people we can bring in for processing at a given time, we expect that this will be a temporary situation," the agency said.

During a surge of Haitian arrivals at the San Diego crossing in 2016, Customs and Border Protection required people to wait more than five weeks in Mexico. Since then, smaller upticks of Mexican asylumseekers have caused delays of several hours.

Associated Press videographer Gerardo Carrillo in Tijuana and reporter Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

Australian cardinal to face trial on sexual abuse charges By ROD McGUIRK, Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Australian Cardinal George Pell, the most senior Vatican official to be charged in the Catholic Church sex abuse crisis, on Tuesday officially denied charges of sexual abuse spanning decades after his lawyers failed to sway a court to dismiss them.

Australia's highest-ranking Catholic will appear for the first time on Wednesday in the Victoria state County Court, where he has been ordered to stand trial at a date yet to be set.

Lawyers for Pell, Pope Francis' finance minister, have been fighting the allegations since before he was charged last June with allegations of sexual abuse against multiples people in Victoria from the time he was a priest in his hometown of Ballarat in the 1970s until the 1990s, when he was archbishop of Melbourne.

Magistrate Belinda Wallington on Tuesday dismissed about half the charges that had been heard in a four-week preliminary hearing in Melbourne but decided the prosecution's case was strong enough for the remainder to warrant a trial by jury. The details of the allegations and the number of charges have not been made public.

When she asked Pell how he pleaded, the cardinal said in a firm voice, "Not guilty." Wallington gave the 76-year-old permission not to stand as is customary.

When the magistrate left the room at the end of the hearing, many people in the packed public gallery broke into applause.

Vatican spokesman Greg Burke issued statement saying: "The Holy See has taken note of the decision issued by judicial authorities in Australia regarding His Eminence Cardinal George Pell. Last year, the Holy Father granted Cardinal Pell a leave of absence so he could defend himself from the accusations. The leave of absence is still in place."

Pell's plea marked the only words he spoke in public during the hearing. Wearing a cleric's collar, white shirt and dark suit, he was silent as he entered and left the downtown courthouse with his lawyer, Robert Richter. More than 40 police officers maintained order on the crowded sidewalk outside.

The cardinal's legal team found some solace in the outcome, with Richter telling the magistrate "the

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most vile of the allegations" had been dismissed.

Anne Barrett Doyle, of BishopAccountability.org, a Massachusetts-based online abuse resource, described the magistrate's decision to make Pell stand trial as "a turning point in the global abuse crisis in the Catholic Church."

"Whatever its outcome, the judge's decision marks the victory of accountability over impunity, and of the rule of secular law over the Vatican's failed strategy of cover-up," she said.

Pell's lawyers had argued that all of the accusations were untrue, could not be proved and should be dismissed.

Wallington dismissed one charge because the alleged victim was an "unsatisfactory witness" during the first two weeks of the preliminary hearing, when complainants testified via a video link from a remote location to a courtroom closed to the public and media.

"It is difficult to see how a jury could convict on the evidence of a man who has said on his affirmation that he cannot recall what he said a minute ago," Wallington said.

She described her job in the preliminary hearing as "sifting the wheat from the chaff."

"Unless the credibility of a witness is effectively destroyed, credibility and reliability are matters for a jury," she said. "Where the evidence is so weak that the prospect of conviction is minimal, it is not of sufficient weight to commit" a defendant to stand trial.

She said she did not dismiss charges "merely because there is a reasonable hypothesis consistent with innocence."

Under his bail conditions, Pell cannot leave Australia, contact prosecution witnesses and must give police 24-hour notice of any change of address.

Richter, Pell's lawyer, told Wallington in his final submissions two weeks ago that the complainants might have testified against one of the church's most powerful men to punish him for failing to act against abuse by clerics.

But prosecutor Mark Gibson told the magistrate there was no evidence to back Richter's theory that Pell had been targeted over the church's failings.

Since Pell returned to Australia from the Vatican in July, he has lived in Sydney and flown to Melbourne for his court hearings. His circumstances are far removed from the years he spent as the high-profile and polarizing archbishop of Melbourne and later Sydney before his promotion to Rome in 2014.

The case places both the cardinal and the pope in potentially perilous territory. For Pell, the charges are a threat to his freedom, his reputation and his career. For Francis, they are a threat to his credibility, given that he famously promised a "zero tolerance" policy for sex abuse in the church.

Advocates for abuse victims have long railed against Francis' decision to appoint Pell to the high-ranking position in the first place. At the time of his promotion, Pell was already facing allegations that he had mishandled cases of clergy abuse during his time leading the church in Melbourne and Sydney, Australia's largest cities.

So far, Francis has withheld judgment of Pell, saying he wants to wait for justice to run its course. And he did not force the cardinal to resign, though Pell took an immediate leave of absence so he could return to Australia to fight the charges. Pell said he intends to continue his work as a prefect of the church's economy ministry once the case is resolved.

In recent years, Pell's actions as archbishop came under particular scrutiny by a government-authorized investigation into how the Catholic Church and other institutions have responded to the sexual abuse of children.

Australia's Royal Commission Into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse — the nation's highest form of inquiry — revealed last year that 7 percent of Catholic priests were accused of sexually abusing children in Australia over the past several decades.

In testimony to the commission in 2016, Pell conceded that he had made mistakes by often believing priests over people who said they had been abused. And he vowed to help end a rash of suicides that has plagued abuse victims in Ballarat.

Pell testified to the inquiry in a video link from the Vatican about his time as a priest and bishop in Aus-

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tralia. He did not attend in person because of a heart condition and other medical problems.

Police said at the preliminary hearing that they had planned to arrest Pell for questioning had he returned to Australia in early 2016 to testify.

His lawyers argued in court that Pell was targeted for "special treatment" by detectives from a police task force that investigated historical sex abuse. Police witnesses denied that accusation.

Being clear about your last wishes can make death easier for you and loved ones

Lori A. Roscoe, University of South Florida

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Lori A. Roscoe, University of South Florida

(THE CONVERSATION) Barbara Bush's recent death and the way she prepared for it remind us that death can be peaceful and marked by family togetherness rather than conflict.

Mrs. Bush chose palliative, or comfort, care over aggressive medical treatment given her age and overall health status. Her family agreed to support her decisions.

It does not always work this way, but it could.

I recently published a book with Dr. David P. Schenck entitled "Communication and Bioethics at the End of Life: Real Cases, Real Dilemmas." We include several cases in which such family discussions did not occur. This lack of information led to an unfortunate cascade of events that made the patient's deaths more difficult, and left lasting scars on both family members and clinicians.

Most of us won't die at homeWhile we might hope for a quick death at home, a majority of us will die from a chronic condition like heart disease, cancer, or respiratory disease, and nearly 80 percent will die in an institutional setting, following an explicit decision to suspend life-sustaining treatment.

Advance directives or living wills are made to ensure their preferences guide decisions should the person be unable to communicate them.

Studies have shown that discussions between family members can greatly improve end-of-life planning and decision-making. Patients who have discussed end-of-life care with their families generally have shorter stays in intensive care units and more timely "do not resuscitate" orders. These can prevent attempts to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation and instead allow a natural death to occur. Patients and family members who are prepared experience lower rates of depression and anxiety when a family member nears death.

On the other hand, neglecting to discuss such issues can result in longer hospital stays, a greater likelihood of continuing life-sustaining treatment against a patient's preferences, and poorer quality of life for patients and family members.

Changes have been in the worksCongress passed a law in 1991, while Bush's husband was president, that made it mandatory for hospitals to ask patients if they had an advance directive upon admission. But even before the law, called the Patient Self-Determination Act, was passed, physicians had been encouraged to talk to their patients about end-of-life care.

Medicare billing codes introduced in 2016 allowed physicians to charge for time spent in end-of-life conversations with patients.

Despite these legislative and policy initiatives, physicians remain reluctant to discuss dying with their patients. Even if they do, it is unlikely that one's primary care doctor will be present when deciding about a patient's end-of-life care.

And most American adults have not completed an advance directive or living will; about 33 percent do. This leaves two-thirds of families without the information they need to guide end-of-life decisions with or for a family member.

A buzz-kill conversation, but a crucial oneConversations about death and dying are difficult. We Ameri-

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cans live in a society that seems to deny death and receive care in a medical culture that views death as failure. Conversations about death are difficult because they are multifaceted and complex. Simply bringing up the topic of dying can trigger a range of interpretations and concerns. For example, if you ask your mother what her end-of-life treatment goals are, she might perceive you as caring, or she might think you are questioning her capacity to manage her own affairs.

How might family members pursue such difficult conversations, what dilemmas and barriers exist, and what strategies might allow high-quality conversations to take place?

My research assistant, Philip Barrison, and I recently undertook a study, which we intend to submit to an academic journal called Health Communication, to address these crucial questions. We conducted an online survey asking people to respond to a hypothetical scenario: "A family member has asked you to make medical decisions for them if they are unable to make them for themselves, but has not given you any guidance. You want more information about their end-of-life wishes, so how would you proceed to have this conversation?"

We asked participants to write about their goals, the barriers they think they would encounter, and strategies that might be useful.

Our data revealed four goals associated with these conversations: compassion, comprehension, conflict and commitment. Compassion reflects participants' desire to make their family member feel wanted and needed, even while discussing a time after which they would no longer be around.

Comprehension relates to the need to be forceful about soliciting specific information while at the same time being gentle and respectful.

Conflict refers to the practical necessity of designating a single decision maker without provoking disagreements among family members. Commitment describes the tension between the honor and burden of being trusted as a decision-maker for a loved one.

Strategies that emerged from our analysis for achieving these goals included using humor when appropriate; discussing end-of-life issues more generally within the family rather than focusing on the person most likely to need assistance; reading a book, watching a relevant television show or movie, or discussing the end-of-life situation of another person; or suggesting some specific ideas and asking for a response.

While every family is different, family members should and often do find creative ways to have these conversations and avoid future problems.

Our results showed that family members have similar concerns whether they imagined talking to a parent, sibling, or other relative. Only when participants imagined talking to a spouse or partner did another strategy emerge: allowing one's partner not to discuss their end-of-life preferences if they chose not to.

When a person imagined talking to a parent or other family member, the theme of needing to push to get information was pervasive. When adult children are making decisions for a parent, for example, the possibility of family conflict is ever-present. That may have led our would-be decision makers to believe they would need to press for more information even if they encountered substantial resistance.

Our sense is that spouses know they are likely to be the uncontested decision makers for one another, being in a position to both know the other person very well and to be most directly affected by their spouse's life or death.

There is no perfect template for an advance directive, or a foolproof guide to family conversations about death and dying. It may be emotional, there might be conflict, and it is unlikely that families can anticipate every end-of-life situation.

However, there is great benefit to starting these conversations at your next family gathering and keeping the conversation going as parents and spouses age. We can all aspire to a death as dignified as that of Barbara Bush, and talking to your family in advance is a clear step in the right direction.

This article was originally published on The Conversation. Read the original article here: http://theconversation.com/being-clear-about-your-last-wishes-can-make-death-easier-for-you-and-loved-ones-95345.

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Why Venezuelans are some of the unhappiest people in the world Miguel Angel Latouche, Universidad Central de Venezuela

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Miguel Angel Latouche, Universidad Central de Venezuela

(THE CONVERSATION) Venezuelans used to be among the happiest people on the planet.

In 2012, they voted themselves into fifth place in a global Gallup survey on happiness. In 2013, this South American country ranked 20th out of the 156 countries included in the United Nations' annual World Happiness Report, which assesses well-being worldwide based on measures like wealth, life expectancy and corruption.

My home country used to be a prosperous, cheerful place. People were proud to be from Venezuela – a place known for its friendly citizens and beauty queens: Venezuela has produced six Miss Worlds and seven Miss Universes.

Not anymore. This year, Venezuela plunged to 102nd place of 156 countries in the World Happiness Report. By comparison, Denmark topped the list and the United States came in 18th.

What happened?

Terrible leadershipVenezuela has changed dramatically in recent years.

President Nicolás Maduro – who was elected to succeed the popular late leader Hugo Chávez in 2013 – has turned out to be a kind of King Midas in reverse. Everything he touches seemingly turns to garbage.

Venezuela's economy was already going south in Chavez's last years. But under Maduro it has collapsed. Venezuela is drowning in debt, with annual inflation of 15,565 percent.

Once poor people are now starving. On average, Venezuelans have lost 24 pounds each since food shortages began in 2015.

Meanwhile, the middle class is disappearing. According to the labor union UNETE, 75 percent of Venezuelan workers no longer earn enough to support their families.

Maduro's government censors crime data, but citizen groups estimate that 28,479 Venezuelans were killed in 2016, up from 16,549 in 2014. Those are conflict zone-level casualties.

Fleeing these unbearable living conditions, thousands of Venezuelans have begun pouring across the border into neighboring Colombia and Brazil every day.

Rigged electionsAmid all this, Venezuelans must choose their next president on May 20 in an election that international democracy monitors consider a farce.

Maduro has systematically persecuted his opponents, sending them to jail or into exile. The regime has also used the state apparatus to boost its electoral prospects, trading food for votes, suppressing turnout in dissident districts and crushing anti-regime protests.

As a result, this wildly unpopular president is running for reelection without meaningful opposition and is likely to win.

DespairVenezuelans live in terror. People fear falling ill, because medicine is scarce. They fear being murdered. They fear political repression.

It's hard to be happy under a dictatorship.

Many Venezuelans have lost any hope of political change. Maduro has crippled Venezuela's independent institutions, stacking the Supreme Court with loyalists and stripping the National Assembly of its legislative powers. Freedom of speech is long gone.

And if all that's not bad enough, the 2018 Miss Venezuela pageant has been suspended after allegations of prostitution among its contestants.

This article was originally published on The Conversation. Read the original article here: http://theconversation.com/why-venezuelans-are-some-of-the-unhappiest-people-in-the-world-95579.

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Why top US universities have law schools but not police schools Nidia Bañuelos, University of California, Davis

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Nidia Bañuelos, University of California, Davis

(THE CONVERSATION) In response to protests calling for police reform and accountability, some U.S. police departments are partnering with colleges and universities to develop anti-bias training for their employees.

In Washington D.C., for example, officers will take a critical race theory class at the University of the District of Columbia Community College. The idea of providing liberal arts education to officers to improve police-community relations and productivity is not new.

As early as 1967, a federal commission charged with finding solutions to rising crime and police brutality recommended that all police "personnel with general enforcement powers have a baccalaureate degree."

However, recent research indicates that education has mixed results. While some evidence suggests that college-educated officers are less likely to use force, it also shows they are less satisfied with their jobs than peers with less education.

As a postdoctoral fellow, I have been studying police reform movements of the 1950s and '60s. I was surprised to learn of the long and complicated relationship between the police and academia.

The story of the School of Criminology at the University of California, Berkeley, in particular, reveals the challenges of developing a true "police science" – a way of improving practices within this profession by involving police in university-level research and teaching. The potential benefits of such a science are unclear, as police work has struggled to find a home in academia.

The following story is constructed from archival records at Berkeley's Bancroft Library.

College cops at BerkeleyAugust Vollmer has been described by some scholars as the most influential police reformer in modern history. Vollmer served as the chief of the Berkeley police from 1909 to 1932, where he and his protégés improved the lie detector test, developed the world's first fingerprinting system, adopted radio communication and automobile patrol, and set up the first crime lab in the country.

Of all Vollmer's projects, the one dearest to his heart was the professional development of police through education. To this end, he established the world's first police academy at Berkeley in 1908. Defying convention, he also regularly hired college students to work on his force. At the time, academic training was often considered a handicap to good police work because it made officers bookish.

Vollmer's interest in academia was clear: He wanted to develop a team of expert police who would be sensitive to the needs of the communities they served. In 1930, he wrote: "Why should not the cream of the nation be perfectly willing to devote their lives to the cause of service providing that service is dignified, socialized and professionalized?"

Vollmer and his colleagues partnered with Berkeley in pursuit of this vision. In 1916, they began offering summer university courses for police officers. By 1923, they were conferring criminology degrees through the political science department. In 1950, they founded the School of Criminology – the first standalone department at Berkeley dedicated to police science. The school required future officers to take courses in traditional academic departments – sociology, history, mathematics – alongside practical training in police work – things like fingerprinting and interrogation. They could receive a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Science or Master of Criminology upon completion.

The school was run by police for police. O.W. Wilson, the first dean of the school, was a police officer who did not have a Ph.D. At the time, it was rare, although not unprecedented, for working professionals to lead academic departments at Berkeley.

Students came from all over the world to study at the School of Criminology. In the Bancroft archives, I found letters from alumni as far away as the Chinese Ministry of the Interior. Vollmer's work inspired similar programs in other states including Indiana, Washington and Michigan. It also made the case for offering police courses at the other public higher education systems in the state: the California State University

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and California Community Colleges.

'Too occupational'Clark Kerr, former president of the University of California, had major reservations

about educating police at Berkeley.

Kerr was one of the architects of the Master Plan for Higher Education in California, which in 1960 laid out a system of higher education in the state as it still exists today. That plan called for coordination between different types of public institutions. Occupational training programs – like those for police – would be housed at Cal State campuses and community colleges. The University of California campuses would be responsible for scholarship and providing the state's top performing students with a liberal arts education.

In line with this perspective, a faculty committee reviewed the School of Criminology in 1957, and found

it to be "not a proper pursuit for an undergraduate" at Berkeley.

They wrote: "Its aims are too ill-defined to constitute a truly intellectual discipline, its techniques too disparate and fragmentary, and its perspective too occupational."

The committee recommended completely dismantling the School of Criminology. However, by then, the school had become far too important to California law enforcement to go down without a fight.

The Bancroft's archives contain dozens of letters from police officers and other officials asking Berkeley administrators to stall the school's closure. They include petitions from faculty in police training programs at Cal State campuses. Without Berkeley supplying the Cal State programs with police professors and research on policing, they feared their programs would suffer.

As a condition of staying at Berkeley, the school had to look more like a traditional academic department. It would have to hire Ph.D.'s from the social sciences, eliminate vocational coursework and focus on graduate education. Several former officers who were on faculty left the department for more hospitable workplaces. Dean Wilson went on to become the chief of police in Chicago and was replaced by Joseph Lohman, a sociologist from the University of Chicago who also worked as Cook County Sheriff.

After 1960, the school became a place for sociologists to study crime. Many criminology faculty were outspoken critics of the police. In 1971, criminology professor Tony Platt was arrested by the Berkeley police during a political protest. The relationship between the school and the local law enforcement it once trained was deteriorating.

In 1972, the school came under fire again.

A review committee rebuked it for its "current pursuit of academic goals in large part divorced from a professional orientation." In other words, it had succeeded too well in distancing itself from its original mission of educating police officers.

This time around, few law enforcement officials came to its defense. Despite protests from student groups, Berkeley's School of Criminology closed its doors for good in 1976.

Lessons from Berkeley's School of Criminology was one of the most ambitious projects in police education ever undertaken in the U.S. After its demise, police professors came under attack at other universities and in professional associations for a "lack of academic prestige or acceptance." Under constant threat of closure, starvation or neglect, schools of police science reinvented themselves as criminal justice departments. This required expanding their focus to include the courts and corrections.

As other scholars have pointed out, criminal justice is a poor replacement for police science. Students who major in criminal justice do not necessarily plan to become police officers. Nor do faculty need any knowledge of or experience with the police. A recent survey of 2,109 officers in eight metropolitan police departments found that 45 percent of officers had a bachelor's degree or higher. Only half of these majored in criminal justice.

Even if these programs were designed exclusively for police, their absence at major research universities is telling. The vast majority of campuses of the University of California do not offer degrees in criminal justice.

In 2016, California State University, Sacramento launched the Law Enforcement Candidate Scholars Program, which prepares college students from all majors to become police officers through workshops on policing and internships in law enforcement agencies. It may provide valuable information on creating and sustaining police-university partnerships.

For now, as policymakers, educators and police departments consider various strategies for police reform

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– including the ever-popular suggestion that officers be required to have a college degree – it is important to remember the challenges of integrating this profession into the Ivory Tower. It is unclear whether college-level education is beneficial to police, what kind is most useful, how it should be delivered or by whom.

Precisely because major research universities have been reluctant to adopt a robust science of the police, we don't have much evidence for what works and what doesn't. It may be time for educators to ask themselves: What harm is our reluctance to study and educate this profession causing our society?

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Technology is better than ever – but thousands of Americans still die in car crashes every year

Alva O. Ferdinand, Texas A&M University

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Alva O. Ferdinand, Texas A&M University

(THE CONVERSATION) Today, driving is arguably safer than ever been before.

Modern vehicles now boast a number of safety features, including blind spot monitoring, driver alertness detection systems and emergency braking. Additionally, highway engineering has improved over the last several decades. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention called motor vehicle safety one of the top 10 U.S. public health achievements of the 20th century.

Despite this, there were 32,166 crashes that led to at least one death in the U.S. in 2015.

Over the course of one year, crash injuries cost an estimated US\$18 billion spent in lifetime medical expenses and \$33 billion of lifetime work. That's six times more in medical costs than the U.S. spends annually treating gunshot wounds.

These numbers are alarming. It's not a stretch to say that motor vehicle crashes should be viewed as a public health crisis. I have been researching roadway safety for the last five years and have provided expert testimony to state legislative bodies on my findings. The data show that robust distracted driving policies can make a difference – if states pursue them.

Why people crashWhy are there so many crashes when cars and roadways are much improved? Part of the answer lies in a ballooning technological phenomenon: distracted driving.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, there are three primary types of driver distraction: taking one's hands off the wheel, taking one's eyes off the road and taking one's mind off driving.

When a driver interacts with a cellphone – texting, video streaming, emailing – it takes his eyes off the road for several seconds at a time. Research shows that cellphone use while driving can result in longer reaction times, impaired following distance and crashes.

That can be injurious, if not deadly. Studies on distracted driving and cellphone use almost always find negative roadway outcomes, such as near-misses, crashes and delayed reaction times.

In 2015, 10 percent of all roadway fatalities occurring in the U.S. involved distraction, leading to close to 3,500 deaths and an estimated 391,000 people injured. While distracted driving is prevalent among all ages, drivers between the ages of 15 and 19 were involved in more fatal crashes than those in other age groups.

Other major causes for fatal crashes include unfavorable weather conditions, such as fog or snow; drivers' physical impairments, such as drowsiness or heart attacks; aggressive driver behavior; or vehicle failures.

Paradoxically, some causes of crashes may seem positive. As the economy improves and gasoline prices drop, more people drive and crash risk increases. In recent years, the U.S. has climbed out of a recession, and the unemployment rate has been on the decline.

Distracted driving lawsTo tackle the public health threat of coronary heart disease and stroke, states implemented tobacco control laws that prohibit smoking in public places; implemented excise taxes; and

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allowed Medicaid to cover treatment of tobacco addiction.

States have also used legislation to address motor vehicle safety. Common laws include blood alcohol concentration limits; graduated driver licensing programs; and laws mandating the use of seat belts, child safety seats and motorcycle helmets.

States have also zeroed in on texting. Today, all states but Montana have passed laws that specifically prohibit texting while driving. The laws generally define texting as the manual composition, reading or sending electronic communications via a portable electronic device.

However, all state laws prohibiting texting while driving are not created equal. For example, in some states, an officer cannot stop a driver just for texting – there must be another reason. Moreover, some states, like Indiana, ban texting while driving for young drivers only.

In states where officers can stop drivers just for texting, studies show that roadway deaths have gone down by about 3 percent, while hospitalizations decreased about 7 percent.

States where an officer must have another reason did not see significant reductions. In fact, among some age groups, these bans were linked to increases in crash-related fatalities and hospitalizations. This is perhaps because people in these states are holding their devices just a little lower than they otherwise would, so as not to be detected.

As lawmakers and other stakeholders consider what can be done to further address distracted driving as a public health crisis, enforcement of existing laws is an obvious first step. Given that texting bans are not aggressively enforced widely, it stands to reason that more serious attempts of enforcement may lead to safer roads.

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Central American migrant caravan stopped at US border: 5 essential reads

Catesby Holmes, The Conversation

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Catesby Holmes, The Conversation

(THE CONVERSATION) Editor's note: The following is a roundup of stories from The Conversation's archive. The Central American migrants whose month-long journey northward across Mexico spurred President Donald Trump to attack them on Twitter have reached the U.S border.

Some 1,500 Central Americans, most of them Hondurans, made the trip from the Guatemala border to Tijuana. Traveling at turns by foot, train and bus, they moved together in caravan style, citing safety in numbers.

Central America is one of the most violent regions on the planet. The roughly 200 migrants who stayed with the caravan until the U.S.-Mexico border planned to apply for asylum in the United States.

But Trump tweeted that the group "better be stopped" and border control has blocked most from entering the country at the San Ysidro crossing.

Here's what you need to know to understand this standoff.

1. Who gets asylum?Under international law, countries must offer asylum to migrants who can prove they have a "credible fear" of certain kinds of violence at home.

"The rights of refugees – those forced to leave their country because of war or persecution – are enshrined in the 1951 Convention for Refugees and its subsequent 1967 protocol," explains Parvati Nair of the United Nations University.

The Trump administration asserts that the caravan members are not refugees but criminals committing immigration fraud.

The boundary between migrant and refugee can indeed be blurry, Nair says. "Many displaced people

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today defy the parameters used by policymakers to define who is entitled to what rights," which are more than a half-century old.

2. Are Central Americans migrants or refugees? Trump's restrictive approach to immigration evidently hinges on a belief that most people crossing the border are economic migrants from Mexico.

"They're taking our manufacturing jobs," he said in 2015. "They're taking our money."

That perception is out of date, says Jonathan Hiskey, a migration scholar at Vanderbilt University.

"An increasing number of individuals are now arriving at the U.S. southwest border because of crime, violence and insecurity in Central America," Hiskey says.

With 60 murders per 100,000 people in 2017, El Salvador was the deadliest places in the world that was not at war. Almost 4,000 people were killed there last year.

Honduras' murder rate has dropped markedly in recent years, but with 42.8 murders per 100,000 people in 2017, it is still one of the world's most dangerous places.

Hiskey's research shows that fear – not economic opportunity – is what drives many migrants to leave home.

"The strongest predictor of someone having an 'intent to emigrate," he writes, "was whether they had been the victim of crime multiple times in the previous 12 months."

Rather than trying to sneak across the U.S. border, Hiskey says that many of these migrants voluntarily surrender and request asylum in the United States.

3. What are Central Americans fleeing? Many of the Central American asylum seekers now stuck in Tijuana have told reporters that their lives were threatened by gangs like MS-13. Some have family members who have been killed.

MS-13 first appeared as a street gang in Los Angeles during the 1980s. It was not until nearly two decades later, in the early 2000s, that the group expanded into Central America, says Florida International University professor José Miguel Cruz.

As rival Salvadoran gangs from LA did likewise, crime across Central American cities increased. Police in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras began to crack down on gang activity.

"In El Salvador, the spiritual homeland of MS-13, the police arrested nearly 31,000 young people from 2003 to 2005," Cruz says.

As Central American gangs grew stronger, they began fighting to expand their territorial control across the region. Beginning in 2010, these turf wars contributed to an astronomical rise in violence across the region.

"El Salvador went from a homicide rate of 36.9 murders per 100,000 inhabitants in 2000 to 64.4 in 2006 and 70.9 in 2009," says Cruz. "The same thing happened in Honduras and Guatemala, where the rivalry between MS-13 and the Eighteenth Street Gang descended into a succession of local street wars."

4. Why can't their governments protect them? Brutal gangs are not the sole cause of Central America's violence, says Cruz. Rather, they are "a symptom of a far more critical issue plaguing the region – namely, corruption."

Prosecutors in Honduras and El Salvador have discovered numerous financial links between MS-13 and high-ranking government officials.

"They shield criminal organizations in exchange for economic support and political backing in gangcontrolled barrios," says Cruz. These illicit relationships have "shattered most efforts to build the kinds of criminal justice institutions necessary to support a democratic society."

Indictments for government corruption are rare in Central America. As a result, criminals can extort, threaten and kill with impunity. In 2014, 99 percent of all murders in Honduras went unsolved.

5. What is Mexico's role? Fleeing these conditions, hundreds of thousands of Central Americans flee for the United States each year. To get there, they must cross Mexico, which does not criminalize undocumented border crossings into its territory.

But since 2014 the U.S. has put increasing pressure on the Mexican government to increase immigration enforcement and stop Central American migrants before they reach the U.S.-Mexico border, writes Luís

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Gómez Romero, a professor at Australia's University of Wollongong.

In response, Mexico has beefed up security along its border with Guatemala, "increased patrols throughout areas where migrants travel and conducted controversial raids," Gómez Romero says.

Increased enforcement has changed migration routes but not deterred migrants. In 2013, Mexico deported 80,709 immigrants, most of them Central American. In 2016, it sent an estimated 165,000 people – including thousands who had requested asylum – back home.

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How does Congress have chaplains without violating the separation of church and state?

Wendy Cadge, Brandeis University

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Wendy Cadge, Brandeis University and Laura R. Olson, Clemson University

(THE CONVERSATION) Last week, news reports emerged that House Speaker Paul Ryan had forced Father Patrick Conroy, a Jesuit priest and longtime House chaplain, to resign over what many, including Conroy, have claimed is about the content of his prayer. Speaker Ryan has disputed this account, saying that some members simply wanted a different chaplain to better serve their "pastoral needs."

We are scholars of religion and American politics who, with Brandeis Ph.D. candidate Margaret Clendenen Minkin, have written about the history and work of congressional chaplains. The present controversy offers a unique opportunity to ask broader questions about why the U.S. Congress employs chaplains and what they do.

History of congressional chaplainsThe American tradition of legislative prayer dates to 1774, when Jacob Duché, the rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, was recruited to offer prayers before the First Continental Congress.

After the Constitution was ratified, the U.S. Senate selected an Episcopal bishop from New York, Samuel Proovost, as its chaplain in April 1789.

For its part, the House of Representatives chose William Linn, a Philadelphia Presbyterian minister, as its first chaplain in May 1789. Proovost and Linn each received an annual salary of US\$500. After Congress moved to Washington, D.C., local clergy took turns leading prayer before the permanent chaplaincies were institutionalized.

Who are the chaplains today? Today, congressional chaplains hold full time, nonpartisan, nonsectarian jobs. They are formal officials of the chamber in which they serve. Each chaplain has a staff and is paid as a level IV executive federal employee: currently \$164,200.

The chaplains offer public prayers at the beginning of each day of congressional business. They also provide pastoral care for members of Congress and others associated with the House and Senate, including staff, police and family members.

It is noteworthy, however, that they do not demographically represent the American public, and quite strikingly so. Every congressional chaplain since 1789 has been a Christian man, and of those nearly all have been Protestant. Only one, the current Senate chaplain, Rev. Barry Black, has been a person of color. The only time that Muslim and Hindu chaplains have delivered prayers was as one-time guest clergy. It's the same for women.

Church-state separation?In a nation in which church-state separation is the law of the land, it has long been controversial to have chaplains formally working for the federal government. During the 1850s, Congress received a number of petitions calling for the elimination of the positions. But chaplains remained.

In 1983 a lawsuit led by Ernest Chambers, a member of the Nebraska State Legislature, to end the practice of legislative prayer reached the U.S. Supreme Court. However, the court decided to defer to historical custom rather than asserting a firm boundary between church and state.

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In the current controversy, Father Conroy has become the first congressional chaplain ever to leave office in the middle of a congressional term. Whether Speaker Ryan in fact did ask him to resign due to the content of his prayer does not take away from the historic significance of Conroy's departure.

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Nazis pressed ham radio hobbyists to serve the Third Reich – but surviving came at a price

Bruce Campbell, College of William & Mary

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Bruce Campbell, College of William & Mary

(THE CONVERSATION) When people have free and unfettered choices of activities, they both entertain and express themselves through their pastimes – whether stamp or coin collecting, scrapbooking, gardening or tinkering with electronic gadgets. But what happens when those free spirits – particularly those whose hobbies have taught them specialized technical skills – suddenly find themselves living in a dictatorship?

As a historian of national socialism, I note that my newest research into German radio hobbyists has found a cautionary tale. Authoritarian governments or movements often subvert and take over civic organizations — including seemingly unimportant hobby groups — as part of seizing power. My work suggests that people involved in technological hobbies, such as radio, may be able to retain a bit more personal freedom than those in less strategically important ones, such as singing or sports. But that liberty can come at the cost of complicity.

Radio and the NazisIn the "Jazz Age" of the 1920s, people were fascinated with new technologies, including airplanes, motor vehicles and radios. Large industries grew from those fascinations, of course, but so did hobbies and groups of hobbyists.

In Germany – and other countries – radio hobby clubs thrived. Several hundred thousand Germans joined these groups, in part because commercial radios were very expensive, and clubs helped people build their own much more cheaply. Once built, they also tinkered with the radios' insides, partly just because they could and partly to improve reception, particularly of foreign stations, which often offered more light entertainment than state-controlled German broadcasting. (The clubs also threw great parties.)

In 1933, the Nazis took power in Germany. They began a comprehensive and often violent process of remaking all of German society to serve the Nazi Party. Groups as diverse as choirs, political parties, sports clubs and chambers of commerce were shut down outright or taken over and purged of Jews, socialists, outspoken democrats and other people the Nazis deemed "undesirables."

The groups that survived had to support the new regime. Radio hobbyists were particularly exposed because their skills involved building communications equipment.

The Nazis were especially interested in ham radio operators, who were part of a worldwide community of hobbyists who did much more than just listen to entertainment or news broadcast by others. They transmitted and received messages on their own. In Germany, people couldn't buy ready-made radio transmitters and other technical equipment that were usable on the frequencies of interest to amateurs. Ham operators had to build their own equipment, which went far beyond the simple broadcast-band receivers most hobbyists built. They also had to – as is still true today – pass a fairly complicated technical exam to earn a transmitting license.

This meant that hams, whether or not they were electrical engineers or other types of scientists by profession, accumulated a fairly high degree of scientific and technical knowledge in electrical engineering and radio-frequency reception and transmission. They also got a lot of practical experience in using radio equipment, which only professional radio operators could match.

Ham radio's survival Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi minister of propaganda and popular enlightenment, understood the power that radio could have, both to disseminate Nazi propaganda and to connect groups

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who were resisting the Nazi takeover. So he moved quickly to take control of not only commercial broadcast radio stations but also the radio clubs and their members. Those clubs that wanted only to passively listen to broadcast radio and tinker a little bit were shut down.

The hams, who wanted to transmit their own information, found themselves in a difficult position. The Nazis knew that German hams had a history of illegal transmission without licenses and were likely to have unsupervised radio contacts with foreigners, even those from the Soviet Union or France, Germany's former enemy in World War I.

Though there were only a few thousand licensed German hams, their technical expertise was too valuable to the regime to be completely dismissed. In fact, German ham radio operators and their clubs found themselves with several powerful Nazi supporters – including in the German military – who protected them from being shut down as other hobby groups had been. The government even doubled the number of available ham transmission licenses.

Hams could continue their hobby, but only if they collaborated, at times in ways antithetical to the hobby's previous culture.

What the Nazis wanted from amateur radioIn the spring of 1933, as the Nazis consolidated power, Goebbels took control of the hams' national organization, called the "German Amateur Transmission and Reception Service," known by its German initials as the DASD. While ostensibly a private organization, it was forced to let the Propaganda Ministry choose its president, in consultation with the German military, and give the government veto power over other club leaders.

One of Goebbels's hopes was that German ham operators could use their connections with ham radio operators in other countries to spread Nazi propaganda around the world. That didn't prove very valuable: Most radio exchanges with foreign amateurs focused on purely technical information. In any case, the fact that many German hams could be heard on the airways was never taken by outsiders as proof of how wonderful life under national socialism was claimed to be.

German hams never bothered to tell the Propaganda Ministry how silly this international propaganda idea actually was and dutifully reported large numbers of foreign contacts.

Rebuilding the German militaryMore importantly, though, German amateur radio hobbyists were a big boost for the Nazis' secret military rebuilding effort. The Treaty of Versailles, which had ended World War I, strictly limited how many people and weapons the German military could have. Adding – and communicating with – more units beyond the Versailles limits would require technically accomplished radiomen who understood shortwave radios and could send and receive Morse code at high speed. Amateur radio hobbyists fit the bill exactly, and were recruited directly into the armed forces, the intelligence services and the communications service of the diplomatic corps.

They also taught radio skills to active duty soldiers and future recruits, like the Hitler Youth and men preparing to join the German Navy. Having amateur radio hobbyists do the training let the German military avoid tipping off Britain, France, Belgium or the United States that Germany was rearming on a large scale. All the new radiomen on the air could be explained as just simple hobbyists.

The German ham radio organization, the DASD, provided other technical expertise too, such as identifying frequencies that might be useful for military communications. The SS Security Service even commissioned the DASD's main laboratory to design and build miniature radio transceivers spies could use to receive orders and report their findings.

The price of survivalTo keep transmitting under the Third Reich, German ham operators faced a terrible moral quandary. Like all members of German society, they had to accept close scrutiny from security forces. But to keep operating their radios, German hams had to participate actively in the Nazi regime, driving Jews and anti-Nazis from their hobbyist ranks and collaborating closely with authorities, including the SS and intelligence services.

In retrospect, the DASD's relationship with the Nazis was too close. But it is in the nature of dictatorship not to allow people to stand on the sidelines. Ham operators who considered resisting the Nazis faced a special challenge: Unlike dance groups or musicians, radio technicians had strategic skills and therefore

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were more likely to be sought out and compelled to help the regime. Refusal might mean loss of economic opportunity at best, arrest, concentration camp or even execution at worst. The potential consequences were clear.

Faced with the choice of flight, open resistance or collaboration, most chose collaboration, particularly because this allowed them to continue their cherished hobby. The problem is, in the Third Reich, there was no such thing as a little complicity. It is a sad irony that even hobby clubs, one of the pillars of civil society, were used by the Nazis to cement their dictatorship.

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Will Trump's ire force Montana's Senator Tester away from political center?

Lee Banville, The University of Montana

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Lee Banville, The University of Montana

(THE CONVERSATION) Democrat Jon Tester has made a name for himself by largely not making a national name for himself.

In the last 11 years, the two-term Montana senator has walked an increasingly narrow line – backing many critical partisan initiatives while also trying to remain distinct from the national party.

It is a spot that became a lot more difficult to hold on to after President Donald Trump targeted the Montana senator recently for spreading reports, many of them anonymous and some now questioned, about the president's nominee to head the Department of Veterans Affairs.

President Trump has taken to Twitter and the stump to attack Tester, who is running for reelection this fall. Trump has called on Tester to resign and threatened that "I know things about Tester that I could say, too, and if I said them, he'd never be elected again."

He's called the Montanan "a disgrace" and said:

This kind of public battle between politicians has been my bread and butter, first as a journalist for the PBS NewsHour and later as a professor of journalism at the University of Montana here in Tester's home state.

Tester, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, went public with concerns, many of them based on leaked reports, that the nominee to head the Veterans Administration, or VA, Dr. Ronny Jackson, was unfit.

Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Johnny Isakson of Georgia, a Republican, co-signed a letter with Tester calling on Dr. Jackson to be investigated. But despite the Republican senator's public support for an investigation, Trump has made this story about Tester.

In doing so, Trump is asking Montana voters to choose between himself and Tester – even as those voters have expressed support for both men. Trump won the state by more than 20 points in 2016 and Tester scored a narrower 3.4 percent victory in his electoral battle against the state's lone congressman in 2012.

Can Tester stay independent? Tester has also taken the lead on issues like reducing red tape in the VA and protecting whistle-blowers who go public with complaints about the agency. It is no small issue in a state where nearly one in 10 residents is a veteran.

Tester is an anomaly in modern American politics – a politician who regularly bucks his party's leadership, often votes with Republicans and seeks to make politics about the needs of local residents rather than national parties.

It is a line he has had to walk since his unlikely victory over longtime Republican Sen. Conrad Burns, who had been dogged by his connection with a GOP lobbying scandal in 2006. Tester quickly sought the political middle ground.

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It is a necessity in a state where only one Democratic presidential candidate has won the state's three electoral votes in the past 50 years – and that was mainly because of the popularity of outsider Ross Perot in 1992. Perot pulled votes away from GOP candidate President George H.W. Bush, allowing Democrat Bill Clinton to win with only a plurality, not a majority.

Montana is also a state where Democrats have lost more and more statewide races in recent years – including all but the governor's race in 2016. The governor, Steve Bullock, has also worked hard to carve out a middle ground, working with moderate Republicans in the legislature to pass practical legislation that is seen as fairly moderate.

But even Bullock faced a close race against political newcomer Greg Gianforte, winning a 4-point victory on a message of moderate and pragmatic problem-solving.

For Tester, this has meant trying to position himself between the two partisan extremes. One example of this approach can be seen in a bill Tester has pushed for years on forest management and wilderness.

Tester crafted a bill that made neither side particularly happy. Advocates for more wilderness argued the bill amounted to mandatory logging in national forests. Some logging lobbyists said the bill would set aside huge swaths of land for wilderness status without any clear plan to increase harvesting of forests.

As Tester described it, the bill was "a well-thought-out, grassroots, made-in-Montana solution to issues in the forest."

That is how Tester has positioned himself throughout his tenure in office. If you need more evidence, watch his first campaign ad this year:

It is an artful presentation of the modern political moderate. The ad features the 13 bills President Trump has signed into law that were sponsored by Tester. It could be a Republican ad. But it isn't, and it does not stop with the presentation of Tester's close association with the president.

After first responders, veterans and others list seven of the senator's achievements, Tester appears, holding up seven fingers and saying, "Eight. And I'm out of fingers!" It's a moment that works for a couple of reasons.

First, he is a Democrat who has worked with President Trump on multiple issues. And second, he's out of fingers because Tester lost three to a meat grinder when he was nine years old. Tester is not some polished politician, but a sort of everyman, working the farm now and having worked since he was a boy.

Carefully crafted personaIn that moment, the uniqueness of Jon Tester comes through clearly to the Montana voters. Here is a guy who is not a Washington, D.C. politician. He has been sure to maintain his family's organic farm in rural Big Sandy even as he travels back and forth to Washington. He has carefully crafted the persona of a moderate who will stand up for everyday Montanans, a regular guy with a flattop haircut and a sense of Montana values.

It's one even his opponents seem to admit holds sway, primarily because they spend a lot of their time and energy fighting it.

One potential opponent – if he wins the Republican primary – is Troy Downing. Downing has an ad where he accuses Tester of being not a real farmer but actually a music teacher. Others have stressed the need to have strong local support to take on Tester, who has out-raised all of his opponents.

The dust-up with President Trump is a moment of uncertainty out here in Montana, though. Is this when Tester becomes a national Democrat and therefore less electable here in an increasingly red state? Can Republicans finally get more traction with their argument that Tester is really a typical Democrat in a Republican state? Or will Tester's focus on pushing the VA to be better be the primary thing to stick in the minds of Montanans?

For all the tweets and statements, none have come from the top Republicans in Montana. Sen. Steve Daines, Rep. Greg Gianforte and Attorney General Tim Fox – a likely gubernatorial candidate in 2020 – have so far stayed out of the debate. Their silence may be the most telling reaction so far.

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Armenia's parliament set to vote on new premier By YURAS KARMANAU, Associated Press

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP) — Armenia's prospective next prime minister warned Tuesday that the country will be plunged into a deep political crisis if the ruling party fails to support his candidacy.

Opposition leader Nikol Pashinian, who has been nominated for prime minister, told lawmakers that Armenia will be swept in a "political tsunami" if the ruling Republic party fails to support him.

The Armenian parliament is expected to vote on a new prime minister later Tuesday. Pashinian is the only candidate but the chamber is controlled by the ruling party, and Pashinian needs their votes to win.

Pashinian led more than two weeks of anti-government protests that forced Serzh Sargsyan, who led Armenia as president for 10 years and was elected prime minister in mid-April, to resign. The opposition in this Caucasus Mountains country saw Sargsyan's move into the prime minister's chair as an attempt to stay in power indefinitely.

The Elk or "Exit" opposition alliance formally announced Pashinian's nomination at the start of the session, and the opposition leader himself later took the floor to answer the deputies' question before the vote was to be held.

Between 30,000 and 40,000 people have packed the square outside to show their support for Pashinian. Protesters played folk music and waved the Armenian tricolor as the parliamentary session was televised on a giant screen installed just outside.

"The only thing that people on this square will accept is Pashinian's win, changes in the country and the ouster of the old clan," said 47-year-old engineer David Babayan who came to the Republic Square with his wife and ten-year-old son.

Nataliya Vasilyeva in Moscow contributed to this report.

Tony Award nominations Tuesday promise clash of big brands By MARK KENNEDY, AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Whichever show garners the most Tony Award nominations on Tuesday will very likely sound familiar.

That's because most of the leading candidates on Broadway stages these days are derived from a film, TV or music, including "Harry Potter," 'Mean Girls," 'Frozen," 'SpongeBob SquarePants," 'Summer," 'Escape to Margaritaville" and "The Band's Visit."

Best new musical nominations are expected for "The Band's Visit," based on a 2007 Israeli film about an accidental clash of cultures, and Tina Fey's "Mean Girls," which she adapted from her much-beloved and oft-guoted 2004 high school comedy movie.

Other shows hoping to score a nomination in that category are the goofy undersea adaptation "Sponge-Bob SquarePants," Disney's retelling of "Frozen," the Hal Prince revue "Prince of Broadway," the Jimmy Buffet musical "Escape to Margaritaville" and "Summer," about disco diva Donna Summer

Most observers believe J.K. Rowling's latest "Harry Potter" offering will lead the best new play nominees. The two-part "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child," which picks up 19 years from where Rowling's last novel left off and portrays Potter and his friends as grown-ups, won nine Olivier Awards in London before coming to America and bewitching critics and audiences alike.

Other best play candidates include "Farinelli and the King," "The Children," "Junk," "Meteor Shower,"

'Latin History for Morons," 'John Lithgow: Stories by Heart" and "The Parisian Woman."

"Carousel," 'My Fair Lady" and "Once on This Island" will make up the best musical revival category, mostly because they're only eligible nominees. The best play revival will probably be led by "Angels in America," "Three Tall Women" and "The Iceman Cometh."

Plenty of nominations don't necessarily lead to actual wins on Tony night. While "Hamilton" was nominated for 16 awards in 2016 and went on to win 11, just last year "Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of

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1812" earned a leading 12 nominations but got just two technical awards on the big night.

Mark Kennedy is at http://twitter.com/KennedyTwits

US May Day immigration protests target Trump, fall elections By DEEPTI HAJELA and AMY TAXIN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Immigrants say President Donald Trump's administration has become almost everything they feared, but while they rally across the United States on May Day, their focus is less on huge turnout Tuesday than on the first Tuesday in November.

Marches and other demonstrations for labor and immigrant rights were planned from Florida to New York to California on International Workers' Day and come amid similar actions worldwide.

"The Trump administration has made very clear that they've declared war on the immigrant community on all levels," said Javier Valdez, co-executive director of the advocacy group Make the Road New York.

Immigrant rights groups have joined in May Day activities for more than a decade, initially to push back against harsh legislative proposals and later to clamor for reform and legal status for immigrants in the country illegally who were brought to the U.S. as children or overstayed their visas.

Now, they want to drive turnout in the midterm elections. Advocates hope voters target lawmakers who have pushed for measures that hurt immigrants and replace them with immigrant-friendly policymakers, said Angelica Salas, executive director of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights in Los Angeles.

"Elections have consequences, and the consequences for our community have been dire, and if we do not change the balance of power, we question our ability to remain free in this country," she said.

Protesters still are taking aim at policy changes under Trump, including a country-specific travel ban, the end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, high-profile detention and deportation efforts, and proposals to cut back the overall numbers of people allowed to immigrate permanently.

Trump and his supporters say the enforcement and policy changes are needed for national security and economic benefits. Some of the new policies have gotten tangled up in court, and Trump hasn't secured funding for his coveted border wall with Mexico.

After the rallies, immigrant rights groups will join LGBTQ, African-American and women's organizations this summer to push for the election of new leaders, Salas said, adding that they hope to see more support from Americans who aren't immigrants.

"It is really a fundamental question about what kind of a country we're going to be," she said. "For us, the question of immigration is a question about race, and it is also a question about real equality in this country."

Taxin reported from Santa Ana, California. Taxin and Hajela cover immigration issues for The Associated Press. Follow them on Twitter at http://www.twitter.com/dhajela and https://twitter.com/ataxin . For more of their work, search for their names at https://apnews.com .

Australian cardinal to face trial on sexual abuse charges By ROD McGUIRK, Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Australian Cardinal George Pell, the most senior Vatican official to be charged in the Catholic Church sex abuse crisis, must stand trial on charges alleging he sexually abused multiple victims decades ago, a magistrate ruled Tuesday.

Magistrate Belinda Wallington dismissed around half the charges that had been heard in the four-week preliminary hearing in Melbourne but decided the prosecution's case was strong enough for the remainder to warrant a trial by jury. The number of charges has not been made public

When she asked Pell how he pleaded, the cardinal said in a firm voice, "Not guilty." Wallington gave the 76-year-old permission not to stand, which is customary.

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When the magistrate left the room at the end of the hearing, many people in the packed public gallery broke into applause.

Pell's plea marked the only words he spoke in public. Wearing a cleric's collar, white shirt and dark suit, he was silent as he entered and left the downtown courthouse with his lawyer Robert Richter. More than 40 uniformed police officers maintained order on the crowded sidewalk outside.

The cardinal's legal team found some solace in the outcome, with Richter telling the magistrate "the most vile allegations" had been dismissed.

Lawyers for Australia's highest-ranking Catholic had argued that all the accusations were untrue, could not be proved and should be dismissed.

Wallington dismissed one charge because the alleged victim was an "unsatisfactory witness" during the first two weeks of the preliminary hearing, when complainants testified via a video link from a remote location to a courtroom closed to the public and media.

"It is difficult to see how a jury could convict on the evidence of man who has said on his affirmation that he cannot recall what he said a minute ago," Wallington said.

"In my view, this is one of those rare cases where the witness demonstrated such a cavalier attitude toward giving his evidence that a jury couldn't rely upon it," he added.

She described her job in the preliminary hearing as "sifting the wheat from the chaff."

"Unless the credibility of a witness is effectively destroyed, credibility and reliability are matters for a jury," she said. "Where the evidence is so weak that the prospect of conviction is minimal, it is not of sufficient weight to commit" a defendant to stand trial.

She said she did not dismiss charges "merely because there is a reasonable hypothesis consistent with innocence."

She ordered Pell, Pope Francis' former finance minister, to appear on Wednesday in the Victoria state County Court where he will eventually stand trial.

Under his bail conditions, Pell cannot leave Australia, contact prosecution witnesses and he must give police 24-hours notice of any change of address.

Pell was charged last June with sexually abusing multiple people in his Australian home state of Victoria. The details of the allegations against the cleric have yet to be released to the public, though police have described the charges as "historical" sexual assault offenses — meaning the crimes allegedly occurred decades ago.

Richter, Pell's lawyer, told Wallington in his final submissions two weeks ago that the complainants might have testified against one of the church's most powerful men to punish him for failing to act against abuse by clerics.

But prosecutor Mark Gibson told the magistrate there was no evidence to back Richter's theory that Pell had been targeted over the church's failings.

Since Pell returned to Australia from the Vatican in July, he has lived in Sydney and flown to Melbourne for his court hearings. His circumstances are far removed from the years he spent as the high-profile and polarizing archbishop of Melbourne and later Sydney before his promotion to Rome in 2014.

The case places both the cardinal and the pope in potentially perilous territory. For Pell, the charges are a threat to his freedom, his reputation and his career. For Francis, they are a threat to his credibility, given he famously promised a "zero tolerance" policy for sex abuse in the church.

Advocates for abuse victims have long railed against Francis' decision to appoint Pell to the high-ranking position in the first place. At the time of his promotion, Pell was already facing allegations that he had mishandled cases of clergy abuse during his time leading the church in Melbourne and Sydney, Australia's largest cities.

So far, Francis has withheld judgment of Pell, saying he wants to wait for justice to run its course. And he did not force the cardinal to resign, though Pell took an immediate leave of absence so he could return to Australia to fight the charges. Pell said he intends to continue his work as a prefect of the church's economy ministry once the case is resolved.

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In recent years, Pell's actions as archbishop came under particular scrutiny by a government-authorized investigation into how the Catholic Church and other institutions have responded to the sexual abuse of children.

Australia's Royal Commission Into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse — the nation's highest form of inquiry — revealed last year that 7 percent of Catholic priests were accused of sexually abusing children in Australia over the past several decades.

In testimony to the commission in 2016, Pell conceded that he had made mistakes by often believing priests over people who said they had been abused. And he vowed to help end a rash of suicides that has plagued abuse victims in his hometown of Ballarat.

Pell testified to the inquiry in a video link from the Vatican about his time as a priest and bishop in Australia. He did not attend in person because of a heart condition and other medical problems.

Police said at the preliminary hearing that they had planned to arrest Pell for questioning had he returned to Australia in early 2016 to testify.

His lawyers argued in court that Pell was targeted for "special treatment" by detectives from a police task force that investigated historical sex abuse. Police witnesses denied that accusation.

The investigation of Pell began in 2013 before any complainant had come forward to police, whom Richter accused of running "a get Pell operation."

Pell's lawyers told the court in February that the first complainant approached police in 2015, 40 years after the alleged crimes, in response to media reports about the royal commission.

Pell was charged by summons in Rome and agreed to return to Australia to face the allegations.

AP Analysis: Iran has few options to avenge Syria strikesBy JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — After a second suspected Israeli strike killing Iranian forces in Syria, the Islamic Republic has few ways to retaliate as its leaders wrestle with both unrest at home and the prospect of its nuclear deal collapsing abroad.

Though it has long made threats about Israel's existence, Iran doesn't have a modern air force to take on Israel. Launching ballistic missiles also remains a question mark, considering Israel's anti-missile defense system, the near-certainty of massive Israeli retaliation and the risk of further alienating the West as President Donald Trump threatens to withdraw the United States from the atomic accord.

Meanwhile, Iran's long-favored strategy of relying on allied militant groups and proxies faces limits as well. Hezbollah, now bloodied and battered from Syria's long war, may not have the appetite for another conflict as the Shiite militant group tries to further integrate into local Lebanese politics.

Here's a look at what happened and the challenges confronting Iran as it weighs its response.

THE ATTACKS

On April 9, a suspected Israeli jet fighter targeted Syria's T4 air base in central Homs province, hours after a suspected poison gas attack on a rebel-held Syrian town. That strike killed 14 people, including seven Iranians.

On Sunday, just before midnight, another attack struck Syrian government outposts further north, in Hama and Aleppo provinces. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the strikes, which targeted an arms depot containing surface-to-surface missiles belonging to Iranian militias in Hama province and a military base in Aleppo province, killed 26 pro-government forces, most of them Iranians.

Suspicion for both attacks immediately fell on Israel, which, in keeping with tradition, has neither confirmed nor denied carrying out the strikes. If Israeli jets carried out the latest assault, it would mean the country's fighters are flying deeper and deeper into Syrian territory, as Hama is some 180 kilometers (110 miles) from Israel.

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While Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called the April 9 attack "a crime" and other officials threatened revenge, there are significant limits to Iran's conventional military forces.

Iran's air force, in particular, has suffered since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. The backbone of its air power remains pre-revolution American F-4s, F-5s and F-14s, with a mix of other Soviet, French and aging aircraft. That fleet is outgunned by the modern U.S.-supplied fighter jets flown by Israel and the Gulf Arab states.

To counter that, Iran has put much of its money toward developing a ballistic missile force it says provides a defensive deterrent to a direct air attack. Iran's Revolutionary Guard, a hard-line paramilitary force answerable only to Khamenei, controls those ballistic missiles, which can reach Israel.

There is recent precedent for Iran launching ballistic missiles to avenge attacks. Last June, six Iranian Zolfaghar missiles targeted Islamic State group positions in Syria in revenge for an IS-claimed attack on the Iranian parliament and the mausoleum of Ruhollah Khomeini, the Islamic Republic's founder. However, Israeli media later reported only one made it to its target, something denied by the Guard.

Israel, in cooperation with the U.S., also has developed a multi-layer system of missile defense that could protect it against incoming Iranian fire. While no missile defense is perfect, Israel could defend itself. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, long a hawk on Iran, also likely wouldn't hesitate to launch a massive retaliatory strike.

NUCLEAR DEAL IN THE BALANCE

A missile attack on Israel would draw an immediate response from the West, in particular the U.S., which long has acted as the guarantor of Israel's safety. Trump has pledged "we have no better friends anywhere" than Israel and is moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, a move that has angered Palestinians, who claim east Jerusalem as the capital of a future state, and their Arab backers.

Any military action would further isolate Iran as Trump faces a self-imposed May 12 deadline to decide what to do about the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers. That deal allowed Iran to sell crude oil on the international market and regain access to the world's banks. Losing it could mean further economic problems for Iran, which has already seen its currency, the rial, crater against the U.S. dollar.

While average Iranians haven't experienced any direct benefit from the nuclear deal, they have felt the currency crisis. Iranian government officials recognize that anger, coupled with still-smoldering resentments after nationwide protests swept the country in December and January, could further challenge their rule. That could grow with a fumbled direct attack on Israel.

PROXY PROBLEMS

Iran could fall back on its regional militant allies or proxies to launch an attack, a strategy it has used with great success after its ruinous 1980s war with Iraq. After the 2003 U.S.-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein, the U.S. blamed Iran for training Iraqi militants to build so-called explosively formed projectiles, which penetrated armored vehicles to maim and kill soldiers. Tehran denied doing this. Western nations and U.N. experts also say Iran has supplied the Shiite rebels now holding Yemen's capital with weapons, from small arms to ballistic missiles, something Tehran also denies.

Iran's greatest proxy achievement, however, is Hezbollah, the Lebanese militant group and political organization that pushed occupying Israeli forces out of Lebanon in 2000. Since then, Hezbollah has remained an adversary of Israel and fought one war against it in 2006. Southern Lebanon's rolling hills bordering Israel remain Hezbollah's stronghold.

Iran could retaliate through Hezbollah, but the group has been battered in the Syrian war. Supporting embattled Syrian President Bashar Assad has seen hundreds of its fighters killed and wounded.

Hezbollah also wants to further integrate into local Lebanese politics as the nation votes on Sunday for a new parliament for the first time in nine years. Launching a new war could endanger its political support base, including possibly among its Shiite constituency, which is wary of another ruinous war with Israel.

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For now, Iran continues to threaten retaliation. If none comes, Israel may feel emboldened to launch strikes even deeper into Syria to clear out major Iranian bases before that country's war ends. But continuing strikes risk further escalation on all sides, with Hezbollah still heavily armed just across the Israeli border. How Russia and the U.S. would respond to any escalation remains a question as well.

Associated Press writer Zeina Karam in Beirut contributed to this report.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Jon Gambrell has covered the Middle East from Cairo and Dubai, United Arab Emirates, since 2013.

Follow him on Twitter at www.twitter.com/jongambrellap . His work can be found at http://apne.ws/2galNpz .

Migrants in caravan criticized by Trump start seeking asylum By ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

TIJUANA, Mexico (AP) — U.S. border inspectors allowed in the first wave of Central American asylumseekers to enter the country for processing Monday after a temporary impasse over lack of space to accommodate them.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection said it processed hundreds of asylum-seekers in the previous week, many of them Mexican, which contributed to a bottleneck that led inspectors to turn away caravan members when they arrived late Sunday afternoon. The agency didn't say how many caravan members were allowed in, but organizers said there were eight.

About 140 others were still waiting in Mexico to turn themselves in at San Diego's San Ysidro border crossing, the nation's busiest, said Alex Mensing, project organizer for Pueblo Sin Fronteras, which is leading the caravan.

"The spirits are high, there was good news for everybody," Mensing said on the Mexican side of the crossing, moments after learning that some were allowed in.

The Central Americans allowed in after the monthlong journey across Mexico may face a longer journey ahead. Some parents may be separated from their children and be detained for many months while their asylum cases are pending.

Asylum-seekers are typically held up to three days at the border and turned over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. If they pass an asylum officer's initial screening, they may be detained or released with ankle monitors while their cases wind through immigration court, which can take years.

Nearly 80 percent of asylum-seekers passed the initial screening from October through December, but few are likely to win asylum.

The denial rate for El Salvadorans seeking asylum was 79 percent from 2012 to 2017, according to Syracuse University's Transactional Records Action Clearinghouse. Hondurans were close behind with a 78 percent denial rate, followed by Guatemalans at 75 percent.

Trump administration officials have railed against what they call "legal loopholes" and "catch-and-release" policies that allow people seeking asylum to be freed while their cases are adjudicated.

Vice President Mike Pence, on a California border tour Monday, said the caravan was "a direct result of our weak immigration laws and our porous border" and a "deliberate attempt to undermine the laws of this country and the sovereignty of the United States."

Attorney General Jeff Sessions has pledged to send more immigration judges to the border if needed and threatened criminal prosecution. On Monday, the Justice Department said it filed illegal entry charges against 11 people identified as caravan members.

Asylum-seekers didn't appear to be thrown off the by the delay.

Elin Orrellana, a 23-year-old pregnant woman from El Salvador, said she is fleeing the violent MS-13 street gang, a favorite target of both Sessions and Trump because of their brutal killings in communities in the United States. She said her older sister had been killed by the gang in El Salvador, so she is attempting

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to join other family members in the Kansas City area.

"Fighting on is worth it," she said as she camped out Sunday for chilly night outside the border crossing. Customs and Border Protection has room for about 300 people at the San Diego border crossing.

"As in the past when we've had to limit the number of people we can bring in for processing at a given time, we expect that this will be a temporary situation," the agency said.

During a surge of Haitian arrivals at the San Diego crossing in 2016, Customs and Border Protection required people to wait more than five weeks in Mexico. Since then, smaller upticks of Mexican asylumseekers have caused delays of several hours.

Associated Press writers Gerardo Carrillo in Tijuana and Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

Kelly dismisses as false a report he called Trump an 'idiot' By ZEKE MILLER, JONATHAN LEMIRE and CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — New details emerged on the rift between White House chief of staff John Kelly and President Donald Trump, with one former administration official saying Kelly privately called Trump "an idiot" last year.

Kelly's insult to the president's intelligence, confirmed to The Associated Press by the former official, came as his clashes with Trump over policy and personnel grew louder and more frequent. Kelly, who has cast himself as safeguarding the public from the president, has also threatened to quit the White House on several occasions.

Kelly's disparaging remark was first reported Monday by NBC News. In a statement Monday, Kelly called the report "total BS," and characterized his relationship with Trump as "incredibly candid and strong." He added of the president, "He always knows where I stand and he and I both know this story is total BS."

Kelly's top aide, Zachary Fuentés, also disputed the characterization, saying he had nevér heard Kelly describe the president that way.

"Remember, he is a Marine. Once a Marine, always a Marine," said Fuentes. "The office of the commander in chief is held to the highest regard."

Trump appeared to react to the NBC report on Twitter on Monday evening. He tweeted, "The Fake News is going crazy making up false stories and using only unnamed sources (who don't exist)." He added, "The White House is running very smoothly."

In recent months, Trump has chafed at Kelly's management style, and has occasionally talked with friends about replacing him.

Indeed, Trump has floated the idea of appointing Kelly to run the Department of Veterans Affairs in calls with outside allies, said two people familiar with the conversations, though there are other possibilities in the mix and the president often floats ideas without taking action. Kelly has made clear he wouldn't accept such an offer.

In his early days in the White House, Kelly imposed strict controls on access and the flow of information to Trump, though his direct influence has waned somewhat since then, aides said. Kelly allies insist he has merely trained the staff to follow his management protocols, but officials note that Trump has grown more willing to act unilaterally, ignoring or simply not seeking out the advice of his top aide.

The disagreements between the retired four-star general and the businessman-turned-president have grown more animated, and on one such occasion last year Kelly blasted the president as "an idiot" to staffers, the former administration official told the AP. The former official was not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations and requested anonymity.

Kelly has also told confidents that he has at times served as a guardrail, protecting the American people from Trump, according to a person familiar with his views. The person, and others who spoke about private conversations, was not authorized to discuss private conversations by name and requested anonymity.

Frustrated with his chief of staff, Trump has taken to paying more attention to the advice of former campaign aides like Corey Lewandowski, who appeared alongside the president at a rally in Michigan Saturday.

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During the rally, which one person likened to a trial, Trump called Lewandowski on stage and praised him for not being a "pushover" or a "patsy."

The president also recently told an ally that he was still frustrated by an interview that Kelly gave to Fox News more than three months ago in which he suggested that Trump had "evolved" in his thinking about the need for a wall on the Mexican border.

Trump's anger about that remark — the president believed it insulted his intelligence and made him look like a flip-flopper on a signature campaign issue — was "the beginning of the end" for Kelly, according to several Trump confidants.

Moreover, a number of people whom Kelly ousted or blocked from the West Wing — including Lewandowski and Anthony Scaramucci — are known to frequently fill the president's ears with attacks on the chief of staff while telling Trump that Kelly has been holding him back.

Kelly's handling of domestic violence accusations against then-White House staff secretary Rob Porter earlier this year caused consternation among White House staffers, who believed Kelly wasn't truthful.

The public revelation of an insult directed at the president's intelligence is reminiscent of leaks last year that then-Secretary of State Rex Tillerson called Trump a "moron." That episode created what White House officials described as an irreparable rift between Trump and his chief diplomat, and ultimately led to Tillerson's unceremonious March firing.

Kelly said NBC's report "is another pathetic attempt to smear people close to President Trump and distract from the administration's many successes."

Still, Kelly has told people close to him that while he wanted to make the one-year mark in the position — that would mean late July — though he no longer is confident he will.

Fuentes, meanwhile, said that Kelly is distressed to see his name tainted, but: "The reason that Kelly's here is because he believes in this country and he's a man of service."

"His relationship with the president is great, never been better," he added. "They aren't having any issues whatsoever."

Associated Press writer Jill Colvin contributed to this report.

Pentagon: Claims of retaliation for complaints on rise By LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — More U.S. service members said they faced retribution for filing sexual assault or harassment complaints last year than in 2016, according to an annual Pentagon report, as the Defense Department saw a growing number of sexual misconduct cases.

According to the report released Monday, there were 146 reports of retaliation last year, compared to 84 in 2016, and the number of sexual harassment complaints jumped by 16 percent. Nearly two-thirds of the harassment cases that were resolved were substantiated.

The increase in sexual misconduct cases came in a year that also saw the number of reported sexual assaults grow by about 10 percent. The Associated Press reported last week that there were 6,769 reports of sexual assaults in the fiscal year that ended last Sept. 30, compared to 6,172 in 2016.

Pentagon officials say the increase in reporting reflects a broader confidence in the system and is a positive trend because sexual assault is a highly underreported crime. But it's unclear if the larger jumps in harassment and retaliation complaints reflect a similar confidence or simply represent a growing problem. Retribution is a key element in sexual assault cases.

"Fear of ostracism and retaliation remains a barrier to reporting sexual assault or filing a sexual harassment complaint," the report said, adding that many women fear it will damage their reputations and haunt them for the length of their careers.

The bulk of the retaliation cases involved women who had filed sexual assault complaints, while less than 20 percent involved service members who filed sexual harassment complaints. In their complaints, many said they felt ostracized and faced cruelty or mistreatment.

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Under the law, reprisal can involve a range of unjustified personnel actions, such as interfering with promotion, unreasonably downgrading someone's evaluation or unfairly denying an award. But victims also complain of bullying, including on social media.

The Pentagon has worked to better define and understand the retaliation issue, using survey results last year to try to separate actual retribution from actions that may seem like revenge but may not be meant that way.

Of the 85 people charged with retaliation in cases that were closed during the last fiscal year — which includes some that began in previous years — only 31 were substantiated. And the department took action against just nine offenders. Disciplinary actions against 14 others are still being finalized.

The number of sexual harassment complaints filed by U.S. military members increased from 601 in 2016 to 696 in 2017. Most of the reports were filed by women, with men making up less than 20 percent of the complaints. And the vast majority involved young enlisted troops.

The report said there is a need for greater leadership on sexual harassment prevention and response programs. The Pentagon said it will set up a broad new department program that will more explicitly define social media harassment and beef up oversight.

Tokyo stocks higher in quiet Labor Day trading By YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Business Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Tokyo stocks were marginally higher Tuesday while most other major Asian markets were closed for public holidays. The White House's announcement that it would postpone a decision on imposing hefty tariffs on U.S. imports of steel and aluminum products from some countries helped boost investor sentiment.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 added 0.1 percent to 22,481.58. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 0.5 percent to 6,014.00. Stock markets in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Seoul and other cities in Southeast Asia were closed for public holidays.

TRADE: The White House said Monday it would delay its decision to impose tariffs on U.S. imports of steel and aluminum from the European Union, Canada and Mexico for 30 days, sidestepping a potential trade battle with Europe. The announcement comes ahead of the trade talks between U.S. and China later this week.

WALL STREET: U.S. stocks fell moderately on Monday but still ended April higher, the first monthly increase for the market since January. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 0.6 percent to 24,163.15. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 0.8 percent to 2,648.05 and the Nasdaq composite lost 0.8 percent to 7,066.27.

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude added 18 cents to \$68.75 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 47 cents to \$68.57 per barrel on Monday. Brent crude, the international standard, gained 20 cents to \$74.89 per barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 109.36 Japanese yen from 109.33 yen. The euro was flat at \$1.2075.

Report: Mueller gives list of questions to Trump's lawyers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Special counsel Robert Mueller has given a list of almost four dozen questions to lawyers for President Donald Trump as part of his investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election and whether Trump obstructed justice, according to a report published in The New York Times.

The Times obtained a list of the questions, which range from Trump's motivations for firing FBI Director James Comey a year ago to contacts Trump's campaign had with Russians.

Although Mueller's team has indicated to Trump's lawyers that he's not considered a target, investigators remain interested in whether the president's actions constitute obstruction of justice and want to interview him about several episodes in office. The lawyers want to resolve the investigation as quickly as possible, but there's no agreement on how to do that.

Many of the questions obtained by the Times center on the obstruction issue, including his reaction to

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Attorney General Jeff Sessions' recusal from the Russia investigation, a decision Trump has angrily criticized. Trump lawyer Jay Sekulow declined to comment to The Associated Press on Monday night, as did White House lawyer Ty Cobb.

The questions also touch on the Russian meddling and whether the Trump campaign coordinated with the Kremlin in any way. In one question obtained by the Times, Mueller asks what Trump knew about campaign staff, including his former campaign chairman Paul Manafort, reaching out to Moscow.

Mueller has brought several charges against Manafort, but none are for any crimes related to Russian election interference during the 2016 campaign. And he has denied having anything to do with such an effort.

The queries also touch on Trump's businesses and his discussions with his personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, about a possible Moscow real estate deal. Cohen's business dealings are part of a separate FBI investigation.

One question asks what discussions Trump may have had regarding "any meeting with Mr. Putin," referring to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Another question asks what the president may have known about a possible attempt by his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, to set up a back channel with Russia before Trump's inauguration.

Additional questions center on Michael Flynn, Trump's former national security adviser, who has pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI about his discussions on sanctions against Russia with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak during the presidential transition. Flynn is now cooperating with Mueller's investigators.

"What did you know about phone calls that Mr. Flynn made with the Russian ambassador, Sergey I. Kislyak, in late December 2016?" reads one question. Another asks if there were any efforts to reach out to Flynn "about seeking immunity or possible pardon."

Flynn was fired Feb. 13, 2017, after White House officials said he had misled them about his Russian contacts during the transition period by saying that he had not discussed sanctions.

The following day, according to memos written by Comey, Trump cleared the Oval Office of other officials and encouraged Comey to drop the investigation into Flynn.

Sleeping black bear comes down from tree near home

PARAMUS, N.J. (AP) — A black bear that was spotted sleeping in a tree near a New Jersey home has come down.

The Paramus (puh-RAM'-uhs) Police Department wrote on its Facebook page Monday night that officers were unable to capture the bear. They say it was last seen wandering through the neighborhood.

Earlier in the day, animal control workers used noisemakers to try and wake the 200-pound (90-kilogram) bear and chase it out of the tree.

Animal control officer Carol Tyler told NorthJersey.com that the young bear likely was attracted by the smell of food.

Police are warning residents to stay away from the bear if they see it and call 911. Police say officers will be making extra checks of the area.

Israel says documents prove Iran lied about nuclear program By JOSEF FEDERMAN, Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's prime minister on Monday unveiled what he said was a "half ton" of Iranian nuclear documents collected by Israeli intelligence, claiming it proved that Iranian leaders covered up a nuclear weapons program before signing a deal with world powers in 2015.

In a speech delivered in English and relying on his trademark use of visual aids, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu claimed the material showed that Iran cannot be trusted, and encouraged President Donald Trump to withdraw from the deal next month.

"Iran lied big time," Netanyahu declared.

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In Washington, Trump said it vindicated his past criticism of the nuclear deal.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said later that the U.S. had been aware of the documents "for a while" and that he and Netanyahu discussed them during their meeting in Tel Aviv on Sunday.

Speaking with reporters while flying back to the U.S., Pompeo said that although the existence of Iran's nuclear arms program had been public knowledge for years, the documents give new detail about its scope and scale and prove Iran was lying when it claimed never to have been pursuing nuclear weapons.

"This will belie any notion that there wasn't a program," Pompeo said.

He issued a statement later saying Iran also lied to the six nations with which it negotiated the nuclear agreement.

"What this means is the deal was not constructed on a foundation of good faith or transparency. It was built on Iran's lies," the statement said.

Iran's deception is inconsistent with its pledge in the nuclear deal "that under no circumstances will Iran ever seek, develop or acquire any nuclear weapons," Pompeo said, adding that the U.S. is now assessing what the documents mean for the nuclear deal.

Netanyahu's presentation, delivered on live TV from Israeli military headquarters in Tel Aviv, did not appear to provide evidence that Iran has violated the 2015 deal, raising questions about whether it would sway international opinion ahead of Trump's decision.

The U.S.-led agreement offered Iran relief from crippling sanctions in exchange for curbs on its nuclear program.

Netanyahu furiously fought the deal while President Barack Obama was negotiating it, and he has been a leading critic since it was signed. He says it does not provide sufficient safeguards to prevent Iran from reaching nuclear weapons capability.

Netanyahu has found a welcome partner in Trump, who has called the agreement "the worst deal ever." Trump has signaled he will pull out of the agreement by May 12 unless it is revised, but he faces intense pressure from European allies not to do so. Netanyahu said he already has given the information to the U.S., and he plans to share it with Western allies and the international nuclear agency.

Ahead of the announcement, Iran's foreign minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, belittled Netanyahu in a tweet, saying: "The boy who can't stop crying wolf is at it again."

He later tweeted: "Pres. Trump is jumping on a rehash of old allegations already dealt with by the IAEA to 'nix' the deal. How convenient. Coordinated timing of alleged intelligence revelations by the boy who cries wolf just days before May 12. But Trump's impetuousness to celebrate blew the cover."

Iran's deputy foreign minister and senior nuclear negotiator, Abbas Araghchi, called Netanyahu's presentation "childish and ridiculous" and said the purported evidence was "fake and fabricated."

Iran has denied ever seeking nuclear weapons.

The exchange ratcheted up already heightened tensions between Israel and Iran. Israel considers Iran to be its biggest threat, citing Tehran's hostile rhetoric, support for militants and growing influence in the region.

Israel has said it will not allow Iran to establish a permanent military presence in neighboring Syria, where Iran supports President Bashar Assad. Overnight Monday, a missile attack in northern Syria killed more than a dozen pro-government fighters, many of them Iranians, a war monitoring group and an Iranian news agency said.

There was no official confirmation of the death toll or the target. But Israel was widely suspected of being behind the attack.

In his presentation, Netanyahu said Israel had obtained some 55,000 pages of documents and 183 CDs of secret information from an Iranian nuclear weapons program called "Project Amad." He said the material was gathered from a facility in the Tehran neighborhood of Shourabad a few weeks ago "in a great intelligence achievement."

He said the uncovered filed included "incriminating" documents, charts, blueprints, photos and videos. He pointed to one presentation that allegedly called for producing and testing five warheads.

The authenticity of the documents could not be verified, and it was not clear whether they shed any

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new light on what international inspectors already have concluded. The documents appeared to date back to the early 2000s, when international inspectors already believe Iran was pursuing a weapons program.

A 2015 report by the International Atomic Energy Agency, for example, concluded that Iran "conducted computer modeling of a nuclear explosive device" before 2005 and between 2005 and 2009. It said, however, that those calculations were "incomplete and fragmented."

Netanyahu provided no direct evidence that Iran has violated the 2015 deal. But he said the existence of the documents proves Iran is waiting to resume its race to build a bomb.

"We can now prove that Project Amad was a comprehensive program to design, build and test nuclear weapons," he said. "We can also prove that Iran is secretly storing Project Amad material to use at a time of its choice to develop nuclear weapons."

He said that after the project was disbanded in 2003, its director, Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, continued his work under another agency called Sapan.

Netanyahu said the material proves the international nuclear deal is a failure. He said it allows Iran to continue enriching some uranium, and does not address its research efforts or development of long-range ballistic missiles.

He noted that Trump was weighing whether to pull the U.S. out of the nuclear deal, saying "I am sure he will do the right thing."

At the White House, Trump praised Netanyahu's presentation and said it vindicated the president's past statements about Iran and the shortcomings of the nuclear deal, adding that recent events have "really shown that I've been 100 percent right." Although Trump was hosting Nigeria's president for a visit during Netanyahu's speech Monday, he said he watched part of it on television.

"That is just not an acceptable situation," Trump said. He declined to say whether he'll pull out of the deal on May 12 but said that even if he does, "that doesn't mean I wouldn't then negotiate a real agreement."

Trump has set a May 12 deadline to decide whether to pull out of the Iran deal — something he appears likely to do despite heavy pressure to stay in from European allies and other parties.

Both Trump and Netanyahu say the deal should address Iranian support for militants across the region and Iran's development of long-range ballistic missiles, as well as eliminate provisions that expire over the next decade.

Netanyahu's office later issued a statement saying the prime minister had spoken with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron, and agreed to share the intelligence with them. He also spoke with Russian President Vladimir Putin about the findings.

The European Union's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, issued a statement saying Netanyahu's presentation will be assessed.

"I have not seen from Prime Minister Netanyahu arguments for the moment on non-compliance, meaning violation by Iran of its nuclear commitments under the (nuclear) deal," she said.

Associated Press writers Amir Vahdat and Nasser Karimi in Tehran, Iran, and Josh Lederman and Matthew Lee in Washington contributed to this report.

White House delays tariffs on EU, Canada and Mexico By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER and KEN THOMAS, AP Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House said Monday it would postpone a decision on imposing tariffs on U.S. imports of steel and aluminum from the European Union, Canada and Mexico for 30 days, avoiding the potential for a trade battle with Europe as the U.S. prepares for tense trade talks in China this week.

The Trump administration said it had reached an agreement with South Korea on steel imports following discussions on a revised trade agreement, the outlines of which were previously announced by U.S. and South Korean officials. And the administration said it had also reached agreements in principle with Argentina, Australia and Brazil on steel and aluminum that will be finalized shortly.

Announcing the trade actions, the White House said "in all of these negotiations, the administration is

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focused on quotas that will restrain imports, prevent transshipment and protect the national security."

Facing a self-imposed deadline, President Donald Trump was considering whether to permanently exempt the EU and Mexico, Canada, Australia, Argentina and Brazil from tariffs that his administration imposed last month on imported steel and aluminum. The White House provided temporary exemptions in March and had until the end of Monday to decide whether to extend them.

The EU has said if it loses its exemption it will retaliate with its own tariffs on U.S. goods imported to Europe.

The confrontation stems from the president's decision in March to slap tariffs of 25 percent on imported steel and 10 percent on imported aluminum. Trump justified the action by saying it was needed to protect American metal producers from unfair competition and bolster national security. But the announcement, which followed an intense internal White House debate, triggered harsh criticism from Democrats and some Republicans and roiled financial markets.

At the time, Trump excluded several vital trading partners — the European Union, Mexico, Canada, Australia, Argentina and Brazil — from the tariffs.

That meant the steel tariff covered just 30 percent of all imports, according to Oxford Economics. If all the exemptions were ended, it would have deepened the impact of the tariffs on American companies that use steel and potentially affect financial markets. Stock prices fell nearly 2 percent when the tariffs were announced.

Two people familiar with the process said the Trump administration had been considering whether to provide a short-term extension of the exemptions to allow for more time to review the countries' efforts to secure permanent exemptions.

One of the officials said the U.S. trade representative has been overseeing the process for all of the countries except for the European Union, whose tariffs are being evaluated by the Commerce Department. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations.

The EU and others had been asked to spell out what limits they could accept on the amount of steel they export to the United States, how they would address the issue of excess production of steel and aluminum and how they would support the U.S. before international bodies like the World Trade Organization. Security relationships with the U.S. have also been part of the criteria.

South Korea agreed to limit its exports to the United States as part of broader discussions involved in updating its bilateral trade agreement with the U.S. and was granted a permanent exemption.

China, Japan and Russia haven't received exemptions from the duties. That will likely reduce steel shipments from those countries over time. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said late Friday that quotas on imports from Europe and other countries are necessary so imports from those countries don't simply replace Chinese imports. The goal of the tariffs is to reduce total steel imports and boost U.S. production, Ross said.

"If you let everybody back out of the tariff, and you let them out of any kind of quota, how would you ever reduce the imports here?" Ross asked at a conference of business journalists. Ross is set to discuss the issue Monday with EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom.

Germany, the EU's largest steel exporter to the U.S., accounted for about 5 percent of U.S. steel imports last year. South Korea made up the largest share, shipping about 13 percent of U.S. imports, according to an American Iron and Steel Institute analysis of government data.

The EU has compiled a list of retaliatory tariffs worth about \$3.5 billion it will impose if its steel and aluminum isn't exempted.

European leaders have resisted the idea of a quota. German Chancellor Angela Merkel said in a statement Sunday that she discussed the issue with French President Emmanuel Macron and British Prime Minister Theresa May after returning from a White House visit Friday.

The three European leaders "agreed that the U.S. ought not to take any trade measures against the European Union," which is "resolved to defend its interests within the multilateral trade framework," Merkel's statement said.

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In her meeting with Trump, Merkel said, she saw little progress in obtaining permanent exemptions. "The decision lies with the president," she said Friday.

A United Kingdom spokesperson called Monday's postponement "positive" and said, "We will continue to work closely with our EU partners and the U.S. government to achieve a permanent exemption, ensuring our important steel and aluminum industries are safeguarded."

In a separate trade battle with China, the United States has threatened to impose tariffs on \$150 billion of Chinese goods in retaliation for what it argues are Beijing's unfair trade practices and its requirement that U.S. companies turn over technology in exchange for access to its market. The White House also wants China to agree to reduce its \$375 billion goods trade surplus with the U.S.

China has said it would subject \$50 billion of U.S. goods to tariffs if the U.S. taxes its products. Trump has announced that an administration delegation led by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and trade adviser Peter Navarro will visit Beijing for negotiations on Thursday and Friday this week.

In addition to Mnuchin, Lighthizer, Ross and Navarro, the group will include economic adviser Larry Kudlow, U.S. Ambassador to China Terry Branstad and Everett Eissenstat, deputy assistant to the president for International Economic Affairs.

"We're going to have very frank discussions," Mnuchin in an interview broadcast Monday on Fox Business. Most analysts, however, think it's unlikely the talks will reach permanent agreements and will more likely mark the start of longer-term negotiations.

AP Economics Writer Martin Crutsinger contributed to this report.

Pelicans crash California graduation, 1 lands on red carpet

MALIBU, Calif. (AP) — A pair of pelicans majoring in curiosity crashed a graduation ceremony at Pepperdine University in Malibu.

The brown, dive-bombing birds joined the class of 2018 on Saturday as graduates were receiving diplomas on a lawn overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

A video shows one of the big birds landing among seated observers who managed to toss it back into the air, only to have it land on a red carpet at the center of the ceremony.

One bird snapped its long beak at the hand of an official who tried to grab it.

Eventually both birds were shooed away and waddled off.

Information from: KABC-TV, http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/

California shop cranks classical music to dissuade loitering

MODESTO, Calif. (AP) — A $\overline{}$ 7-Eleven in California has found a way to keep people from panhandling and loitering outside the store: crank up classical music.

Sukhi Sandhu, who owns the franchise in Modesto, said his customers tell him they feel safer since he started blasting symphonies and occasional operas over outdoor speakers.

"Once the music started, the riffraff left," said Manuel Souza, who's homeless and jokingly referred to himself as part of the riffraff. The loud music makes it hard "to hang out and gossip and joke around" near the store, Souza told the Modesto Bee last week from under a tree down the block.

The classical music is part of a 7-Eleven program that encourages non-confrontational methods to reduce loitering, Sandhu said. It eliminates any risks faced by clerks when asking panhandlers to leave, he said.

Another method employed at some stores is a device that emits a high-pitched screech similar to a mosquito buzzing in your ear. Clerks turn the device on and off as needed. Classical music is more effective, Sandhu said, and he plans to introduce it at other stores he owns in central California.

"We have received very positive feedback from our customers about the atmosphere created by the music devices piloted in several 7-Eleven stores across the US," the convenience store chain's corporate

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office said in a statement.

The newspaper said Monday that such measures aren't new. Convenience stores and other businesses as well as public facilities have used classical music and the mosquito device over the years to repel panhandlers, homeless people and loitering teenagers.

Information from: The Modesto Bee, http://www.modbee.com

Detroit released from active state oversight of finances By COREY WILLIAMS, Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit reached a key step in fiscal redemption on Monday by reclaiming control of its own finances roughly three years after exiting the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history.

A state review commission unanimously agreed to release the city from state financial oversight after Detroit delivered three consecutive years of audited balanced budgets. The city was about \$12 billion in debt and unable to deliver basic services like prompt responses to 911 calls and park maintenance when the state took financial management.

"Detroit is once again finally a city of full self-governance," Mayor Mike Duggan said following the commission's vote.

The change means that when contracts are approved by the City Council, Detroit won't have to wait for the commission to approve them. But the city must still submit monthly financial reports to the commission, which will continue to monitor Detroit's fiscal health for the next 10 years and could resume oversight if a budget deficit occurs.

Gov. Rick Snyder placed the city under state receivership in early 2013, angering local officials and some residents because the move essentially stripped power from the City Council and mayor's office. The Republican governor also appointed turnaround expert Kevyn Orr as an emergency manager to oversee Detroit's finances. The city, under Orr, filed bankruptcy the same year.

After restructuring about \$7 billion in debt and setting aside \$1.7 billion in savings and revenue over a decade to improve city services, Detroit exited bankruptcy in December 2014. Part of the restructuring plan was creating the nine-member financial review commission, which is chaired by state Treasurer Nick Khouri and includes Duggan, state Budget Director John Walsh and former Detroit police Chief Isaiah McKinnon. Members were given oversight of borrowing and large city-issued contracts.

Most city operations were returned to Duggan's control in September 2014, but Monday's action helps wipe away the stain of bankruptcy and the anger some in Detroit carried.

"Today is an important day in the history of our city," City Council President Brenda Jones said. "Now, with the dormancy of the (review commission) and a reduction in state oversight, local control is returning to our city and its elected officials can assume the role that voters expect us to carry out."

Under the terms of the bankruptcy, creditors received pennies on the dollar for what they were owed and thousands of retirees saw their pensions cut by 4.5 percent. Annual cost-of-living increases also were eliminated.

Detroit's general fund balance was about \$595 million at the end of the 2017 fiscal year, compared to a deficit of about \$73 million that the city faced at the end of the 2013 fiscal year following years of a plummeting population and tax base.

A \$36 million operating surplus is expected for the fiscal year 2018.

Another move by the city: Planning ahead by reducing costs and increasing revenue. Property tax collections are up nearly 10 percent and income tax revenues 15 percent over the past four years.

The city has been setting aside surpluses ahead of large pension and debt payments due to start in 2024. The financial review commission's vote "validates Detroit's remarkable progress and path toward continued financial stability," Snyder said in a statement. "Detroit is America's comeback city and I have every confidence that we will continue to see Detroit reach new heights under the city's leadership."

Credit rating agency Moody's Investors Services, which currently rates Detroit's credit as B1 with a "posi-

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tive outlook," said Monday that Detroit's emergence from financial oversight "is a testament to the positive momentum the city has made in strengthening its reserves and fiscal operations." David Levett, Moody's vice president and senior analyst, said the agency expects "the strong financial management to continue."

Lawsuits target oil, gas leases in imperiled bird's habitat By MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A pair of lawsuits filed Monday target the Trump administration's sale of oil and gas leases on huge swaths of Western public lands that contain crucial habitat for an imperiled bird. Wildlife advocates asked courts to reverse lease sales on more than 1,300 square miles (3,400 square kilometers) of land in Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Nevada, according to attorneys involved.

The legal actions also sought to block several upcoming sales unless the U.S. Interior Department conducts further environmental reviews. Those leases would total more than 1,800 square miles (4,662 square kilometers) in the four states plus Idaho.

Many of the parcels in dispute are home to greater sage grouse, a chicken-sized, ground-dwelling bird that ranges across portions of 11 Western states.

Greater sage grouse populations drastically declined in recent decades, because of energy development that broke up the bird's habitat, along with disease, livestock grazing and other causes. Its population once numbered in the millions but had fallen to fewer than 500,000 by 2015, according to wildlife officials.

Under former President Barack Obama, the Interior Department delayed lease sales on millions of acres of public lands largely because of sage grouse worries. In 2015, it adopted a set of wide-ranging plans meant to protect the best grouse habitat and keep the bird off the endangered species list.

Trump's Interior secretary, Ryan Zinke, has placed a greater priority on energy development, including directives from the agency that modified restrictions imposed by the Obama administration.

Attorneys behind Monday's lawsuits argued those modifications were improper and that Zinke's agency unlawfully limited environmental reviews of lease sales.

"They are indiscriminately leasing everything that's nominated in sage grouse habitat, without any determination beforehand that maybe these areas are particularly important" to the bird, said Michael Saul, an attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity

Justice Department spokesman Wyn Hornbuckle declined comment on the matter.

Energy industry representatives have been strongly supportive of Zinke's pro-energy agenda. They point out that even when land is leased for drilling, companies must abide by limitations on when they can drill to avoid disrupting grouse during breeding season.

"We realize there are some hoops we're going to have to jump through if we're going to develop the resource," said Alan Olson, executive director of the Montana Petroleum Association.

Monday's lawsuits included one in Idaho filed by Center for Biological Diversity and Western Watersheds Project, and another in Montana by the Montana Wildlife Federation, The Wilderness Society, National Audubon Society and National Wildlife Federation.

Also Monday, environmentalists agreed to a truce in a third lawsuit over protections for the Gunnison sage grouse, a smaller cousin of the greater sage grouse.

The Gunnison grouse, found only in Colorado and Utah, was designated a threatened species in 2014. Center for Biological Diversity and Western Watersheds Project sued the federal government the next year, saying the Gunnison grouse should be classified endangered, meaning it is in greater danger and warrants stronger protections than a threatened species.

The two groups said they would put the lawsuit on hold after federal officials agreed to come up with a recovery plan for the bird within $2\frac{1}{2}$ years.

The deadline guarantees the recovery plan won't drag out for years, the groups said. They could resume their lawsuit if the government misses the deadline, or if they are unhappy with the recovery plan. Only about 5,000 Gunnison sage grouse were left in 2014.

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Associated Press writer Dan Elliott contributed to this story from Denver.

Twin bombings in Afghanistan kill 25, including 9 reporters By RAHIM FAIEZ and AMIR SHAH, Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Two Islamic State suicide bombers struck in Afghanistan's capital on Monday, killing 25 people, including nine journalists who had rushed to the scene of the first attack, in the deadliest assault on reporters since the fall of the Taliban in 2001.

An Agence France-Presse photographer and a cameraman for the local Tolo TV station were among the fatalities, police said. Two reporters for the Afghan branch of Radio Free Europe and a third who was to begin working there soon also were killed, Radio Free Europe said. At least 45 people were wounded in the attacks, according to Kabul police spokesman Hashmat Stanekzai, who said four police were among those killed.

The attack was the latest in a relentless string of large-scale bombings and assaults in the capital and elsewhere in Afghanistan this year.

A few hours later, in the southern Kandahar province, a suicide car bomb targeting a NATO convoy killed 11 children from a nearby religious school, police said. The children had gathered around the NATO convoy for fun when the bomber struck, said Abdul Rahim Ayubi, a lawmaker from Kandahar. Eight Romanian NATO soldiers were wounded.

The Islamic State group claimed the Kabul bombings in a statement posted online, saying it targeted the Afghan intelligence headquarters. The statement did not say anything about specifically targeting journalists. The blasts took place in the central Shash Darak area, home to NATO headquarters and a number of embassies and foreign offices — as well as the Afghan intelligence service.

Stanekzai said the first suicide bomber was on a motorbike, while the second targeted those scrambling to the scene to aid victims. He said the second attacker was on foot in a crowd of reporters, pretending to be a member of the press, when he set off his payload.

AFP said the news agency's chief photographer in Kabul, Shah Marai, was among those killed. Hundreds of people attended his funeral later on Monday.

Media watchdog Reporters Without Borders said it was the deadliest attack targeting reporters since the U.S.-led invasion that overthrew the Taliban in 2001.

The Paris-based group named the nine journalists killed, who worked for media organizations from multiple countries, and said another six reporters were wounded. The group, also known by its French acronym RSF, said 36 media workers have been killed in Afghanistan in attacks by IS or the Taliban since 2016.

In a separate attack in the eastern Khost province, a 29-year-old reporter for the BBC's Afghan service was shot dead by unknown gunmen. The BBC confirmed the death of Ahmad Shah, saying he had worked for its Afghan service for more than a year. BBC World Service Director Jamie Angus called it a "devastating loss."

Survivors of the attacks in Kabul recounted scenes of mayhem.

"When the explosion happened, everywhere was covered with dust and fire, it was such a horrific scene," said Jawed Ghulam Sakhi, a 28-year-old taxi driver. "I saw journalists covered with blood."

Masouda, a young woman who was with her husband when he was wounded in the attack, lashed out at the authorities.

"I don't know who is responsible for all these attacks. Every day we lose our loved ones and no one in this government is taking responsibility for the killing of these innocent people," she said. Like many Afghans, she has one name.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani condemned the attacks, as did the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

"We extend our deepest condolences to the families, friends, and colleagues of all the victims, including a number of brave journalists among the dead and injured," the embassy said. "Where media are in danger, all other human rights are under greater threat."

In other violence Monday, insurgents killed at least four Afghan policemen in an ambush in the northern

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Balkh province, said Sher Mohammad Abu-Tariq, the district chief in Nahri Shahi. In the eastern Nangarhar province, an explosion killed an Afghan police officer and wounded four other people, said Attuhullah Khogyani, spokesman for the provincial governor.

No one claimed responsibility for the attacks. The IS affiliate in Afghanistan first emerged in Nangarhar a few years ago, then expanded its footprint across the country.

IS and the more firmly established Taliban carry out regular attacks, with the Taliban usually targeting the Afghan government and security forces, and IS targeting the country's Shiite minority, whom the militants view as apostates.

The relentless assaults underscore the struggles that Afghan security forces have faced since the United States and NATO concluded their combat mission at the end of 2014. Both armed groups want to establish strict Islamic rule in Afghanistan.

Last week, an Islamic State suicide bomber attacked a voter registration center in Kabul, killing 60 people and wounding at least 130 others. The month before, an IS suicide bomber targeted a Shiite shrine in Kabul where people had gathered to celebrate the Persian new year. That attack killed 31 people and wounded 65 others.

Associated Press writers Maamoun Youssef in Cairo, Angela Charlton in Paris and Alison Mutler in Bucharest, Romania, contributed to this report.

Like a showman, Trump suggests DMZ for 'big event' with Kim By MATTHEW PENNINGTON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Like a consummate showman, President Donald Trump began rolling the drum Monday for his summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, suggesting the "big event" take place in the Demilitarized Zone that divides the Koreas. That's where Kim just met his South Korean counterpart.

But Trump said that the Southeast Asian city state of Singapore was also in the running to host what few would have predicted when nuclear tensions were soaring last year — the first face-to-face meeting between the leaders of the United States and North Korea.

While policy experts, and even his own national security adviser, voice skepticism that North Korea is sincere about giving up its nuclear efforts, Trump sounds like he's gearing up for a date with history, and clearly wants the backdrop to be just right.

First by Twitter, and then at a press conference in the White House Rose Garden, Trump said he likes the idea of going to the southern side of the demarcation line that separates the Koreas, where South Korean President Moon Jae-in met Kim on Friday.

"There's something that I like about it because you are there, you are actually there," Trump said. "If things work out there's a great celebration to be had on the site, not in a third-party country."

There's been much speculation about where Trump and Kim might meet. Countries in Europe and Southeast Asia, in Mongolia and even a ship in international waters have all been suggested as possible venues. Monday was the first time that Trump had publicly named potential locations.

His planned meeting with Kim will be the crucial follow-up to the summit between Kim and Moon on Friday where they pledged to seek a formal end this year to the Korean War — a conflict that was halted in 1953 by an armistice and not a peace treaty, leaving the two sides technically at war. They also committed to ridding the peninsula of nuclear weapons.

Former reality television star Trump now has to help turn the Korean leaders' bold but vague vision for peace into reality. Undaunted, he gave the impression Monday that governments were vying to host his face-to-face with Kim and share in the attention it would bring.

"Everybody wants us. It has the chance to be a big event," the president said on a bright spring day in Washington, alongside Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, whom he'd just met at the White House. "The United States has never been closer to potentially have something happen with respect to the Korean Peninsula that can get rid of the nuclear weapons, can create so many good things, so many positive

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things, and peace and security for the world."

It wasn't clear whether his enthusiasm was stirred by the South Korean president's suggestion Monday that Trump could take the Nobel Peace Prize if the two Koreas win peace. Moon's remark came when he deflected a question about whether he might win the award as one of his predecessors, Kim Dae-jung, did in 2000 after the first ever inter-Korean summit.

The United States has reached aid-for-disarmament deals with North Korea before, but they've ultimately failed. The most enduring effort negotiated by the Bill Clinton administration in 1994 halted the North's production of plutonium for nearly a decade. But it collapsed over suspicions that North Korea had a secret program to enrich uranium, giving it an alternative route to make fissile material for bombs.

Trump's recently installed national security adviser, John Bolton, who has in the past advocated military action against North Korea, reacted coolly Sunday to its reported willingness to give up nuclear programs if the United States commits to a formal end to the war and a pledges not to attack.

"We've heard this before," Bolton told CBS' "Face the Nation," adding that the U.S. wanted to see concrete action "not just rhetoric."

This year, Kim has already suspended his nuclear and missile tests. According to South Korean officials, he told Moon that he's going to shut down his country's only known nuclear testing site and allow experts and journalists to observe.

Trump cited that prospect with approval on Monday, saying Kim is "talking about no research, no launches of ballistic missiles, no nuclear testing." But as usual, the president left open the possibility of pulling the plug on talks, saying: "If it's not a success, I will respectfully leave."

Associated Press writer Catherine Lucey contributed to this report.

WW II veteran to graduate 68 years after leaving college By JOHN SEEWER, Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Like so many American soldiers returning home from World War II, Bob Barger started working a new job and going to college. Once he settled into his career and raising a family, finishing school was no longer a priority.

Now, 68 years since he last sat in a classroom, Barger is set to graduate from the University of Toledo this week after a review of his transcripts from the late 1940s showed he completed enough courses to qualify for an associate's degree — a two-year diploma not offered when he was still in school.

"It was something I never dreamed of," the 96-year-old Barger said. "I knew I couldn't go back to school now.

"I'm going to be proud to hang that diploma on the wall and think about the friends behind it," he said. "I found out without friends, this old world wouldn't be worth living in."

The university took a look at Barger's old school records because of a friendship he struck up with Haraz Ghanbari, the school's director of military and veteran affairs.

They met five years ago when Ghanbari, a Navy Reserve officer, asked Barger to officiate his promotion to lieutenant.

Ghanbari later found out that Barger never graduated from the university, even though he took a full load of classes from 1947 to 1950.

"We actually had to go into the archives to find his transcripts," said Barbara Kopp Miller, dean of University College at Toledo.

The records showed Barger completed 83 credit hours — about 20 more than what's required for the associate's degree that he'll receive on Saturday. University officials say they don't know of anyone older ever graduating from the school.

"It's the right thing to do. He deserved. He earned it," Kopp Miller said. "It's so cool to honor a member of our greatest generation."

Barger was a pilot in the Navy, enlisting after seeing an advertisement that said "join the Navy and get

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an education."

He flew seaplanes for scout observation over the Gulf of Mexico and was a flight instructor at a base in Corpus Christi, Texas. He later was stationed in Norman, Oklahoma, after the war and planned on a career in the Navy until an explosion in a bunk house. He wasn't hurt, but carrying out the bloodied men changed his mind about staying in the military.

Barger returned home with his wife and young daughter and studied business and advertising while working for a paper company. He remembers history was his favorite class at what was then called Toledo University.

He never gave much thought about not graduating until just recently. When he was told in January that he would finally get a degree, he let out a hearty laugh. "I can't believe this. I'm 96 years old," said Barger, whose wife died in 2011.

Members of the university's Student Veterans of America chapter bought him a cap and gown that he tried on last week. "I fit. I guess I look pretty good in it," he said.

The assisted living center where he lives is planning a big graduation party for over 100 people. Barger stocked up on a dozen bottles of vodka, whiskey and scotch.

He jokes that he now wants to find "a cushy job where I can play golf."

Today in HistoryBy The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, May 1, the 121st day of 2018. There are 244 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 1, 1898, Commodore George Dewey gave the command, "You may fire when you are ready, Gridley," as an American naval force destroyed a Spanish squadron in Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War.

On this date:

In 1707, the Kingdom of Great Britain was created as a treaty merging England and Scotland took effect.

In 1786, Mozart's opera "The Marriage of Figaro" premiered in Vienna.

In 1893, the World's Columbian Exposition, celebrating the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' voyage to the Western Hemisphere, opened to the public in Chicago, beginning a six-month run.

In 1918, TV personality Jack Paar, the second host of NBC's "Tonight Show," was born in Canton, Ohio.

In 1931, New York's 102-story Empire State Building was dedicated. Singer Kate Smith made her debut on CBS Radio on her 24th birthday.

In 1941, the Orson Welles motion picture "Citizen Kane" premiered in New York.

In 1960, the Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 reconnaissance plane over Sverdlovsk and captured its pilot, Francis Gary Powers.

In 1967, Elvis Presley married Priscilla Beaulieu at the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas. (They divorced in 1973.) Anastasio Somoza Debayle became president of Nicaragua.

In 1978, Ernest Morial was inaugurated as the first black mayor of New Orleans.

In 1982, the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee, was opened by President Ronald Reagan.

In 1998, Eldridge Cleaver, the fiery Black Panther leader who later renounced his past and became a Republican, died in Pomona, California, at age 62. Former Rwandan Prime Minister Jean Kambanda pleaded guilty to charges stemming from the 1994 genocide of more than half a million Tutsis. (Kambanda was later sentenced to life in prison.)

In 2011, President Barack Obama announced the death of Osama bin Laden during a U.S. commando operation (because of the time difference, it was early May 2 in Pakistan, where the al-Qaida leader met his end).

Ten years ago: Three dozen people were killed in a double suicide bombing during a wedding procession in Balad Ruz, Iraq. A military jury at Fort Hood, Texas, acquitted Army Sgt. Leonard Trevino of premeditated murder in the death of an unarmed Iraqi insurgent. Deborah Jeane Palfrey, 52, the so-called

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"D.C. Madam" convicted of running a prostitution ring, hanged herself in Tarpon Springs, Florida. Philipp Freiherr von Boeselager, a member of the inner circle of plotters who attempted to kill Adolf Hitler, died in Altenahr, Germany, at age 90.

Five years ago: Workers around the world united in anger during May Day rallies — from fury in Europe over austerity measures that cut wages, reduced benefits and eliminated many jobs altogether, to rage in Asia over relentlessly low pay, the rising cost of living and hideous working conditions. Portland Trail Blazers point guard Damian Lillard was a unanimous choice as the NBA's Rookie of the Year. Chris Kelly, 34, half of the 1990s kid rap duo Kris Kross, died in Atlanta.

One year ago: Erasing the threat of a disruptive government shutdown, the White House and top law-makers endorsed a \$1.1 trillion spending bill to carry the nation through September 2017. An attacker with a machete-like knife fatally stabbed one person and wounded at least three others on the University of Texas campus; a suspect was taken into custody. Ryan Seacrest made his debut as the new co-host of the morning chat show "Live" with Kelly Ripa.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Judy Collins is 79. Actor Stephen Macht is 76. Singer Rita Coolidge is 73. Pop singer Nick Fortuna (The Buckinghams) is 72. Actor-director Douglas Barr is 69. Actor Dann Florek is 67. Singer-songwriter Ray Parker Jr. is 64. Actor Byron Stewart is 62. Hall of Fame jockey Steve Cauthen is 58. Actress Maia Morgenstern is 56. Actor Scott Coffey is 54. Country singer Wayne Hancock is 53. Actor Charlie Schlatter is 52. Country singer Tim McGraw is 51. Rock musician Johnny Colt is 50. Rock musician D'Arcy is 50. Movie director Wes Anderson is 49. Actress Julie Benz is 46. Actor Bailey Chase is 46. Country singer Cory Morrow is 46. Gospel/rhythm-and-blues singer Tina Campbell (Mary Mary) is 44. Actor Darius McCrary is 42. Actor Jamie Dornan is 36. Actress Kerry Bishe is 34.

Thought for Today: "By indignities men come to dignities." — Francis Bacon, English philosopher (1561-1626).