|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Jihad Report  Nov 04, 2017 - Nov 10, 2017 | |
| Attacks | 33 |
| Killed | 218 |
| Injured | 331 |
| Suicide Blasts | 7 |
| Countries | 15 |

**Hillary Personally Approved the GPS Fusion Project**

Hillary Clinton personally authorized her campaign chairman, John Podesta, to launch the controversial Donald Trump-Russian dossier project, according to a senior Clinton campaign strategist who worked for Hillary in both her 2008 and 2016 presidential bids.

“Hillary approved Podesta’s decision to pay for the dossier by funneling campaign funds through Marc Elias,” the strategist said, referring to the lawyer who represented both the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee.

“The dossier was delivered to the Clinton campaign by [the opposition research firm] Fusion GPS in the summer of 2016, and Hillary read it and was thrilled by its salacious content,” the strategist continued.

“She bragged about it so openly that many of the people in her Brooklyn campaign headquarters were aware of the existence of the dossier. Hillary referred to it as her ‘secret weapon’ that would ‘blow Trump out of the water.’”

With Hillary’s knowledge and approval, top-ranking people on her campaign staff, including campaign manager Robby Mook, communications director Jennifer Palmieri, and press secretary Brian Fallon, leaked the dossier to friendly journalists and members of Congress.

“They leaked the story that Trump secretly agreed with the Russians that, if elected, he would not interfere with the Russian takeover of eastern section of Ukraine, and that he promised Putin he would end oil sanctions,” the source said.

Mook, Palmieri and Fallon knew, as did Hillary, that the dossier was based on interviews conducted by former British spy Christopher Steele with his contacts in Moscow—mostly Russian operatives working on behalf of the Kremlin’s secret intelligence services.

Her aides were also aware that allegations of sexual misconduct and collusion between Trump and the Russians were unverified, and that the dossier was likely part of a Russian disinformation campaign.

Nonetheless, during the campaign Hillary repeatedly attacked Trump as a Putin “puppet.”

The dossier was so crude—and the charges unprovable because they were false—that the mainstream media didn’t repeat the claims in print until after the election.

But the leaks played a part during the campaign because they helped create an overall narrative about Trump and Russian collusion.

For instance, in June 2016, the leftwing magazine Mother Jones ran a story alleging links between Trump and Russia. In August, then Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid urged the FBI to investigate Trump’s ties to the Kremlin. In October, Heat Street ran an article about Trump-Russian collusion. And on October 31, David Corn of Mother Jones published an article casting British spy Christopher Steele as a hero because of his alleged uncovering of the Trump-Russian connection.

The dossier was also used as part of the FBI’s request to a Foreign Intelligence Court judge to unmask the names of Trump associates who were inadvertently picked up in electronic intercepts of foreigners.

Thus, in the weeks leading up to Election Day, the plot to destroy Trump by using the false dossier was in full swing.

Even after Trump won the election, the campaign to discredit him continued. In January 2017, the digital news site BuzzFeed ran the full text of the dossier, and the mainstream media rushed to pick up the salacious story and run with it.

Edward Klein is the former editor in chief of the New York Times Magazine and the author of numerous bestsellers. His latest book is [*All Out War: The Plot to Destroy Trump.*](https://www.amazon.com/All-Out-War-Destroy-Trump/dp/1621576981?tag=breitbart035-20)

**The Real Russian Collusion**

A co-founder of Fusion GPS — the firm that produced the Trump dossier — met with a Russian lawyer just hours before she met with Donald Trump Jr. last year, then again after the meeting,[according to](http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/11/07/fusion-gps-official-met-with-russian-operative-before-and-after-trump-jr-sit-down.html) Fox News.

The revelation raises questions over Fusion GPS’s potential role in the Russian lawyer’s meeting with Trump Jr. Fusion GPS was hired two months earlier, in April 2016, by the Hillary Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee to look into ties between the Trump campaign and Russia.

According to Fox News, Glenn Simpson, the Fusion GPS co-founder and former *Wall Street Journal* reporter, had met with Veselnitskaya in a Manhattan federal courtroom just hours before the meeting with the Trump campaign at Trump Tower on June 9, 2016. Court records, email correspondence, and published reports corroborate their presence together, the report said.

The source told Fox News that Simpson and Veselnitskaya were together after the meeting, too, although it’s not clear how soon thereafter.

The report also said that around the time of the Trump Tower meeting, Fusion GPS was paid by a law firm for work on behalf of a “Kremlin-linked oligarch.” At the same time, Fusion GPS was paying ex-British spy Christopher Steele to dig up dirt on Trump using his Russian contacts.

Trump’s critics have pointed to that meeting between the Russian lawyer, Natalia Veselnitskaya, and the Trump campaign as a smoking gun showing collusion, since the lawyer had promised dirt on Clinton in order to set up the meeting, despite no evidence of follow-up meetings, or any information exchanged.

Earlier this year, British investment banker Bill Browder [testified that Veselnitskaya had hired](http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/07/27/senate-witness-william-browder-testifies-that-fusion-gps-worked-for-russia/) Simpson and Fusion GPS through BakerHostetler to run a smear campaign against him on behalf of the Russians. He was championing the passage of the Magnitsky Act, named after a Russian accountant Sergei Magnitsky, who had uncovered fraud and was tortured to death.

Veselnitskaya and Simpson lobbied against the Magnitsky Act, which would sanction Russian businesses. The act passed, and Russia banned Russian adoptions by Americans in retaliation.

Last month, Fusion GPS executives plead the fifth after being subpoenaed to testify before the House intelligence committee.

After the committee subpoenaed the firm’s financial records, lawyer Marc Elias with Perkins Coie, a law firm representing the Clinton campaign and the DNC, released Fusion GPS from a confidentiality agreement and admitted that he had hired Fusion GPS to conduct research that became the Trump dossier.

Lawyers representing Fusion GPS and Veselnitskaya did not respond to requests for comment sent by Fox News on Friday.

Perkins Coie paid Fusion GPS $1.02 million, and Fusion GPS paid Steele $168,000, the report said. Steele’s research was shared with the FBI in the summer of 2016.

The Washington Free Beacon, funded by Republican donor Paul Singer, had originally hired Fusion GPS to conduct opposition research into Trump and other Republican candidates, but stopped paying after the GOP primaries and before Steele was hired.

“What we are finding out is that there is a lot of Russian influence in Washington, and a lot of money flowing in to influence our political process in Washington,” Marc Thiessen, a *Washington Post* columnist and former Bush administration official, told Fox News.

“It’s going into Hillary Clinton. It’s going to Fusion GPS. It’s going into a lobbying campaign up on Capitol Hill against Magnitsky.”

**And What About that Memo?**

Earlier in the week, we learned that the female Russian attorney whose June 2016 meeting with Donald Trump, Jr., Paul Manafort, and Jared Kushner -- which remains the most (only?) concrete evidence of attempted collusion between the Trump campaign and the Russian government -- met with the founder of Democratic opposition research firm Fusion GPS on that very same day. Twice. Both before and after the truncated and much-discussed Trump Tower confab. As someone who cut Team Trump very little slack on the Don Jr. emails that preceded their huddle with Natalia Veselnitskaya, the revelations about her schedule on that day strike me as rather suspicious.

Some of Fusion GPS' defenders have argued that the meetings between Veselnitskaya and Glenn Simpson could have been entirely innocent and coincidental, considering that the organization was also working at the time on behalf of a Kremlin project to repeal an American law despised by Vladimir Putin. Let's set aside the dubious nature of Fusion GPS' simultaneous work (a) with the Russian government and (b) with Christopher Steele, an ex-British spy gathering unverified dirt on Donald Trump, some of which came from high-level Russian sources (and whose research we recently discovered was partially financed by the Clinton campaign and the DNC, despite previous denials). Is the "unrelated coincidence" explanation still plausible? It's looking less and less so. Check out this new Reuters report:

So Fusion GPS wrote the memo that was taken into the Trump Tower meeting which is the same memo presented to Russia's prosecutor general https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-russia-fusion/trump-clinton-camps-both-offered-slice-of-dossier-firms-work-sources-idUSKBN1D937W …

The same political research firm that prepared a dossier on Trump campaign ties to Russia had unrelated information on Clinton Foundation donors that a Russian lawyer obtained and offered to Presid...

The same political research firm that prepared a dossier on Trump campaign ties to Russia had unrelated information on Clinton Foundation donors that a Russian lawyer obtained and offered to President Donald Trump’s eldest son last year, three sources familiar with the matter said...The sources told Reuters that the negative information that Russian lawyer Natalia Veselnitskaya wanted to give to Republican Trump’s campaign at a June 2016 meeting in New York had been dug up by Fusion GPS in an unrelated investigation...In an interview with Bloomberg on Monday, Veselnitskaya said she went to the Trump Tower meeting with Donald Trump Jr., his brother-in-law Jared Kushner, and top campaign adviser Paul Manafort to show them proof of tax evasion by major Democratic donors...The memo had been prepared by Fusion...

If I'm following this correctly, the Democratic firm that was orchestrating the Steele dossier (paid for by Democrats and, for a time, the FBI) about supposed Trump-Russia collusion also dug up some potentially-damaging information against Clinton Foundation donors in the course of conducting a 'totally unrelated' project. And that information just happened to end up in the hands of a Russian envoy who finagled a meeting to hand it over to the Trump campaign -- a transaction that has since been cited as key evidence of Trump-Russia collusion. To quote a certain someone, buying that account as totally coincidental seems to require the willing suspension of disbelief. What does Fusion GPS have to say for itself? C'mon, man:

Glenn Simpson, one of Fusion GPS’ founders, met with Veselnitskaya about that litigation before and after her meeting with Trump Jr., Kushner and Manafort, according to a source familiar with the matter. However, a source familiar with 10 hours of testimony Simpson gave the Senate Judiciary committee in August said he told investigators he did not know of Veselnitskaya’s Trump Tower meeting until reports of it appeared in the media...Two sources said the Fusion GPS work for Baker and Hostetler that produced the information Veselnitskaya offered Trump Jr. and his associates was unrelated to the firm’s work for Perkins Coie, a law firm that represented the Democratic National Committee and Clinton’s campaign.

Simpson wants people to believe that his company's work on behalf of Russia, and its anti-Trump work on behalf of Democrats, had absolutely nothing to do with each other -- and the fateful crossing of streams at Trump Tower was just a weird accident. Simpson also reportedly told Congress that he didn't know Ms. Veselnitskaya had met with top-level Trump aides in between his two in-person interactions with her on that exact same day. He says he was completely in the dark that she'd peddled his firm's research in an effort to collude with the Trump campaign...while his firm was trying to pin collusion on the Trump campaign. Does that sound pretty ludicrous to you? It sounds pretty ludicrous to me.

None of this excuses Don Jr.'s apparent enthusiastic willingness to collaborate with Kremlin-linked emissaries, exposed in emails after endless misleading from the campaign and the White House. The Russians were up to no good, and Trumpworld's hands aren't clean. But the new context of the Trump Tower meeting, revealed this week, casts the entire episode in a different light. Suffice it to say that I really, really struggle to take Simpson's preposterous-sounding story at face value. I suspect I'm not alone. And while we're discussing the Russia investigation, I'll leave you with this bonkers detail from a new Wall Street Journal story about the investigation into Michael Flynn:

Special Counsel Robert Mueller is investigating an alleged plan involving former White House National Security Adviser Mike Flynn to forcibly remove a Muslim cleric living in the U.S. and deliver him to Turkey in return for millions of dollars, according to people familiar with the investigation. Under the alleged proposal, Mr. Flynn and his son, Michael Flynn Jr., were to be paid as much as $15 million for delivering Fethullah Gulen to the Turkish government, according to people with knowledge of discussions Mr. Flynn had with Turkish representatives. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who has pressed the U.S. to extradite him, views the cleric as a political enemy. [Flynn] is now facing military, congressional and criminal investigations into allegations that he improperly concealed his financial ties to Turkey and Russia, and into whether the ties played any role in his decisions as the president’s adviser, The Wall Street Journal has previously reported. One person familiar with the alleged discussions about Mr. Gulen said Mr. Flynn also was prepared to use his influence in the White House to further the legal extradition of the cleric, who lives in Pennsylvania.

Flynn stands accused of hiding payments from at least two foreign governments, including the increasingly dictatorial and thuggish regime in Turkey, whose president's goons beat up anti-Erdogan protesters in the streets of Washington, DC earlier this year. This latest wrinkle suggests that he may have stood to earn millions by facilitating what would have amounted to an 'extraordinary rendition' kidnapping of a dissident cleric living in America, transferring him back to Turkey against his will, at the behest of the regime. And he was reportedly in talks about this scheme during last fall's presidential transition, as he was poised to become the President of the United States' National Security Adviser. Quite a feat from a man who'd led "lock her up" chants at the Republican National Convention just months earlier. Great move trusting and hiring this guy, Mr. President. Only the very best people, etc.

**New Dodge Demon: Too Bad for the Road**

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles has begun shipping the first 2018 Dodge Challenger SRT Demons to dealers, the automaker says.

The limited-production, 6.2-liter Hemi V-8 engine delivers 840 horsepower. Dodge is touting the mega-muscle car as the industry’s first street-legal production drag car. The National Hot Rod Association has certified it as the world’s fastest quarter-mile production vehicle.

**More:** [With 840 horses, Dodge Demon is 'world's fastest' car](https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/cars/2017/04/11/dodge-challenger-demon-ignites-muscle-car-fans/100303766/)

**More:** [Fiat Chrysler recall: 700,000 Jeep, Dodge SUVs may need brake fix](https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/cars/2017/10/03/fiat-chrysler-recall-jeep-dodge/726360001/)

**More:** [Review: Dodge Demon is a 840-horsepower slice of muscle-car heaven](https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/cars/2017/07/20/review-840-horsepower-dodge-demon-slice-muscle-car-heaven/493748001/)

But it has drawn its critics. Automotive News, the leading trade publication covering the auto industry, [called for banning the Demon](http://www.autonews.com/article/20170424/OEM06/304249979) from the street in an editorial last April.

The car "is so inherently dangerous to the common safety of motorists that its registration as a road-worthy automobile should be banned," it wrote, citing its "barely legal" tires and massive acceleration.

During tests the Demon covered a quarter-mile in 9.65 seconds at 140 miles per hour, and it accelerates from zero to 60 mph in 2.3 seconds.



2018 Dodge Challenger SRT Demon comes to showrooms this fall (Photo: FCA US LLC)

“The people who bought a Dodge Challenger SRT Demon are performance enthusiasts to the core, and having a custom car with accessories that improve overall performance is critical,” said Tim Kuniskis, Fiat Chrysler North America's head of passenger cars responsible for the Chrysler, Dodge, SRT and Fiat brands.

The automaker only plans to make 3,300 Demons at its Brampton, Ontario plant, of which 300 will be held for Canadian buyers.

Top of Form

The new film 'Furious7' is all about reaching the mass-market for Dodge, which has its performance cars in the movie Video by Sean Fujiwara. Pricing starts at $84,995, which includes the $1,700 gas guzzler tax, but excludes a $1,095 destination charge.

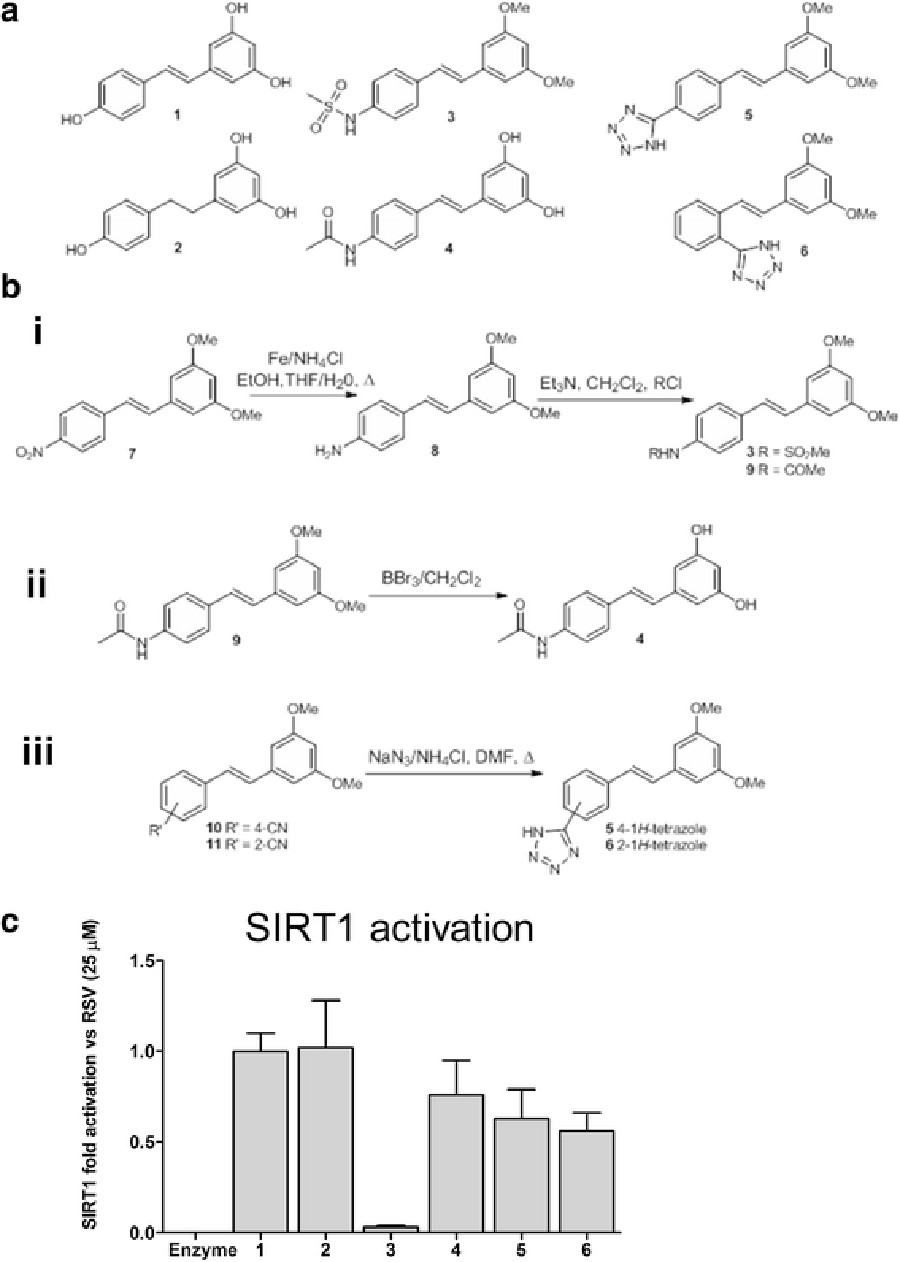
Dodge also offers a range of accessories aimed at maximizing the dragster's thrill.

**Cells Getting Younger?**

Scientists have discovered how to make old human cells young again through rejuvenation. It’s an exciting discovery that could change the way humans age.

Researchers at the University of Exeter and University of Brighton [found](https://bmccellbiol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12860-017-0147-7) they could rejuvenate senescent cells, cells that had stopped their natural growth cycle, causing them to start to divide again. The experiment found they not only look younger, but also behave like younger cells.

“When I saw some of the cells in the culture dish rejuvenating I couldn't believe it. These old cells were looking like young cells. It was like magic,” researcher Dr. Eva Latorre [said](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/news/featurednews/title_620529_en.html)**.** “I repeated the experiments several times and in each case the cells rejuvenated. I am very excited by the implications and potential for this research.”



© BioMed Central

The research builds on earlier findings that showed ‘splicing factor’ genes switch off as humans age. Scientists found a way to restart the splicing through chemicals.

[**READ MORE: 145 million-year-old rat-like fossil found in Dorset could be ‘our earliest ancestor’**](https://www.rt.com/uk/408999-human-rat-fossil-ancestor/)

According to the researchers, this could change the way we age, with the hope that humans will experience less of the degeneration that comes with aging. Older people are more likely to have strokes, heart disease and other illnesses, but with cell rejuvenation, this could be decreased.

“This demonstrates that when you treat old cells with molecules that restore the levels of the splicing factors, the cells regain some features of youth,” team leader Professor Lorna Harries [said](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/news/featurednews/title_620529_en.html)**.**They are able to grow, and their telomeres - the caps on the ends of the chromosomes that shorten as we age -  are now longer, as they are in young cells. Far more research is needed now, to establish the true potential for these sort [sic] of approaches to address the degenerative effects of ageing. ”

**The Pension Ponzi Caper**

I have written for years about the disgusting Democrat practice of selling the future for money to buy votes. It has happened in every single major city run into the ground by Democrats. They have always professed that their socialist methods would eventually succeed if only they could have more money to give away. Of course, without fail these politicians have enriched themselves beyond measure at the expense of the taxpayers of the future. Now, the ferryman has come to demand payment for their elaborate passage across the river of poverty.

Over the past year we have provided extensive coverage of what will likely be the biggest, most politically charged, and most significant financial crisis facing the aging U.S. population: a multi-trillion pension storm, which was recently dubbed "[one of the most heated battles of a lifetime](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-09-17/pension-storm-coming-will-become-one-most-heated-battles-my-lifetime)" by John Mauldin. The reason, in a nutshell, why the US public pension problem has stumped so many professionals is simple: for lack of a better word, **it is an unsustainable Ponzi scheme,**in which satisfying accrued pension and retirement obligations requires not only a constant inflow of new money, but also fixed income returns, typically in the 6%+ range, which are virtually unfeasible in a world where global debt/GDP is in the 300%+ range.  Which is why we, and many others, have long speculated that it is only a matter of time before the matter receives political attention, and ultimately, a taxpayer bailout.

That moment may be imminent. According to [Pensions and Investments](http://www.pionline.com/article/20171107/ONLINE/171109874/sen-sherrod-brown-to-unveil-multiemployer-loan-program-legislation)magazine, Democratic Senator Sherrod Brown from Ohio plans to introduce legislation **that would allow struggling multiemployer pension funds to borrow from the U.S. Treasury to remain solvent**.

The bill, which is co-sponsored by another Democrat, Rep. Tim Ryan, also of Ohio, could be introduced as soon as this week or shortly after. **It would create a new office within the Treasury Department called the Pension Rehabilitation Administration.**The funds would come from the sale of Treasury-issued bonds to financial institutions. The pension funds could borrow for 30 years at low interest rates. The one, and painfully amusing, restriction for borrowers is "**they could not make risky investments"**, which of course will be promptly circumvented in hopes of generating outsized returns and repaying the Treasury's "bailout" loan, ultimately leading to massive losses on what is effectively a taxpayer-funded pension bailout.

The bill would also fund a program at the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. to finance any remaining needs of pension plans borrowing from the new program.

"Any money needed for the PBGC would be a tiny fraction of what it would otherwise be on the hook for if Congress fails to act," said an analysis by Mr. Brown's office.

Sen. Brown's angle was naturally populist, and aimed squarely at those whose pensions are likely to recoup pennies on the dollar under the current investing climate: union workers. Brown told a group of retired Teamsters in Ohio on Monday that the bill will be out shortly.

"It's bad enough that Wall Street squandered workers' money — and it's worse that the government that's supposed to look out for these folks is trying to break the promise made to these workers. Not on our watch. We won't allow that to happen," he said.

No, instead what will happen "under his watch" is that funds collected from taxpaying Americans will be spent to satisfy the ridiculous retirement promises and obligations made over the past few decades, and while the immediate recipients of the funds, i.e. those looking at near-term retirement will be made whole, everyone else, i.e., taxpayers will lose.

And now that the machinery for pension bailouts is finally in motion, we look forward to the next, and possibly final, tear in the American social fabric, **that between workers who can't wait to retire to the generous pension promises**(see "[Why Illinois Is In Trouble - 63,000 Public Employees With $100,000+ Salaries Cost Taxpayers $10 Billion](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-07-26/why-illinois-trouble-63000-public-employees-100000-salaries-cost-taxpayers-10-billio)" and "[Mapping The $100,000+ California Public Employee Pensions At CalPERS Costing Taxpayers $3.0B")](https://www.forbes.com/sites/adamandrzejewski/2016/11/26/mapping-the-100000-california-public-employee-pensions-at-calpers-costing-taxpayers-3-0b/#11f5082e3945), and all those other unluckly taxpayers, who will have to fund these promises.

Comments: I have a friend about 10-15 years ago built his fico up to 820s. Opened a bunch of credit cards and debt and had no intention of paying it back. He said he didn’t give a shit about his credit score he just wanted the free money. He paid nothing back defaulted on all of it. I thought he was crazy at the time. Turns out he as ahead of the curve.

**So you Think Pedophilia Doesn’t Hurt You so it’s Okay**

**Last Tuesday, Media Right Capital and distributor Netflix announced the suspension of the American thriller, House of Cards,**days after Anthony Rapp alleged Kevin Spacey, the executive producer and star had made ‘sexual advances’ towards him in the 1980’s, when he was 14-years old. **Then last Thursday, Netflix**[**cut**](http://money.cnn.com/2017/11/03/media/kevin-spacey-netflix-house-of-cards/index.html?iid=EL)**ties with Spacey, a day after CNN published an article circulating new allegations of sexual misconduct from several current and former members of “House of Cards”.**

Since then, a long impressive list of actors, bartenders, a military advisor, and mostly men, [13](https://www.usatoday.com/story/life/2017/11/07/kevin-spacey-scandal-complete-list-13-accusers/835739001/) in total, are accusing Spacey of sexual misconduct from the 1980’s to present day.

**Unbeknownst to many, House of Cards was predominantly filmed in Baltimore, Maryland for all five seasons making it Maryland’s largest film production.**

In season 4 alone, almost 2,700 cast, crew, and other support teams were hired from the Greater Baltimore region, and the production alone used local services from more than 2,000 Maryland vendors.  Maryland as a whole proudly flaunts itself as the home of the production, which earned more than $128 million in 2015 from season 4’s production.

According to [The Baltimore Sun](http://www.baltimoresun.com/entertainment/tv/bs-fe-house-of-cards-crew-paid-during-suspension-20171107-story.html), **more than a half billion dollars flowed into the local economy through many businesses during the production of ‘House of Cards’…**

Caterers and fast-food restaurants, carpet and furniture outlets, music and antique stores, warehouses, auto parts dealers and paint suppliers - all are included among the show’s hundreds of Maryland vendors during more than five years of filming, often in and around Baltimore, at locations including the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, the Baltimore Museum of Art and The Baltimore Sun.

**With the firing of Spacey and the entire production in limbo. There is major doubt the production will continue and could create a headache for Baltimore’s local economy.**

Already, local vendors are **“already feeling the loss of a deep-pocketed customer and the cachet of being associated with a hit series”,**as the suspension of the production inches towards its first full-week.

Meanwhile, the crew is still getting paid says The Baltimore Sun, but many are casting doubts the production will continue.

**The 4-5 year economic boom in Baltimore from a big-budget production has likely popped.**The economic ripple through the community and many small businesses could be devastating, especially for the state, who has welcomed the production with enamors tax credits over the years.

Jena Richardson,28, a crew member on House of Cards, [said](http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/house-cards-destroy-thousands-jobs-article-1.3617776) “if the show leaves, that means that a lot of my friends who have become my set family will have to leave to find work as well. So if we can keep the work here, then everybody can stay here and provide for themselves and their families throughout the holidays.”

Another crew member, Roger Voter,27, a tech assistant, said**the loss of  the show would be a “huge detriment.** Having Baltimore locals being trained in these jobs under the masters of LA is great for their careers”, but as we point out Kevin Spacey has popped the filming bubble in Baltimore and it could mean newly created film techs will have to revert back to the bartending life or even return to their parent’s basements.

It is not over, earth explorers. There are thousands of these beasts who have received the charm of favor for their crimes against the innocent. Now, the betrayal has come. The children are coming forward to accuse these demon souls. We are no longer going to worship them for their incredible talents, no doubt fortified by the demons who bless them for their lust against the children. If God considers children the purest treasure, then Lucifer considers them a great treasure to plunder. The real crime is that every single one of these people who were being enriched by this one man’s oath with Lucifer are also guilty because they ignored the truth. They are all complicit, and now they all must pay the price. I would never hire a person who worked for this show, because they were silent. And silence is consent.

**The Saudi Coup: Follow the Money**

It would be nice the think that the Saudi Coup was a noble effort to start a reformation of Islam. Not so fast. From the very beginning, there was something off about Sunday's unprecedented ~~countercoup~~ purge unleashed by Mohammad bin Salman on alleged political enemies, including some of Saudi Arabia's richest and most powerful royals and government officials: it was just too brazen to be a simple "power consolidation" move; in fact most commentators were shocked by the sheer audacity, with one question outstanding: why take such a huge gamble? After all, there was little chatter of an imminent coup threat against either the senile Saudi King or the crown prince, MbS, and a crackdown of such proportions would only boost animosity against the current ruling royals further.

Things gradually started to make sense when it emerged [that some $33 billion in oligarch net worth](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-11-06/saudi-arabia-about-confiscate-33-billion-four-its-richest-people)was "at risk" among just the 4 wealthiest arrested Saudis, which included the media-friendly prince Alwaleed.

One day later, a [Reuters source reported](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-11-07/saudi-purge-goes-nuclear-over-1200-bank-accounts-frozen)that in a just as dramatic expansion of the original crackdown, bank accounts of over 1,200 individuals had been frozen, a number which was growing by the minute. Commenting on this ~~land~~ cashgrab, we rhetorically asked "So when could the confiscatory process end? **As we**[**jokingly suggested yesterday**](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-11-06/saudi-arabia-about-confiscate-33-billion-four-its-richest-people)**, the ruling Saudi royal family has realized that not only can it crush any potential dissent by arresting dozens of potential coup-plotters, it can also replenish the country's foreign reserves, which in the past 3 years have declined by over $250 billion**, by confiscating some or all of their generous wealth, which is in the tens if not hundreds of billions. If MbS continues going down the list, he just may recoup a substantial enough amount to what it makes a difference on the sovereign account."

Then an article [overnight from the WSJ confirmed](https://www.wsj.com/articles/saudi-arabia-expands-crackdown-on-elite-1510062385)that fundamentally, the purge may be nothing more than a forced extortion scheme, as the Saudi government - already suffering from soaring budget deficits, sliding oil revenues and plunging reserves - was "**aiming to confiscate cash and other assets worth as much as $800 billion in its broadening crackdown on alleged corruption among the kingdom’s elite.**"

As we [reported yesterday](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-11-07/saudi-purge-goes-nuclear-over-1200-bank-accounts-frozen), the WSJ writes that the country’s central bank, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority, said late Tuesday that it has frozen the bank accounts of “persons of interest” and said the move is “in response to the Attorney General’s request pending the legal cases against them.” But what is more notable, is that while [we first suggested](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-11-06/saudi-arabia-about-confiscate-33-billion-four-its-richest-people)- jokingly - on Monday that the ulterior Saudi motive would be to simply "nationalize" the net worth of some of Saudi Arabia's wealthiest individuals, now the WSJ confirms that this is precisely the case, and what's more notably is that the amount in question is absolutely staggering: nearly 2x Saudi Arabia's total foreign reserves!

As the WSJ alleges, "**the crackdown could also help replenish state coffers. The government has said that assets accumulated through corruption will become state property, and people familiar with the matter say the government estimates the value of assets it can reclaim at up to 3 trillion Saudi riyal, or $800 billion**."

While much of that money remains abroad - and invested in various assets from bonds to stocks to precious metals and real estate - which will complicate efforts to reclaim it, even a portion of that amount would help shore up Saudi Arabia’s finances.

A prolonged period of low oil prices forced the government to borrow money on the international bond market and to draw extensively from the country’s foreign reserves, which dropped from $730 billion at their peak in 2014 to $487.6 billion in August, the latest available government data.

Confirming our speculation was advisory firm Eurasia Group, which in a note said that the crown prince "needs cash to fund the government’s investment plans" adding that “It was becoming increasingly clear that additional revenue is needed to improve the economy’s performance. The government will also strike deals with businessmen and royals to avoid arrest, but only as part of a greater commitment to the local economy.”

Of course, there is a major danger that such a draconian cash grab would result in a violent blowback by everyone who has funds parked in the Kingdom. To assuage fears, Saudi Arabia’s minister of commerce, Majid al Qasabi, on Tuesday sought to reassure the private sector that the corruption investigation wouldn’t interfere with normal business operations. The procedures and investigations undertaken by the anticorruption agency won’t affect ongoing business or projects, he said. Furthermore, the Saudi central bank said that individual accounts had been frozen, not corporate accounts. “It is business as usual for both banks and corporates,” the central bank said

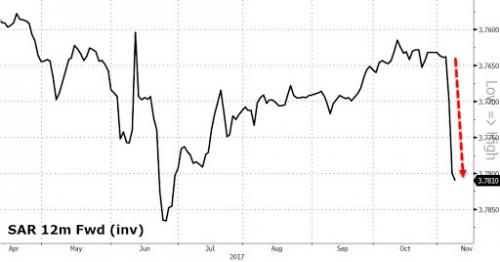
However, this is problematic: first, not only is the list of names of detained and "frozen" accounts growing by the day...

**The government earlier this week vowed that it would arrest more people as part of the corruption investigation, which began around three years ago.**As a precautionary measure, authorities have banned a large number of people from traveling outside the country, among them hundreds of royals and people connected to those arrested, according to people familiar with the matter. The government hasn’t officially named the people who were detained.

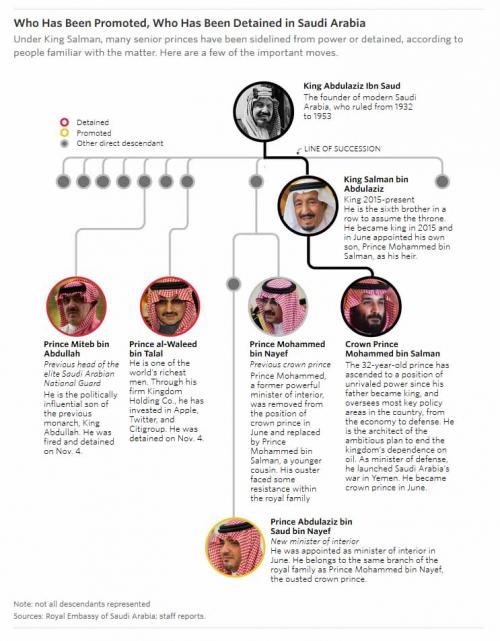
... but the mere shock of a move that would be more appropriate for the 1950s USSR has prompted crushed any faith and confidence the international community may have had in Saudi governance and business practices.

The biggest irony would be if from this flagrant attmept to shore up the Kingdom's deteriorating finances, a domestic and international bank run emerged, with locals and foreign individuals and companies quietly, or not so quietly, pulling their assets and capital from confiscation ground zero, in the process precipitating the very economic collapse that the move was meant to avoid.

Judging by the market reaction, which has sent Riyal forward tumbling on rising bets of either a recession, or devaluation, or both, this unorthodox attempt to inject up to $800 billion in assets into the struggling local economy, could soon backfire spectacularly.

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user5/imageroot/2017/11/07/2017-11-08.jpg)

Meanwhile, for those still confused about the current political scene in Saudi Arabia, here is an infographic courtesy of the WSJ which explains "**Who Has Been Promoted, Who Has Been Detained in Saudi Arabia**"

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user5/imageroot/2017/11/07/arrested%20saudi.jpg)

**Dark Matter: Gone Dark**

Physicists are growing ever more frustrated in their hunt for dark matter — the massive but hard-to-detect substance that is thought to comprise 85% of the material Universe. Teams working with the world’s most sensitive dark-matter detectors report that they have failed to find the particles, and that the ongoing drought has challenged theorists’ prevailing views.

The latest results from an experiment called XENON1T at the Gran Sasso National Laboratory in Italy, published on 30 October[1](http://www.nature.com/news/dark-matter-hunt-fails-to-find-the-elusive-particles-1.22970#b1), continue a dry spell stretching back 30 years in the quest to nab dark-matter particles. An attempt by a Chinese team to detect the elusive stuff, the results of which were published on the same day[2](http://www.nature.com/news/dark-matter-hunt-fails-to-find-the-elusive-particles-1.22970#b2), also came up empty-handed. Ongoing attempts by space-based telescopes, as well as at CERN, the European particle-physics laboratory near Geneva, Switzerland, have also not spotted any hints of dark-matter particles.

The findings have left researchers struggling for answers. “We do not understand how the Universe works at a deeper and more profound level than most of us care to admit,” says Stacy McGaugh, an astrophysicist at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

**Related stories**

* [Astronomy: Dark-matter evidence weakens](http://www.nature.com/doifinder/10.1038/536377b)
* [Controversial dark-matter claim faces ultimate test](http://www.nature.com/doifinder/10.1038/532014a)
* [Mysterious galactic signal points LHC to dark matter](http://www.nature.com/doifinder/10.1038/521017a)

Physicists have widely accepted the existence of dark matter since the 1980s as an explanation for why galaxies remain intact rather than flying apart, which would be expected given the amount of observable mass they contain and how fast they rotate. Researchers surmised that halos of invisible dark matter surround galaxies and stabilize them. Physicists grew more confident when dark-matter models successfully predicted the fluctuations detected in an observable echo of the Big Bang, known as the cosmic microwave background.

These observations became the most dramatic evidence for a proposal in the 1980s that dark matter might be formed of weakly interacting massive particles, known as WIMPs. The existence of such particles fits with how physicists think that the Universe evolved, and with the relative abundance of matter. Moreover, the properties of WIMPs would match those predicted by a branch of particle physics called supersymmetry.

“We need to be thinking about other types of dark matter.”

The latest round of results seems to rule out the simplest and most elegant super­symmetry theories, casting doubt on the idea that the still-undetected particles are the missing dark matter. If simple supersymmetry theories are no longer viable, scientists say, any WIMP particle has to interact with matter much more feebly than physicists once thought. “It’s not a wholesale retreat from the WIMP paradigm, but it is definitely a change in emphasis,” says Dan Hooper, a physicist at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia, Illinois.

Attitudes are shifting, and physicists are increasingly embracing other possible explanations for dark matter, says David Spergel, a theoretical astrophysicist at Princeton University in New Jersey, who was an early proponent of WIMP models. “These experiments haven’t completely closed the window. However, we also need to be thinking about other types of dark matter and new experiments,” he says.

**Dedicated detectors**

It has taken decades to build experiments capable of detecting the minuscule rate at which WIMPs were thought to interact with matter. Only in the past ten years have experiments, carried out at about a dozen laboratories, reached the level of sensitivity needed to detect them. The most sensitive detector in the world is Gran Sasso’s XENON1T, which looks for flashes of light created when dark matter interacts with atoms in its 3.5-tonne tank of extremely pure liquid xenon. But the team reported no dark matter from its first run. Neither was there any signal in data collected over two years during the second iteration of China’s PandaX experiment, based in Jinping in Sichuan province. Hunts in space have also failed to find WIMPs, and hopes are fading that a once-promising γ-ray signal detected by NASA’s Fermi telescope from the centre of the Milky Way was due to dark matter — more-conventional sources seem to explain the observation. There has been only one major report[3](http://www.nature.com/news/dark-matter-hunt-fails-to-find-the-elusive-particles-1.22970#b3) of a dark-matter detection, made by the DAMA collaboration at Gran Sasso, but no group has succeeded in replicating that highly controversial result; renewed attempts to match it are under way.

Future generations of detectors based on the same principle as XENON1T are already in the works, and will be needed if physicists are to finally close the window on WIMPs. But the particles’ continuing no-show is making theorists more open-minded and has allowed other theories to gain prominence, says Hooper. Perhaps dark matter consists of exotic axion particles, which are akin to strange, massive photons. Theorists are also looking at whether dark matter might not interact with known particles at all, but exist in a “hidden sector”, he says.

The looming rejection of the WIMP hypothesis is encouraging for the few physicists who claim that dark matter itself is a red herring. “I hope people will become even more open-minded,” says McGaugh, who has studied modified versions of gravity that negate the need for dark matter. However, Hooper stresses that the fading support for WIMPs does not weaken the case for dark matter, which he thinks will eventually be found. “I’m not worried about the never possibility, but it could be very, very difficult,” he says.

**Robotic Humanity**

Some very smart people say that robots are going to steal your job.

[Researchers at Oxford University](http://www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk/downloads/academic/The_Future_of_Employment.pdf) estimate that 47 percent of U.S. jobs could be replaced by robots, automated technology and automated intelligence (AI) [within the next 20 years](https://www.cnbc.com/2016/11/18/elon-musk-says-robots-will-push-us-to-a-universal-basic-income-heres-how-it-would-work.html). [Jeff Hesse](https://www.cnbc.com/2017/10/05/report-ai-and-robots-could-change-your-career-within-5-years.html), PwC principal and U.S. people and organization co-leader, tells [CNBC Make It](https://www.cnbc.com/make-it/), "The displacement is already beginning to happen."

[Elon Musk](https://www.cnbc.com/2017/07/17/elon-musk-robots-will-be-able-to-do-everything-better-than-us.html) told the [National Governors Association](https://www.c-span.org/video/?431119-6/elon-musk-address-nga&start=5049), "There certainly will be job disruption. Because what's going to happen is robots will be able to do everything better than us." Musk even went so far as to say that "AI is a fundamental risk to the existence of human civilization."

John Cryan, the millionaire CEO of Deutsche Bank, is the latest industry leader to [suggest that](https://qz.com/1123703/deutsche-bank-ceo-john-cryan-suggests-half-its-workers-could-be-replaced-by-machines/) technology will lead to significant layoffs — and possibly sooner than we think.

[](https://www.cnbc.com/2017/11/08/deutsche-bank-ceo-suggests-robots-could-replace-half-its-employees.html)

"We employ 97,000 people," Cryan [told the Financial Times](https://www.ft.com/content/e7844048-c3e5-11e7-a1d2-6786f39ef675). "Most big peers have more like half that number."

"We're too manual, which can make you error-prone and it makes you inefficient," he said. "There's a lot of machine learning and mechanization that we can do."

He isn't just speculating. In late 2015, Deutsche Bank announced that it planned to eliminate 9,000 employees as a part of a [five-year restructuring plan](https://www.ft.com/content/1450cf0c-7e0f-11e5-98fb-5a6d4728f74e). So far, 4,000 jobs have been cut. Technology, says Cryan, will allow for Deutsche to complete these cuts and more.

When asked about the specific number of employees at risk of being replaced, he told [Laura Noonan](https://www.ft.com/stream/ed45acb9-9da0-35fd-94ae-184c05d5ba36) at [the Financial Times](https://www.ft.com/content/62ee1265-dce7-352f-b103-6eeb747d4998) it would be a "big number."

[](https://www.cnbc.com/video/2017/07/17/elon-musk-issues-yet-another-warning-against-runaway-artificial-intelligence.html)

[Elon Musk issues yet another warning against runaway artificial intelligence](https://www.cnbc.com/video/2017/07/17/elon-musk-issues-yet-another-warning-against-runaway-artificial-intelligence.html)

In September, Cryan [told the Financial Times](https://www.ft.com/content/62ee1265-dce7-352f-b103-6eeb747d4998) that many Deutsche accountants, for instance, could be replaced by simple technology. They "spend a lot of the time basically being an abacus," he said.

[Bill Gates](https://www.cnbc.com/2017/10/19/bill-gates-says-these-3-books-opened-a-new-world-for-him.html) and [Mark Zuckerberg](https://www.cnbc.com/2017/04/24/how-mark-zuckerberg-actually-made-it-big.html) have urged people not to panic over increased reliance on AI technology, saying that fears about robots putting people out of work [are overstated](https://www.cnbc.com/2017/09/27/ibm-and-microsoft-execs-say-dont-be-afraid-of-a-i-stealing-your-job.html).

But Cryan believes entire industries will be able to replace workers with robots, not just Deutsche Bank. "We have to find new ways of employing people and maybe people need to find new ways of spending their time," he said. "The truthful answer is we won't need as many people."

He says one reason for Deutsche's shift away from human labor is that consumer banking has moved online, removing the need for many brick-and-mortar branches.

"The truth is if I went to a load of branches, I'd wait quite a lot of the day before I encountered [any] customers," he says. "They just don't come in as often as they used to."

**The Quantum Computer Race**

Ones and zeroes. It’s called binary language. Silicon and Boron are layered to make switches. These gates can be switched very fast, but it takes a whole bunch of them to be able to crunch programs. And programs are memory hogs. The race has been to find additional oxidation states that can be used as switches. Trinary, quaternary, and even more digits in the possibilities are there, but no one has figured out how to use them as memory or processing platforms. Until now. IBM has announced a milestone in its race against Google and other big tech firms to build a powerful quantum computer.

Dario Gil, who leads IBM's quantum computing and artificial intelligence research division, said Friday that the company's scientists have successfully built and measured a processor prototype with 50 quantum bits, known as qubits.

Gil says it's the first time any company has built a quantum computer at this scale.

Quantum computing, a technology that's still in its early phases, uses the quirks of quantum physics to perform calculations at far higher speeds than current computers.

Seth Lloyd, an MIT mechanical engineering professor not involved in IBM's research, says it's likely that IBM still has glitches to work out but the 50-qubit announcement is a sign of significant progress. Now, we will see how this affects the seeming insanity at trying to build smart machines that do something simple like autonomously drive in traffic. By the way, it isn’t GM who is pushing for self-driving cars. It’s DARPA.

**AI in Sports**

In any sport, it is mastery of the basics that makes a sports star. Scooping a 100 mph grounder, or hitting a 100 mph ball with a stick is only possible up to 37.5% of the time by the top dozen players in the world. But that may be no challenge for a robot. "You would teach it basic rules. The robots, the way they train them today is they guide them through various paths.

"So robots learn the best way to do it. You say you've got to kick this ball, and it has to go between these two posts, it could practice that until it could do it really well.

"But once it has done that, it can pass that information on to any other robot. Machines can communicate in ways you and I can't."

Asked if they will be better than Messi by the year 2045, he responded: "I would think so.

"I think they will be much better."

The reason they will surpass the world's best footballers, he says, is the potential to programme robots with the ability of other robots and keep improving.

For instance it is impossible for the Argentine superstar to transfer his ability to cut inside, dribble and curl the ball in with his left foot to another human being.

But Dr Pearson says once we have equipped a robot with the ability to do this, it will be possible to programme other robots to do the same and continue improving.

The former rocket scientist – who worked on missile design – added: "I can't transfer things into your brain, except by talking to you.

"A robot can. It can just transfer electronic signals, and then a robot would have exactly the same memories and muscle memories as another would have, and the same skills.

"If you train one, you've trained them all."

If an ambitious investor fancied designing football robots to achieve sporting supremacy, the Brit expert believes they can do this with the use of electro-active polymer.

The gel-like substance would act as a material that "moves in much the same way as a human muscle does, providing force".

And the technology has improved so much that only two years ago, the material would have made a athlete robot five times as strong as a human being.

But in 2017, Dr Pearson contends, we can comfortably predict a footballing robot will possess more than 15 times as strength as a human.

He told us: "So you could make the muscle with that electro-active polymer and cover the shell with it, and fill in the rest with silicone gel.

"You would end up then with something almost exactly like a human body.

"You could make it a lot stronger, the muscle fibres. At the moment they are about 10-15 times stronger.

"If we'd had this interview two years ago, they would have been five times stronger.

"You could make a robot 15 times stronger even using stuff we know about today. It is possible it could be a lot better than that."

But before England fans start getting ideas about ending 51 years of hurt, Dr Pearson says they are unlikely to play among humans because they would render the beautiful game a hellish bore-fest.

He argues that by possessing limitless ability, they would rob the game of the unpredictability that keeps fans coming back for more.

So if you make a robot that can score from inside his own half at every attempt and clock 200mph speeds, it would generate very little appetite, he says.

He continued: "If robots were running around at 200mph and knocking the ball in it would not be much fun to watch.

"If you wanted to make a robot, there would not be anything stopping you doing that. You can also make one sprint fast as well.

"I don't think the barrier is technology, I think the barrier is if there is any point."

We think it is fair to assume, however, that any robot made in England would likely suffer a system error when taking penalties at a major tournament.

**Space Robotic Warfare**

The forward-leaning technology arm of the U.S. Defense Department is betting that in just a few years, the business of sending robots to high orbit to repair and refresh satellites will be so successful that the government and the industry should now begin to discuss rules and protocols.

"We need to work on a set of rules," Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency Program Manager Todd Master told SpaceNews.

DARPA recently launched a "Consortium for Execution of Rendezvous and Servicing Operations" to start bringing the industry to the table. The agency is hoping all major industry players will join the group, including geosynchronous satellite operators and the handful of firms preparing to offer in-orbit robotic servicing of satellites.

This effort has been years in the making. DARPA pioneered the concept of using robots for in-space repairs and more recently invested millions of dollars in a public-private partnership with Space Systems Loral to build an autonomous vehicle for servicing satellites 36,000 kilometers above Earth.

Master said the lack of clear, widely accepted technical and safety standards for the performance of on-orbit activities involving commercial satellites remains a major obstacle to the expansion of the industry.

The federal government has set up regulatory bodies for space operations — the Federal Aviation Administration runs launch, the Federal Communications Commission oversees satellite communications, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration regulates Earth imaging. But there is no rule-making body for the new and mostly unknown activity of in-orbit services.

"How do we ensure this is conducted in a safe and responsible fashion?" Master asked. The consortium, he said, will be expected to adopt a set of nonbinding rules that the industry will voluntarily agree to comply with.

Companies have financial incentives to do this, he said. "They want to give confidence to investors and insurers and customers that they are doing things safely." DARPA will oversee geosynchronous satellite work and let NASA handle low-Earth orbit projects.

## Legal delay

DARPA is moving to create the rule-making consortium following a six-month legal battle after its decision to team up with Space Systems Loral for the program known as "robotic servicing of geosynchronous satellites," or RSGS.

The agency set out to select a partner in November 2016, start bus payload assembly and testing by 2019, proceed to bus and payload integration by 2020 and launch a vehicle by March 2021 for a nine-month deployment.

The project was delayed by several months after the selection of Space Systems Loral was protested in February by Orbital ATK, a company that already had invested in in-orbit robotic technology and is in the process of building a servicing vehicle. Orbital argued that DARPA was in violation of a National Space Policy provision that says the government should not invest in systems that compete with commercial products.

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia in July dismissed Orbital's suit against DARPA. Agency spokesman Jared Adams said in a statement that DARPA was "gratified by the judge's decision" and looked forward to "continuing our collaboration with public and private entities in pursuit of our ambitious goal of robotic satellite servicing on orbit."

Palo Alto, California-based Space Systems Lora said the RSGS program is "expected to be the foundation of a new business for SSL that will serve both commercial and government operators with repair, upgrade, relocation, and refueling of on-orbit assets."

Orbital ATK in September announced "significant progress" on its in-space satellite servicing system. Called the mission extension vehicle, or MEV, it is now in production, according to a company news release, with about 75 percent of the platform and payload components already at the manufacturing plant in Dulles, Virginia. The spacecraft will begin system-level testing in spring 2018 and launch planned late next year. The MEV-1 will provide satellite life extension services to its anchor customer, global fleet operator Intelsat, beginning in early cccccccccccccccccncccccm x.c 2019.

## Orbita zm l said its goal is to produce a fleet of in-orbit servicing vehicles for repair, assembly, refueling and in-space transportation.

## European efforts

Outside the United States, companies that are getting into the game include Airbus, which has teamed with a U.K. company, Effective Space Solutions. Foreign space agencies have contacted DARPA about joining the consortium, said Master. "We are still trying to figure out how to engage foreign governments." As far as foreign companies are concerned, "We welcome their participation. This is meant to be a commercial consortium" and many key players are non-U.S. firms.

DARPA in the meantime is counting on a big payoff from its investment in the RSGS. When Space Systems Loral completes its first robotic vehicle, it will be required under its agreement with DARPA to service government-owned satellites before it starts commercializing the work. Agency officials in briefings to contractors have been vocal about their ambitions to help make in-orbit servicing of satellites a viable industry. They envision satellite companies using robots not only to fix broken components but also to upgrade the capabilities of spacecraft by inserting fresh electronics. The service vehicles with robotic arms would be similar to those used to build the International Space Station but would have more sophisticated levels of autonomy and safety.

DARPA is trying to make the industry more comfortable with the idea of servicing satellites in orbit and keeping them in business years longer than projected, potentially saving hundreds of millions of dollars over time.

Master said there is potential to service about a dozen geosynchronous satellites per year. Many would need to be repositioned and refueled. But the intent is to have companies do "continuous upgrades" of satellites, he said. "Can you expand the capability of aging spacecraft, bring new mission capabilities, different communications bands, more transponders, new payloads?" Most of the geosynchronous market is for commercial communications. As companies review their fleet plans they may choose to update and extend the life of a satellite rather than buy a new one and pay for the launch, Master added. "That can be a half-billion dollar proposition."

He said the consortium is getting off the ground right in time to prepare for a surge in satellites over the coming decades. There are today about 1,500 functioning satellites in orbit, and thousands more will be launched in the years ahead.

The sustainability of the industry is at stake, Master said. "We're inviting the space community to join us in creating a permanent, self-sustaining 'one-stop shop' where industry can collaborate and engage with the U.S. government about on-orbit servicing."

DARPA selected a contractor, Advanced Technology International, based in Summerville, South Carolina, to manage the consortium.

Master said he would like to see a year from now the first draft of the "rules of the road" for cooperative on-orbit operations. "We believe these standards will both accelerate the commercial servicing marketplace and provide the foundation for safe and responsible space-based capabilities."

**The Stealth Invasion**

If you owned a flat in London, you probably inherited it. They’re expensive. But if you did, you could look out the window onto the street. And a few days ago, you would have seen a street march that not only blocked traffic, it took up the entire street and the sidewalks, and it lasted for blocks. Numbers exceeded any army that ever marched through any city in modern times.

The thing that would have told you the island was lost forever, is that all of these people were Muslim, and they were marching to show the city that Sharia law is coming; Democratically.

Americans are shocked by ongoing news reports chronicling growing chaos in Europe, where massive Muslim migration is wreaking havoc on the continent – including horrendous acts of mass terrorism, an epidemic of rape and sexual assault against European women, and large, jihadist-rich enclaves where even police are hesitant to enter.

Yet, few realize that America is heading down the same suicidal path.

As veteran investigative journalist Leo Hohmann documents in Stealth Invasion: Muslim Conquest through Immigration and Resettlement Jihad, an international network of mostly Muslim Brotherhood-linked activists has been building its ranks within the United States for more than three decades, aided by a U.S. immigration system seemingly obsessed with welcoming as many unassimilable migrants with anti-Western values as possible. As a result, largely secret plans for major population changes in hundreds of U.S. cities and towns are already being implemented.

This transformation is taking place not only in gateway cities like New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, but in such all-American towns as Twin Falls, Idaho, and St. Cloud, Minnesota, where tensions brought on by the importation of hostile cultures are already causing shock waves.

As Stealth Invasion reveals, the Muslim Brotherhood has a well-defined strategy for conquering America, not necessarily with violent jihadist attacks – although we should expect those to increase – but through more subtle means collectively called "civilization jihad."

According to the Brotherhood's own documents seized by the FBI, "civilization jihad" involves infiltrating and conquering Western democracies from within. The goal is to partner with leftist and anarchist groups (such as "Black Lives Matter") to tear at the fabric of Western civilization and the Judeo-Christian values that undergird it. Their intent is to use liberal immigration laws to create "settlements" for Islam in America, which in turn become enclaves of non-assimilated Muslims who can easily become "radicalized" by a preacher at a local mosque, or by watching a Youtube video posted by an imam in Pakistan.

Very simply, civilization jihad calls for changing a nation by changing its people and its values – gradually, over time.

Meanwhile, the world is undergoing a historic shift of populations – out of the Middle East and Africa, and into Europe, Canada and the United States. The fact that the majority of those coming to America as part of this new immigration wave bring a hostile value system based on sharia law, and have little interest in assimilating into American culture, seems of no concern to our leaders in the White House and Congress.

Indeed, refugee resettlement and expanded visa programs have enjoyed the full support of both major parties. Instead of learning the lessons of 9/11 and tightening up America's immigration system, our leaders have expanded it wildly and recklessly.

Stealth Invasion connects the dots between the problems of growing violence and unrest that have plagued Europe and what is now unfolding across America. The terror attacks on Chattanooga, Orlando, San Bernardino, St. Cloud, Minnesota, and the Chelsea area of Manhattan were all carried out by Muslim immigrants, or, in the case of San Bernardino and Orlando, by sons of Muslim immigrants. A surprising number of foiled attacks have also been plotted since 9/11 by Muslim refugees and immigrants.

Stealth Invasion blows the lid off a corrupt, fraudulent program that has been secretly dumping Third World refugees, many of them radical, on American cities for three decades. Readers will meet the people and groups behind this shadowy resettlement network, which starts at the United Nations and includes the White House, the U.S. State Department, some surprising church groups, and corporate honchos involved in everything from investment banking and meatpacking, to Florida vacations and yogurt manufacturing.

Americans have been kept largely in the dark about the radical plans to permanently transform their nation. Until now.

In Stealth Invasion, Leo Hohmann reveals how Congress has turned a blind eye to the program since President Jimmy Carter signed into law the Refugee Act of 1980, allowing the United Nations – not American officials – to select the refugees sent to our cities. As a result, those selected are increasingly coming from hotbeds of Sunni radicalism like Syria, Iraq, and Somalia while a growing population of persecuted Christians are left behind.

The government uses a network of private agencies, most with churchy names tied to Lutherans, Catholics, Episcopalians, Jews and even evangelicals, to do the resettlement work, but the public is shut out of the process from beginning to end. No public hearings, no public notices in the local newspaper asking for their input.

Stealth Invasion uncovers how various cities have become refugee hot spots and examines grassroots uprisings where citizens have challenged this secret cabal and won. Armed with knowledge of the government’s methods for dealing with local resettlement backlash, Hohmann provides details on how concerned Americans can most effectively respond.

The great "melting pot" that once typified the success of America's immigration system no longer seems to be working. The old shared values of God, country, family, and freedom that used to hold the country together are breaking down.

In Stealth Invasion, Leo Hohmann shows that the breakdown is no coincidence and it hasn't manifested overnight. It's been brewing since the 1980s, but is now reaching the point where it is about to metastasize and overtake us all – unless it is stopped now.

**The Two Myths**

[Authored by The Saker,](http://thesaker.is/the-two-great-us-american-myths-which-can-result-in-a-war-with-russia/)

There are **two myths**which are deeply imprinted in the minds of most US Americans which are **extremely dangerous and which can result in a war with Russia.**

The first myth is the myth of the US military superiority.

The second myth is the myth about the US invulnerability.

**I believe that it is therefore crucial to debunk these myths before they end up costing us millions of lives and untold suffering.**

the US armed forces are nowhere nearly as advanced as the US propaganda machine would have us believe. And even though the article was a discussion of Russian military technologies I only gave one example, in passing, of Russian military technologies by comparing the T-50 PAKFA to the US F-35 (if you want to truly get a feel for the F-35 disaster, please read [*this*](http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/the-f-35-14-trillion-dollar-national-disaster-19985?page=show) and [*this*](http://www.dote.osd.mil/pub/reports/FY2016/pdf/dod/2016f35jsf.pdf)).

First, I am generally reluctant to focus on weapons systems because I strongly believe that, in the vast majority of real-world wars, tactics are far more important than technologies. Second, Andrei Martyanov, an expert on Russian military issues and naval warfare, has recently written two excellent pieces on Russian military technologies (see [*here*](http://www.unz.com/article/assessing-russias-military-strength/) and [*here*](http://www.unz.com/article/russia-the-800-pound-gorilla/)) which gave many more examples (check out Martyanov’s [*blog*](http://smoothiex12.blogspot.com/)). Having read some of the comments posted under Martyanov’s and my articles, I think that it is important, crucial, in fact, to drive home the message to those who still are thoroughly trained by the propaganda machine to instantly dismiss any notion of US vulnerability or, even more so, technological inferiority. I am under no illusion about the capability of those who still watch the idiot box to be woken out of their lethargic stupor by the warnings of Paul Craig Roberts, William Engdal, Dmitrii Orlov, Andrei Martyanov or myself. But I also think that we have to keep trying, because the war party (the Neocon Uniparty) is apparently trying really hard to trigger a conflict with Russia. So what I propose to do today is to connect the notions of “war with Russia” and “immediate and personal suffering” by showing that if Russia is attacked two of the most sacred symbols of the USA, aircraft carriers and the US mainland itself, would be immediately attacked and destroyed.

**What was true then is even more true today and I can’t imagine anybody at the Pentagon seriously making plans to attack Russia with carrier based aviation.** But even if the USN has no intention of using its carriers against Russia, that does not mean that the Russians cannot actively seek out US carriers and destroy them, even very far from Russia. After all, even if they are completely outdated for a war between superpowers, carriers still represent fantastically expensive targets whose symbolic value remains immense. The truth is that US carriers are the most lucrative target any enemy could hope for: (relatively) small, (relatively) easy to destroy, distributed in many locations around the globe – US carriers are almost “pieces of the USA, only much closer”.

### ****Introducing the Zircon 3M22 hypersonic missile****

First, some basic data about this missile (from English and Russian Wikipedia):

Low level range: 135 to 270 nautical miles (155 to 311mi; 250 to 500km).

High level range: 400nmi (460mi; 740km) in a semi-ballistic trajectory.

Max range: 540nmi (620mi; 1,000km)

Max altitude: 40km (130’000 feet)

Average range is around 400km (250mi; 220nmi)/450 km.

Speed: Mach 5–Mach 6 (3,806–4,567mph; 6,125–7,350km/h; 1.7015–2.0417km/s).

Max speed: Mach 8 (6,090mph; 9,800km/h; 2.7223km/s) during a test.

Warhead: 300-400kg (high explosive or nuclear)

Shape: low-RCS with radar absorbing coating.

Cost per missile: 1-2 million dollars (depending on configuration)

**All this is already very impressive, but here comes the single most important fact about this missile: it can be launched from pretty much \*any\* platform: cruisers, of course, but also frigates and even small corvettes.** It can be launched by nuclear and diesel-electric attack submarines. It can also be launched from long range bombers (Tu-160), medium-range bombers (Tu-22m3), medium-range fighter-bomber/strike aircraft (SU-34) and even, according to some reports, from multi-role air superiority fighter (SU-35). Finally, this missile can also be shore-based. In fact, this missile can be launched from any platform capable of launching the now famous Kalibr cruise missile and that means that even a merchant marine or fishing ship could carry a container with the Zircon missile hidden inside. In plain English what this means is the following:

1. Russia has a missile which cannot be stopped or spoofed by any of the current and foreseeable USN anti-missile weapons systems.
2. This missile can be deployed \*anywhere\* in the world on \*any\* platform.

**Let me repeat this again: pretty much any Russian ship and pretty much any Russian aircraft from now on will have the potential capability of sinking a US aircraft carrier.**In the past, such capabilities were limited to specific ships (Slava class), submarines (Oscar class) or aircraft (Backfires). The Soviets had a large but limited supply of such platforms and they were limited on where they could deploy them. This era is now over. From now on a swarm of Zircon 3M22 could appear anywhere on the planet at any moment and with no warning time (5000 miles per hour incoming speed does not leave the target anything remotely comparable to even a short reaction time). In fact, the attack could be so rapid that it might not even leave the target the time needed to indicate that it is under attack.

**None of the above is a big secret, by the way**. Just place “zircon missile” in your favorite search engine and you will get a lot of hits (131’000 on Google; 190’000 on Bing). In fact, a lot of specialists have declared that the Zircon marks the end of the aircraft carrier as a platform of modern warfare. These claims are widely exaggerated. As I have written above, aircraft carriers are ideal tools to terrify, threaten, bully and otherwise attack small, defenseless countries. Even medium-sized countries would have a very hard time dealing with an attack coming from US aircraft carriers.

So I personally think that as long as the world continues to use the US dollar and, therefore, as long as the US economy continues to rely on creating money out of thin air and spending it like there is no tomorrow, aircraft carriers still have a bright, if morally repulsive, future ahead of them. And, of course, the USN will not use carriers to threaten Russia. Again, the US press has been rather open about the carrier-killing potential of the Zircon, but what it rarely (never?) mentions are the political and strategic consequence from the deployment of the Zircon: from now on Russia will have an easy and very high value US target she can destroy anytime she wants. You can think of the US carrier fleet like 10 US hostages which the Russians can shoot at any time. And what is crucial is this: an attack on a US carrier would not be an attack on the US homeland, nor would it be a nuclear attack, but the psychological shock resulting from such an attack could well be comparable to a (limited) nuclear strike on the US homeland.

This, on one hand, will greatly inhibit the Russian willingness to strike at US carriers as this would expose Russia to very severe retaliatory measures (possibly including nuclear strikes). On the other hand, however, in terms of “[escalation dominance](http://rightweb.irc-online.org/escalation_dominance/)” this state of affairs gives a major advantage to Russia as the US does not have any Russian targets with an actual and symbolic value similar to the one of a US carrier.

There is another aspect of this issue which is often ignored. Western analysts often speak of a Russian strategy of “[deterrence by denial](https://www.the-american-interest.com/2015/08/12/the-case-for-deterrence-by-denial/)” and “[Anti-Access Area Denial](https://missilethreat.csis.org/russia-nato-a2ad-environment/)” (A2AD). Mostly this is the kind of language which gets you a promotion and a pay raise in US and NATO think tanks. Still, there is a grain of truth to the fact that advanced Russian missiles are now providing Russia with a very cheap way to threaten even fantastically expensive US assets. Worse, Russia is willing (eager, in fact) to export these (relatively cheap) missiles to other countries.

I find it amusing to see how US politicians are in a state of constant hysteria about the risk of nuclear proliferation, but fail to realize that conventional anti-ship missiles are a formidable, and much more likely, threat. Sure, there are missile export limiting treaties, such as the [MTCR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missile_Technology_Control_Regime), but they only apply to missile with a range of over 300km. With modern ballistic and cruise missiles becoming smaller, deadlier and easier to conceal and with ranges which are (relatively) easy to extend, treaties such as the MTCR are becoming increasingly outdated.

**The bottom line is this: as long as deterrence holds, attacking US carriers makes no sense whatsoever for Russia; however, as soon as deterrence fails, attacking US carriers, anywhere on the planet, gives Russia an extremely flexible and powerful escalation dominance capability which the US cannot counter in kind.**

### ****Striking at the Holy of Holies – the US “homeland”****

**If you thought that discussing striking US carriers was bad, here we are going to enter full “Dr Strangelove” territory and discuss something which US Americans find absolutely unthinkable: attacks on the US homeland.**

True, for the rest of mankind, any war by definition includes the very real possibility of attacks on your own towns, cities and people. But for US Americans who are used to mete out violence and death far away from their own peaceful towns and cities, the notion of a devastating strike against the US homeland is pretty much unthinkable. On 9/11 the loss of 3000 innocent people placed the vast majority of US Americans into a total state of shock which resulted in a massive over-reaction at all levels (which was, of course, exactly the purpose of this false flag operation by the US and Israeli deep states). Just as with carriers, the dangers of a US over-reaction should serve as a deterrent to any attacks on the US homeland. But, just as with the carriers, that is only true as long as deterrence holds.**If the Russian territory becomes the object of a US attack this would clearly indicate that deterrence has failed and that the Russian armed forces should now switch from a deterrence mode to a war-fighting mode.**

At this point, the US American over-reaction to being attacked or taking casualties could, paradoxically, result in a last-minute wake-up call indicating to everybody that what will come next will be truly devastating.

### ****Introducing the RS-28 Sarmat intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM)****

Though officially very little is known about the Sarmat and the Yu-71, the reality is that the Internet has been full of educated guesses which give us a pretty clear idea of what kind of systems we are dealing here.

You can think of the [RS-28 Sarmat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RS-28_Sarmat) as a successor of the already formidable [RS-36 Voevoda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R-36_(missile)) (SS-18 Satan in US classification) missile: it is a heavy, very powerful, intercontinental ballistic missile with multiple independently targetable reentry vehicle (warheads):

* Weight: 100 tons
* Payload: 10 tons
* Warheads: 10 to 15
* Hypersonic glide vehicles: 3-24 (that’s the Yu-71 we will discuss below)
* Range: 10’000km
* Guidance: Inertial , satellite, astrocelestial
* Trajectory: [FOBS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fractional_Orbital_Bombardment_System)-capable

That last line, about being FOBS-capable, is crucial as it means that, unlike most Soviet/Russian ICMBs, the Sarmat does not have to fly over the North Pole to strike at the United States. In fact, the Sarmat could fly over the South Pole or, for that matter, in any direction and still reach any target in the USA. Right there this capability is, by itself, is more than enough to defeat any current and foreseeable US anti-ballistic missile technology. But it gets better, or worse, depending on your perspective: the Sarmat’s reentry vehicles/warhards are capable of flying in low orbit, maneuver, and then suddenly plunge towards their targets. The only way to defeat such an attack would be to protect the USA by a 3600 coverage capable ABM system, something which the USA is decades away from deploying. And just to add to these already formidable characteristics, each Sarmat can carry up to 3-24 (depending on who you ask) Yu-71 hypersonic glide vehicles.

### ****Introducing The Yu-71 (aka “Object 4202) hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV)****

Yet again, this is hardly a topic not covered in the media and you can find numerous articles describing what a hypersonic glide vehicle is and how it can be used. (the best article I could find in English was by Global Security, it is entitled “[Objekt 4202 / Yu-71 / Yu-74](https://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/russia/objekt-4202.htm)”).

Here is a summary of what we think we know about this HGV:

* Max Speed: from Mach 5, [according to Scott Ritter](https://washingtonspectator.org/russian-arms-race-ritter/), to Mach 9, according to a [quasi official Russian source](https://tvzvezda.ru/news/forces/content/201511090816-ou4s.htm), to Mach 15, [acccording to Sputnik](https://sputniknews.com/military/201610291046868761-hypersonic-warhead-sarmat-missile/), to Mach 20 (that’s 7 kilometer per second, or 25’200kh/h, or 15’000mph), according to [Global Security](https://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/russia/objekt-4202.htm). Whatever the true speed, it will be fantastic and far, far beyond the kind of speeds current or foreseeable US anti-missile systems could hope to engage.
* Hypermaneuverability: Russian sources describe the Yu-71 as “???????????????? ??????????” or “hypermaneuverable warhead”. What that exactly means in turns of sustained Gs does not really matter as this is not about air-to-air combat, but about the ability to perform sudden course changes making it close to impossible for anti-missile systems to calculate an engagement solution.
* Warhead: nuclear and conventional/kinetic.

**That last line is very interesting. What it means is that considering the speeds attained by the Yu-71 HGV it is not necessary to equip it with a conventional (high explosive) or nuclear warhead. The kinetic energy generated by its high speed is sufficient to create an explosion similar to what a large conventional or small nuclear warhead could generate.**

## ****Bringing it all together now****

Did you notice the similarities between the Zircon missile and the Sarmat+Yu-71 combo?

In both cases we have:

1. an attack which can come from any direction
2. speed of attack and maneuver capabilities which make interception impossible
3. the capability for Russia to destroy a very high value US target in a very short time

**It is amazing to see that while US decision makers were talking about their**[**Prompt Global Strike**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prompt_Global_Strike)**program, the Russians actually developed their own version of this capability, much faster than the USA and at a fraction of the cost.**

These are all ideal ways to “bring the war home” and to encourage a country which enjoyed total impunity for its policies to begin seriously thinking about the consequences of messing around with the wrong people.

**To make things even more potentially dangerous for the USA, the very same geography which protected the USA for so long is now becoming a major vulnerability.** Currently 39% of the US population lives in counties directly on the shoreline. In fact, the population density of coastal shoreline counties is over six times greater than the corresponding inland counties ([source](https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/population.html)). In 2010 the US Census Bureau produced a fascinating report entitled “[Coastline Population Trends in the United States: 1960 to 2008](https://www.census.gov/prod/2010pubs/p25-1139.pdf)” which shows that the coastal counties provide an “intense concentration of economic and social activity”.

In fact, a very large number of US cities, industrial centers and economic hugs are located near the USA coastline making them all \*ideal\* targets for Russian conventional cruise missile strikes which could be launched from very long distances (including over open water). And we are not talking about some future, hypothetical, cruise missile, we are talking about the very same Kalibr cruise missiles the Russians have been using against the Takfiris in Syria. Check out this very well made video which explains how Kalibr cruise missiles can be hidden pretty much anywhere and used with devastating effect on military and/or civilian targets:

**The reality is that the US homeland is extremely vulnerable to any kind of attack.** This is only in part due to recent Russian advances in military technology. For example, the “just on time” manufacturing or delivery practices which are aimed to minimize costs and inventory are, from a strategic/military point of view, extremely dangerous as it take very little disruption (for example in the distribution network) to create catastrophic consequences. Likewise, the high concentration of some industries in specific areas of the United States (oil in the Mexican Gulf) only serve to further weaken the ability of the United State to take any kind of punishment in case of war.

**Most TV watching Americans will dismiss all of the above by saying that “anybody come mess with us and we will kick their ass” or something equally sophisticated. And there is some truth to that. But what this mindset also indicate is a complete mental inability to operate in a scenario when deterrence has failed and the “other guy” is coming for you.**That mindset is the prerogative of civilians. Those tasked with the defense of their country simply cannot think that way and have to look beyond the “threshold of deterrence”. They will be the one asked to fix the bloody mess once the civilians screw-up. Georges Clemenceau reportedly once said that “War is too serious a matter to entrust to military men”. I believe that the exact opposite is true, that war is too serious a matter to entrust to civilians, especially the US Neocons (the vast majority of whom have never spent any time in uniform) and who always make it sound like the next war will be easy, safe and painless. Remember Ken Adleman and his famous Iraqi “[cakewalk](https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/opinions/2002/02/13/cakewalk-in-iraq/cf09301c-c6c4-4f2e-8268-7c93017f5e93/?utm_term=.6b86ce69db67)”? The very same kind of scum is in power today and they want us to believe that the next war will also be a cakewalk or that being on a high speed collision course with Russia is something the USA can afford and should therefore engage in. The combined effect of the myth of US military superiority with the myth about the US invulnerability result in a US American sense of detachment, or even impunity, which is not at all supported by fact. I just fervently hope that the people of the USA will not find out how mistaken they are the hard way.

In the meantime, the Russian Chief of General Staff, General Gerasimov, has [announced](https://rg.ru/2017/11/08/v-rossii-sozdali-neiadernuiu-sistemu-strategicheskogo-sderzhivaniia.html) that**Russia had completed what he called a “non-nuclear deterrence system” based on the Iskander-M, Kalibr and X-101 missiles.** According to General Gerasimov, the Russian armed forces now have enough high-precision weapon systems to strike at any target within a 4000km range. Furthermore, Gerasimov declared that the number of platforms capable of launching such missiles has increased twelve times while the number of high precision cruise missiles has increased by a factor 30. General Gerasimov also explained that the combined capabilities of the Kalibr cruise missile, the [Bastion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K-300P_Bastion-P) mobile coastal defense missile system and the S-400 air defense system made it possible for Russia to fully control the airspace and surface of the Baltic, Barents, Black and Mediterranean seas (talk about A2AD!). Gerasimov concluded his briefing by saying**“the development of high-precision weapons has made it possible to place the main burden of strategic deterrence from nuclear to non-nuclear forces”.**

To fully evaluate the implications of what Gerasimov said please consider this: **deterrence is,**[**by definition**](https://www.google.com/search?q=deterrence)**, the action of discouraging an action or event through instilling doubt or fear of the consequences.** So what Gerasimov is really saying is that Russia has enough conventional, non-nuclear, capabilities to inflict unacceptable consequences upon the USA. This is something absolutely new, a fundamental game changer. Most importantly, that is the official declaration by a senior Russian official that the USA does not have any technological superiority and that the USA is vulnerable to a devastating counter-attack, even a conventional one. In one short sentence General Gerasimov has put to rest the two most important myths of US geostrategic theory.

**Keep in mind that, unlike their US counterparts, the Russians typically like to under-evaluate Russian military capabilities.**You will find the Russia media bragging about how “totally awesome and best in the world” Russian weapons systems are, but military personnel in Russia still has a corporate culture of secrecy and under-reporting your real capabilities to the enemy. Furthermore, while junior officers can say pretty much anything they want, senior officers are held to very strict rules and they have to carefully weigh every word they say, especially acting officers. So when the Chief of Staff officially declares that Russia now has a conventional strategic deterrence capability – you can take that to the bank. It’s real.

***Alas, the western media is still stuck in the “full idiot” mode we saw during the transit of the Russian aircraft carrier from the North Atlantic to the Mediterranean: on one hand, the Admiral Kuznetsov was presented as a rusty old bucket while on the other NATO forces constantly shadowed it as if it was about to strike London.*** Likewise, US politicians present Russia as a “gas station” while, at the same time, stating that this “gas station” has the capability to decide who lives in the White House. This kind of reporting is not only unhelpful but outright dangerous. One one hand the “the Russians are backward brutes” fosters an arrogant and cocky attitude. On the other hand, constantly speaking about fake Russian threats results in a very dangerous case of “cry wolf” in which all possible Russian threats (including very real ones) are dismissed as pure propaganda.

***The reality is, of course, very different and simple in a binary way: Russia represents absolutely no threat to the United States or anybody else (including the three Baltic statelets). But if some western politician decides that he is smarter and stronger than Napoleon or Hitler and that he will finally bring the Russians to their knees, then he and his country will be destroyed. It is really that simple.***

**The Big Bad AI Fear**

Elon Musk unveiled his **[apocalytpic vision of the world](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-07-15/elon-musk-unveils-apocalyptic-vision-world)** a few weeks ago...

**“Until people see robots going down the street killing people, they don’t know how to react because it seems so ethereal,”** he said.

“AI is a rare case where I think **we need to be proactive in regulation instead of reactive.**Because I think **by the time we are reactive in AI regulation, it’s too late**.”

“Normally the way regulations are set up is a while bunch of bad things happen, there’s a public outcry, and after many years a regulatory agency is set up to regulate that industry,” he continued.

“It takes forever. That, in the past, has been bad but not something which represented a fundamental risk to the existence of civilization. **AI is a fundamental risk to the existence of human civilization**.”

And since then numerous futurists have prognosticated on whether is mankind's salvation or eventual downfall. Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg embraces it while [Stephen Hawking](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2016-12-03/most-dangerous-moment-human-history-stephen-hawking-warns) considers this the most dangerous moment in history as AI and automation are set to decimate jobs and change the social contract.

However, [as Mike Wehner via BGR.com,](http://bgr.com/2017/11/08/ai-weapons-systems-military-destruction-apocalypse/)writes, **when AI rules, one rogue programmer could end the human race...**

**The idea of small groups of humans having control over some of the most powerful weapons ever to be built is scary, but it’s the reality we live in.** In the not-so-distant future, that incredible power and responsibility could be handed over to AI and robotic systems, which are already in active development. In a pair of open letters to the prime ministers of bother Australia and Canada, hundreds of AI researchers and scientists are pleading for that not to happen.

The fear, they say, is that removing the human element from life and death decisions could usher in a destructive age that ultimately spells the end of mankind. **The AI weapons systems are, as the researchers put it, “weapons of mass destruction” which must be banned outright before they can do any serious damage.**

**“Delegating life-or-death decisions to machines crosses a fundamental moral line – no matter which side builds or uses them,”**the letter [explains](http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/killer-robots-ban-artificial-intelligence-ai-open-letter-justin-trudeau-canada-malcolm-turnbull-a8041811.html).

**“Playing Russian roulette with the lives of others can never be justified merely on the basis of efficacy. This is not only a fundamental issue of human rights. The decision whether to ban or engage autonomous weapons goes to the core of our humanity.”**

In a setting where computers have the ultimate say in whether or not to engage in hostile acts — even under the guise of defending their own territories or protecting the populations they are programmed to protect — conflicts could escalate much faster than humans have ever seen. Weeks, months, or even years of posturing and diplomacy could turn into mere minutes or even seconds, with missiles flying before humans can even begin to intervene. And then, of course, there’s the issue of the AI being manipulated in unforeseen ways.

**“These will be weapons of mass destruction,”** the scientists say.

**“One programmer will be able to control a whole army. Every other weapon of mass destruction has been banned: chemical weapons, biological weapons, even nuclear weapons. We must add autonomous weapons to the list of weapons that are morally unacceptable to use.”**

It’s a frightening thought, but it hasn’t stopped military contractors from exploring the possibility of AI-controlled weapons and defense systems. This could be yet another way mankind engineers its own destruction.

**The Managed End of America**

History does show us what can happen if we keep marching without considering the path already travelled. When you start seeing your own footprints in the wilderness of the future, you need to pay attention. You might have to take a right hand turn, like the founding fathers did in 1776. Pollster and political analyst Pat Caddell joined Breitbart News Saturday SiriusXM host Stephen K. Bannon to discuss the fight that Americans face today against the global elites.

“Our elites live in a world where everything is comfortable for them,” Caddell said. “I believe that behind the mindset … is a belief that the country is in decline and their job is to manage the decline.”

Caddell said the elites in the United States have bought into the idea that China is on the inevitable rise to global hegemony, replacing the U.S., and it is their job to manage that rise peacefully.

“This is the whole Thucydides Trap thing, ” Bannon said, referring to the idea that a declining superior power’s paranoia about a rising power will drive them to war.

Bannon said that, according to that belief, “How you avoid war is to manage the decline and make sure you’re the junior partner, but steering the bigger partner to peace and prosperity.”

“That’s exactly what the elites in this country are doing,” he said. “Your elites want to manage the decline because they got theirs. You’re not in the room, you’re not in the deal.”

Caddell said that belief reveals a failure to appreciate the greatness of American exceptionalism.

“This country will not go gently into that good night of decline,” he said.

Caddell, who worked for both Democratic and Republican candidates, argued it’s not about being on the right or the left — it’s a fight for the future of America.

“This country is exceptional,” he said. “We dream and do the impossible and we have survived. And it would be an abomination before God for this country to go into the dark night. The whole world would suffer.”

**North Carolina Dodges Bullet**

As if we needed another reason to fear air travel, authorities in North Carolina say an air traffic controller at an airport in the state has been arrested on charges of possessing a weapon of mass destruction.

Local media outlets report that the FBI says 30-year-old Paul George Dandan was arrested Friday in Charlotte. The FBI is assisting Charlotte-Mecklenberg Police with the investigation but, somehow, federal charges aren’t expected against Dandan at this point.

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user245717/imageroot/2017/11/11/2017.11.11killer.JPG)

[CNN](http://www.cnn.com/2017/11/11/us/north-carolina-air-controller-weapon-mass-destruction/index.html)reported that police received a 911 call last week that someone had a homemade explosive at a Charlotte home. When officers arrived, they found a homemade pipe bomb, authorities said. Though authorities didn’t confirm if this was the weapon. A WMD is legally defined as any explosive charge larger than four ounces, and in many cases aren’t all that deadly.

Investigators said another man, 39-year-old Derrick Fells, built the bomb to "use it against a neighbor with whom he was involved in an ongoing dispute." But Fells changed his mind and gave Dandan the device, police said. Both men were arrested in connection with the weapon on Friday. Fells was charged with three counts of manufacturing a weapon of mass destruction and one count of possession of a weapon of mass destruction, police said.

Police have not officially declared a motive - and at this point, Danden’s story about his friend having a dispute with a neighbor could merely be a ruse. Fortunately, the Federal Aviation Administration said Dandan's access to the airport "was terminated."

In a statement, the Charlotte Douglas International Airport said Dandan did not have access to any aircraft.

"The FAA employee only had access to the "offsite air traffic control tower and had no access to the restricted areas of the terminal or ramp," the statement said.

The Mecklenberg County Sheriff’s Office website shows Dandan was being held at the county jail Friday night on $45,000 bond.

**China in Space Five Times as fast as America**

The U.S. Space Council met for the first time in 25 years. That is like since before the dot com boom; the first one. Air Force lieutenant general Steve Kwast believes a "Kitty Hawk" moment will begin a new era in space. But while the U.S. still leads every other country in space, Kwast cautions that edge is whittling away.

"In my best military judgement China is on a 10-year journey to operationalize space. We're on a 50-year journey," Kwast told CNBC.

Kwast, who is also the commander and president of Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, says the United States must "bring together the right talent to accelerate the journey" in a Manhattan Project-like meeting of minds. He says this would push the space industry to an moment like Wright Brothers had when they completed the first successful airplane flight in 1903, in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

"We could be on a five year journey, because it's all about how aggressively we are going about this journey," Kwast said.

**Regulations in the way**

A half century of regulating satellites made government regulations bulky and nearly impossible for entrepreneurs. Kwast analogizes the current regulatory environment to needing to submit an itinerary for every item you plan to bring on a flight from D.C. to Los Angeles – one year before the flight.

"You have to detail everything in your suitcase – each item's material, manufacturer, weight and more – the government takes a year to go through it and then tells you what you can and can't take," Kwast said. "And, if you have to update your request, then you have to start all over."

He continued, "When you finally get approval you have to spend your entire life savings for the airplane, which, when you land, you have to burn to the ground."

Officials want to evolve regulatory methods but must placate taxpayers that discarded rockets will not begin falling on suburban rooftops.

"You need technological innovations to reassure Congress that this is safe and effective, as the FAA cannot do this unilaterally," Kwast said. "Low-cost access to space is the first domino to making this possible."

SpaceX has also criticized the regulatory process, with President Gwynne Shotwell noting the process takes six months "and then you re-apply at 90 days, 30 days, and then 15 days to file a flight plan."

"If we want to achieve rapid progress in space, the U.S. government must remove bureaucratic practices that run counter to innovation and speed," Shotwell said.

**National security and global prosperity at stake**

Militaries will soon work more extensively in the space between the earth and moon, according to Kwast. That realm is the next high ground, where nations are straining to gain a strategic advantage.

"China is working on building a 'navy in space'" that would work even beyond earth's gravity well, Kwast said.

Yet China is the not the most pressing threat. North Korea, with its continued missile testing, is "a real problem" today, Kwast says.

"Right now, if North Korea were to launch a missile into space and detonate an electro magnetic pulse, it would take out our eyes in space," Kwast said.

The Cold War-era "Star Wars" concept was "very strategic," Kwast says, but the technology was not feasible. The more the U.S. innovates in space, the lower the potential threat from a missile.

But even though the space industry poised to become eight times as valuable over the next 30 years, Kwast believes it's too early to think about a new military force in space.

"We could have an operational space force in 3 to 5 years," Kwast said. "However, that would be jumping to answering what the form looks like, before you know the function."

Earlier this year Kwast penned a list of recommendations to the Air Force's U.S. Space Command in a January study called "Fast Space." In it he details that public-private partnerships must be the nation's focus, not an "an Air Force in space."

Kwast notes, "It took from the Wright Brothers in 1903 to 1945 -- two World Wars -- to get flying to where we needed an Air Force."

**Finding balance in public-private partnerships**

Kwast is a staunch supporter of the potential from corporations partnering with government actors. But he warns against the military completely depending on the private sector, giving the example of how the Air Force contracts out launches to both SpaceX and United Launch Alliance.

"I think the balance between public and private is reasonable right now but we're still not doing enough, and we're not aggressive enough," Kwast said.

At the New Worlds conference in Austin, Texas on Friday, Bill Gerstenmaier, the NASA associate administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, said his organization shares a similar vision. He does not expect "to get another huge budget like the Apollo missions," and says NASA will focus on "orchestrating human spaceflight," instead of conceptualizing, funding, building and operating all on its own.

Gerstenmaier told CNBC that he sees NASA now operating more akin to a venture capital firm, picking investments and helping build them up. He cited Morgan Stanley'srecent report on the industry as a look into the direction space is heading.

Kwast applauds the high-risk, high-reward entrepreneurial spirit of modern space companies. He calls himself "a very strong advocate" for partnerships "based on economic realities" which create competition.

"Corporations have a vicious, clear-eyed view of the bottom line, which is a very healthy thing," Kwast said, before adding: "Companies that fail should fail."

**It’s Soylent Green**

The [Guardian News published an article](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/09/any-taboo-has-gone-netherlands-sees-rise-in-demand-for-euthanasia) by Daniel Boffey concerning the increasing number of euthanasia deaths at the Levenseindekliniek (euthanasia clinic) in the Hague and in the Netherlands in general. According to the article, the number of euthanasia deaths will exceed 7000 in 2017 representing, at least, a 67% increase in deaths since 2012.

Boffey interviewed Steven Pleiter, the director of the euthanasia clinic who is hiring more staff for his death clinic. [From the article](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/09/any-taboo-has-gone-netherlands-sees-rise-in-demand-for-euthanasia):

Steven Pleiter, director at the clinic, said that in response to growing demand he was now on a recruitment drive aimed at doubling the number of doctors and nurses on his books willing to go into people’s homes to administer lethal injections to patients with conditions ranging from terminal illnesses to crippling psychiatric disorders.

Pleiter stated that he has 57 doctors on call and he may soon require 100 doctors.

“It’s the first time,” Pleiter said of the recruitment drive, sitting in his bright and airy office near the centre of The Hague, where the clinic’s neighbours include legal firms and a kindergarten. “Until today we rarely needed to search for doctors. That is changing now. We need a dramatic growth in doctors as the numbers have changed so much…

“We ask the doctors to work eight to 16 hours a week for this organisation. A full-time job involved in the death of people is probably a bit too much, and ‘probably’ is a euphemism.”

In response to Pleiter, Boffey interviewed Professor Theo Boer, who is a past member of a regional euthanasia review committee and now believes that the law has gone too far.

“Starting from 2007, the numbers increased suddenly,” Boer said. “It was as if the Dutch people needed to get used to the idea of an organised death. I know lots of people who now say that there is only one way they want to die and that’s through injection. It is getting too normal.”

“In the beginning, 98% of cases were terminally ill patients with perhaps days to live. That’s now down to 70%.

***Keep up with the latest pro-life news and information on Twitter.***

The [Guardian article](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/09/any-taboo-has-gone-netherlands-sees-rise-in-demand-for-euthanasia) brought forth interesting information, but the article fails to look deeper into the Netherlands euthanasia law.

The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM) (August 3, 2017) published the data from a Netherlands euthanasia study entitled: [End-of-Life Decisions in the Netherlands over 25 years](http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc1705630?query=featured_home).

The data from the study indicates that in 2015 there were 7254 assisted deaths (6672 euthanasia deaths, 150 assisted suicide deaths, 431 terminations of life without request) and 18,213 deaths whereby the medical decisions that were intended to bring about the death in the Netherlands.

The [Netherlands 2015 euthanasia report](http://alexschadenberg.blogspot.ca/2016/05/dutch-euthanasia-deaths-continue-to.html) stated that there were 5561 reported assisted deaths in 2015 and yet the data from the study indicates that there were 7254 assisted deaths in 2015.  
Therefore, according to the data from the study, in 2105, 1693 (23%) of the assisted deaths were not reported and 431 assisted deaths were without request.

Since the Netherlands euthanasia law uses a voluntary self-reporting system, meaning the doctor who lethally injects the patient also submits the report and since people do not self-report abuse of the law, therefore the law enables doctors to cover-up “abuse” of the law.

Is it actually possible to know how many people are dying by euthanasia in the Netherlands? Is it actually possible to determine how many  involuntary euthanasia deaths occur in the Netherlands?

**Electric Vehicle Giant Targeted by Reality**

**Production on its messianic Model 3 is worse than terrible**...

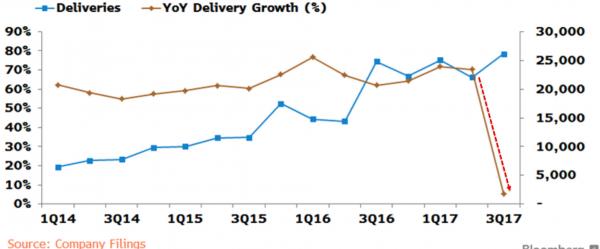
[Electrek.com reports](https://electrek.co/2017/11/09/tesla-model-3-production-numbers/) that as Tesla CEO Elon Musk made clear during the company’s conference call with financial analysts last week, Model 3 production is still very much in “production hell” – so much so that Musk refused to confirm how many Model 3 vehicles they produced in October.

He said that “people would just read too much into it.”

**Now we have looked into it and at the end of last month, Tesla had built just over 440 Model 3 vehicles since the start of production in July,**according to sources familiar with the matter.

***It means that Tesla built roughly 180 Model 3 vehicles last month.***

***That’s clearly not where Tesla wanted to be at that point.***

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user3303/imageroot/2017/11/07/20171111_tsla3.jpg)

Tesla highlighted batteries, body-shop welding and final assembly as production bottlenecks. It walked back its 2Q claim that Model 3 gross margin would go positive in 4Q, now expecting it to reach breakeven by end of that period. Tesla previously guided toward positive 2H cash from operations.

[**Because it's building them by hand**](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-10-06/teslas-big-secret-its-building-model-3s-hand)**...**

Tesla's warning about “production bottlenecks” might not be its last as Elon Musk’s dream of building millions of the "everyman’s electric car" melts before his eyes.

Unknown to analysts, investors and the hundreds of thousands of customers who signed up to buy it, **as recently as early September major portions of the Model 3 were still being banged out by hand, away from the automated production line, according to people familiar with the matter.**

While the car’s production began in early July, the advanced assembly line Tesla has boasted of building still wasn’t fully ready as of a few weeks ago, the people said. Tesla’s factory workers had been piecing together parts of the cars in a special area while the company feverishly worked to finish the machinery designed to produce Model 3’s at a rate of thousands a week, the people said.

As one analyst quoted by [WSJ](https://www.wsj.com/articles/behind-teslas-production-delays-parts-of-model-3-were-being-made-by-hand-1507321057)snydely pointed out, “that’s not how mass production vehicles are made.”

Automotive experts say it is unusual to be building large parts of a car by hand during production.**“That’s not how mass production vehicles are made,”**said Dennis Virag, a manufacturing consultant who has worked in the automotive industry for 40 years. **“That’s horse-and-carriage type manufacturing. That’s not today’s automotive world.”**

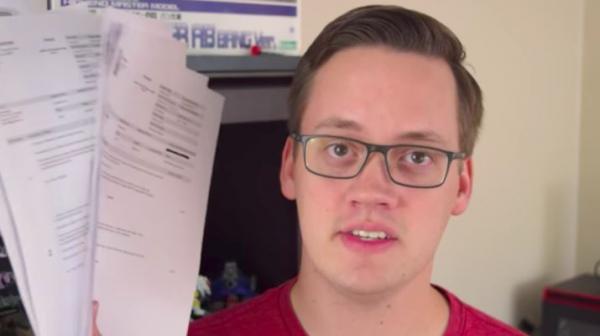
[**Tesla owners are becoming increasingly frustrated and vocal at the product quality**](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-10-30/angry-tesla-owner-shares-25-minute-video-detailing-just-one-year-model-s-service-iss)...

The perpetual service nightmare that ensued with Martin's $80,000 electric vehicle prompted him to upload a 25-minute YouTube video chronicling every issue he’s had in his short 11 months of ownership.  Per [Jalopnik](https://jalopnik.com/this-guy-documents-nearly-a-year-of-quality-problems-wi-1819955046):

Among the issues he mentions are**paint imperfections, a dusty touch screen, and poor trim alignment on the door**—these were what he found on the day the car was delivered. Other issues quickly crept up, but Martin waited about six months and 3,000 miles before taking his new car to a service center. When he did, he mentioned to the technicians that his**electric driver-side mirror would only unfold partially;**he had to physically push it the rest of the way.

**Martin also asked the shop to get the door trim lined up properly,** but allegedly the mechanics couldn’t quite get it perfect. In addition, Martin mentioned that his rear passenger-side door had a strange delay between the handle being pulled and the door actually opening.

On top of that, he told the shop about a **rattle from the rear passenger-side door, a crooked steering wheel when driving straight, a front door that creaked when it opened, and a defective windshield with little horizontal lines in it.**



Trending Articles

### The Surveillance State: An Inexorable March Toward…

The Surveillance State has slowed down its rate of growth since the President took office, however, it has not halted…

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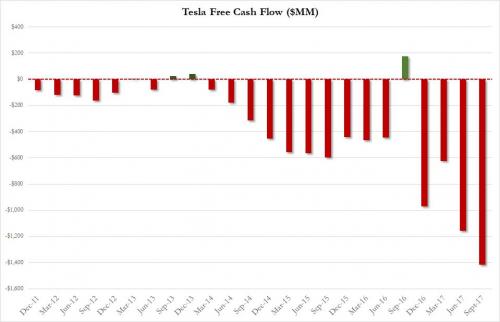
**Tesla is**[**cutting supplier orders drastically**](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-10-27/another-deadline-missed-tesla-supplier-cuts-december-order-40)...

Just days after the Shanghai government was stunned to read in the WSJ that it had granted Tesla permission to open a new gigafactory in its free-trade zone (turns out the two are only in the negotiations stage), according to Taiwanese media reports one of Tesla’s largest suppliers in the country has been instructed to pare back production on parts for the Tesla Model 3 – the latest sign that the cash-burning Silicon Valley carmaker is going to miss its goal of producing 5,000 cars a week by December.

Hota Industrial Manufacturing Co, a Taiwanese automotive components maker and long-time Tesla supplier, **has been told to dial back its production of Model 3 components from 5,000 units per week in December to 3,000 per week – a 40% drop,**[Taiwan’s Economic Daily reports](https://www.teslarati.com/tesla-reduces-model-3-parts-orders-hota-industrial/)and adds that Hota Chairman Shen Kuo-jung said that the company **has received a notice from Tesla to reduce its December order quantity due to production “bottlenecks.”**

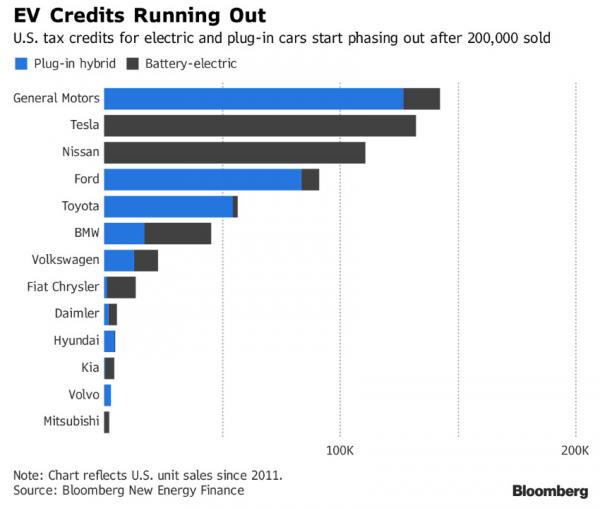
Which won't help the fact that [**Tesla is burning a record $16 million per day**](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-11-01/tesla-burns-record-16-million-day-q3-delays-model-3-delivery-stock-tumbles)...

Tesla ***continued to burn epic amounts of cash,***outdoing itself in Q3 **with a record cash burn of $1.4 billion - or roughly $16 million per day**: an unprecedented amount. This was higher than the $1.2 billion consensus forecast. In Q3, Tesla's CapEx was $1.116 billion, a number which is set to continue pressuring its balance sheet as the company continues to ramp up Model 3 production. Indeed, **Tesla announced that capital expenditures are expected to be approximately $1 billion in Q4,** "driven largely by milestone payments on Model 3 production equipment, as well as Gigafactory 1, and further expansion of stores, service centers, delivery hubs and the Supercharger network."

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user5/imageroot/2017/10/21/TSLA%20cash%20burn%20Q3.jpg)

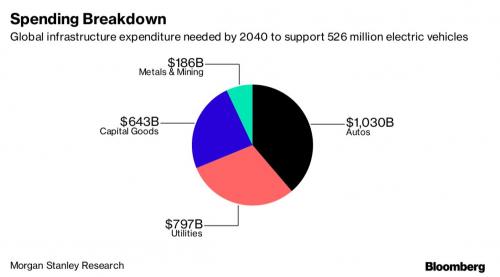
**The Electric Vehicle Tax Credit is fading away**...

Senate Republicans’ tax-cut plan differs from that of their House counterparts on whether to get rid of the $7,500 tax credit for consumers who buy an electric car. **Regardless of which way Congress goes -- the Senate wants to keep the credit, the House doesn’t -- the sun is already setting on the perk.**

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user3303/imageroot/2017/11/07/20171111_tsla1.jpg)

**Credits phase out after each manufacturer sells 200,000 qualifying electric or plug-in hybrid vehicles and several are nearing that milestone** with Tesla Inc.at roughly 132,000 by mid-2017, while General Motors Co. reached about 142,000 and Nissan Motor Co. almost 111,000, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

And finally, there are [**2.7 trillion reasons why Tesla's hopes of global dominance**](http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-10-14/there-are-27-trillion-reasons-why-tesla-wont-rule-world) won't happen... unfortunately, those incentives aren’t nearly enough to create the infrastructure to support **Morgan Stanley’s forecast of 526 million electric vehicles operating globally by 2040. Building the charging stations and other infrastructure necessary would cost an astonishing $2.7 trillion, much of which would probably need to be allocated by governments.**

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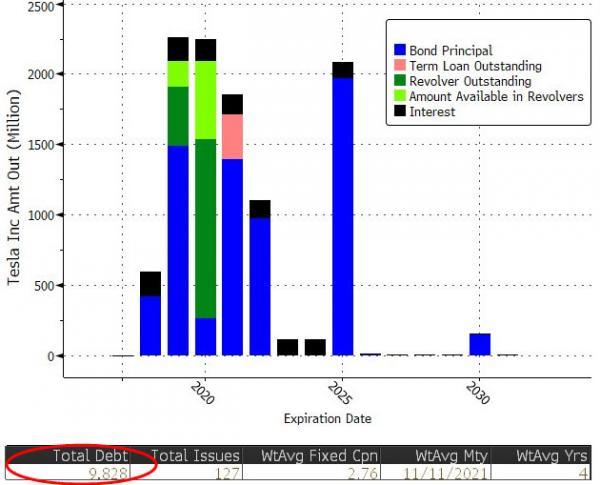
Morgan Stanley says the problem requires a mix of private and public funding across regions and sectors. **The investment bank’s strategists added that any auto company or government with aggressive targets would be unfeasible unless the infrastructure is in place.**

All of which leads to perhaps Musk's biggest challenge... **funding this ponzi scheme just hit a record high as Tesla bond prices crater**...

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user3303/imageroot/2017/11/07/20171111_tsla2.jpg)

pushing yields on the company's junk debt to almost 6.4%.

Leaving the 'car' company with almost $10 billion in debt payments due...

[](http://www.zerohedge.com/sites/default/files/images/user3303/imageroot/2017/11/07/20171111_tsla4.jpg)

Musk is going to need to conjure another big distraction soon or the smoke and mirrors may just be about to break